Physical/Wellness Incentive Q & A

As part of the Chancellor’s Wellness Initiative, The Texas A&M University System is taking an active role in the health of its employees. Employees and spouses enrolled in the A&M Care plan will need to have a routine annual exam before June 30 in order to receive the wellness premium rate beginning September 1.

1. I was recently hired and enrolled in the A&M Health Plan. When do I have to get my wellness exam? Your wellness exam was “credited” on your first day of health coverage and will apply for the current year and the next full plan year, but you must have an exam in your first full plan year of employment to continue to qualify for the lower premium. Example: An employee is hired in September of 2016. They receive the lower premium from September 2016 to August 2018. The employee must get a wellness exam between September 1, 2017 and August 31, 2018 to receive the lower premium for the plan year beginning September 1, 2018.

2. Is this required of retirees or only active employees? While this is not required of retirees, we encourage retirees to continue their regular visits to their physicians for physicals and wellness exams.

3. I’m pregnant (my spouse is pregnant). Do I have (does she have) to get a wellness exam? Pregnant employees or their pregnant spouses are exempt from meeting the wellness requirement. To request exemption from the wellness requirement due to pregnancy, please email your Human Resources office representative with the following information prior to June 30th:

    Employee’s name and UIN
    Expecting mother’s name (covered spouse)
    Name of provider (OB/GYN)
    Date of first visit with diagnosis of pregnancy
    Expected delivery date

4. Will I be charged a copay when I have my physical/wellness exam? Under the Affordable Care Act, most preventive services, including physicals and wellness exams are covered at 100% through a network provider. Therefore, you should not be charged a copay when you have your physical/wellness exam at a network provider unless the visit is not coded as a physical/wellness exam when sent to BlueCross BlueShield. If the office visit for the wellness exam includes services outside or beyond preventive services as billed by the provider, then an office visit copay may apply. Preventive services, such as physicals and wellness exams are not covered if performed by a non-network provider.

5. Do dependents, other than my spouse, need to take the annual exam to qualify for the premium differential? No.

6. Is this required of Graduate Students? Yes, if the graduate student employee is enrolled in the A&M Care plan. It is not required of Graduate students enrolled in the Graduate Student Employee plan administered by Academic Health Plans (AHP).
7. Do I need to tell my doctor or the doctor’s office this is a physical/wellness exam when I make the appointment?
   Yes. The wellness exam code must appear on the claim in order for the exam to be counted as your wellness exam incentive.

8. Is there a form that I or my doctor needs to complete?
   No.

9. Is a wellness exam the same thing as a physical?
   Yes, as long as there is a routine preventive exam code on the claim.

10. Does my annual well-woman exam count for this purpose?
    Yes.

11. Does a health screening done by Catapult count for this purpose?
    Yes.

12. Does a health screening done by another vendor count for this purpose?
    No.

13. Does this exam need to include specific tests?
    No, receiving the incentive is based on the diagnosis code only. Your physician is the best person to determine which tests to administer, based on your age and physical condition. While physicals and wellness exams often include such things as a blood pressure check, cholesterol test, glucose test, and/or a body mass index check, specific tests are not required at this time.

14. Do I need to take any further action to make sure my record shows I have taken my physical/wellness exam?
    No, this information will be documented when the claim is received and processed by BlueCross BlueShield.

15. How do I see if I have been credited for my physical/wellness exam?
    Check to see if your wellness incentive has been processed. (note: remember that it can take 6 to 8 weeks from the time of your wellness exam for the claim to process and the incentive to show on your MyEvive account)

Registering for your MyEvive account:
- Go to tamus.myevive.com
- Click on “Register”
- Enter your ID#, which is your BCBSTX member ID on your health insurance card (your UIN) (Both employee and spouse will use the employee UIN to register)
- Click on either “Employee/Subscriber” or “Spouse/Domestic Partner”
- Enter your first name, last name, and date of birth
- Click “Next”
- Enter and confirm your email address
- Create, enter and confirm your password
- Enter your phone number
- Select whether you would prefer contact by email or text
- Check the box to accept the terms and conditions
- Click “Next”
- Indicate which statement best describes you
- Click “Create My Account”
Logging into your MyEvive account to check your incentive status:

- Go to tamus.myevive.com
- Click on “Sign in now”
- Enter your User name (email address) and your password you created when you registered
- Click on the “Check my wellness incentive status” tile
- The date of your physical appears in the verbiage in the “Annual Physical” section
- Click on “Click here” in the “Annual Physical” section to determine when your next exam is due

Neither your Human Resources office nor System Benefits Administration can see whether a claim has been filed, or whether you have received the wellness incentive.

16. What is the time frame to have the physical/wellness exam done to get credit for the following plan year?
   You must have the physical/wellness exam between September 1 and June 30 to be assured the wellness premium rate is in place for September 1 of the next plan year. You can still have your exam after that date and you will receive the wellness premium whenever the claim goes through the BlueCross BlueShield system and the information is sent back to the A&M System for processing.

   A reminder that on your plan, the annual exam may be taken before twelve months has passed since your last annual exam. This means, if you had your last exam in July or August, you may have your exam prior to June 30th to guarantee receiving the premium credit by September 1.

17. Will we be asked to do this every year?
   Yes. The Wellness Exam Incentive is designed to encourage ongoing health awareness and a relationship with a medical provider. Through this ongoing incentive, employees and spouses, if covered on the plan, will be expected to receive an annual physical/wellness exam to continue to be eligible for the wellness premium rate. The annual exam will be required by June 30 of each upcoming benefit plan year.

18. Will my exam information remain private? Will any information be reported back to my employer?
   Only the “incentive completion date” will be reported back to the A&M System for this incentive. No personal or clinical data will be shared. Neither your Human Resources office nor the System Benefits office can see when a claim is filed. They cannot deduct or credit the premium incentive. They have no access to member’s claims or to their MyEvive account.

19. Do I have to do a wellness exam again?
   Yes. In order to qualify for the incentive each year, you must complete a wellness exam.

20. Do I have to have my wellness exam done by Catapult? Can I have it done by my regular doctor?
   You may certainly go to your personal physician. In fact, if you have an established relationship with a doctor, consider doing that instead so he or she can continue monitoring any existing medical conditions. Or, if you don’t have a physician, Catapult can help you find one locally.