

Accounting of Disclosures Requests

You have the right to request a list or accounting of certain disclosures of your personal health information. We are not legally obligated to provide an account of every disclosure but will give each request appropriate consideration. Requests must be made in writing. The accounting will not include disclosures made prior to April 14, 2003.

Restrictions on Use and Disclosure

You have the right to request restrictions on certain uses and disclosures of your personal health information for treatment, payment, or health care operations by notifying us of your request for a restriction in writing. We are not legally required to agree to your restriction request.

Confidential Communication

You have the right to request to receive communications from us regarding your personal health information by another method of contact or at an alternative address. We will accommodate reasonable requests, which must clearly state that disclosure of all or part of the information could endanger your health or safety.

Complaints

If you believe your privacy rights have been violated, you can file a complaint with us or with the Secretary of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services in Washington D.C. There will be no retaliation for filing a complaint.

HOW TO CONTACT US

If you have questions or need further assistance regarding this Notice, or wish to exercise any of the rights mentioned in this brochure, you may contact the Privacy Administrator at the Fund Office:

Toledo Electrical Benefit Plans
727 Lime City Road
P.O. Box 60408
Rossford, Ohio 43460

Phone: 419-666-4450
Fax: 419-666-5410
Email: Benefits@ElectricalFunds.org

STATE PRIVACY RIGHTS

Your state law may provide greater or different privacy rights.

EFFECTIVE DATE

This Notice of Privacy Practices is effective April 14, 2003.



NOTICE OF HEALTH INSURANCE PORTABILITY AND ACCOUNTABILITY ACT OF 1996 (HIPAA) PRIVACY PRACTICES

for the
Toledo Electrical
Benefit Plans

April 14, 2003

THIS NOTICE DESCRIBES HOW MEDICAL INFORMATION ABOUT YOU MAY BE USED AND DISCLOSED, AND HOW YOU CAN GET ACCESS TO THIS INFORMATION. PLEASE REVIEW IT CAREFULLY.

We are required by law to maintain the privacy of personal health information and to provide you with notice of our legal duties and privacy practices with respect to personal health information. We are required to abide by the terms of this Notice so long as it remains in effect. We reserve the right to change our Privacy practices, procedures, and terms of this HIPAA Notice of Privacy Practices as necessary, and to make the new Notice effective for all personal health information maintained by us. If a material change is made to the terms of this Notice, a revised notice will be provided to all primary insureds. You may obtain a copy of the HIPAA Privacy Notice by mailing a request to the address listed on the other side of this brochure.

USES AND DISCLOSURES OF YOUR PERSONAL HEALTH INFORMATION

Your Authorization

Except as outlined below, we will not use or disclose your personal health information for any purpose, unless you have signed a form authorizing the use or disclosure. You have the right to revoke that authorization in writing unless we have taken any action in reliance on the authorization.

Disclosures for Payment

We may use and disclose your personal health information as necessary for payment purposes. For instance, we may use and disclose information regarding your medical care to process and pay claims.

Disclosures for Health Care Operations

We may use and disclose your personal health information as necessary, and as permitted by law, for our health care operations such as customer service, premium rating, fraud and abuse prevention and detection, and other functions related to your health coverage. We may use and disclose your personal health information to provide you with information

about treatment alternatives or other benefits and services that may be of interest to you.

Others Involved In Your Care

With your approval, we may disclose your personal health information to designated family, friends, and others, to assist that person in caring for you or in paying for your care. If you are unavailable, incapacitated, or facing an emergency medical situation and we determine that a limited disclosure may be in your best interest, we may share limited personal health information with such individuals without your approval. If you have designated a person to receive information regarding payment of the premium on your coverage, we will inform that person when your premium has not been paid.

Business Associates

At times, it may be necessary for us to provide some personal health information to one or more outside persons or organizations who assist us with our business activities. We require these business associates to appropriately safeguard the privacy of your information.

Other Disclosures Without Authorization

We are permitted or required by law to make certain other uses and disclosures of your personal health information without your authorization, including under the following conditions:

- for any purpose as required by law;
- for public health activities, such as required reporting of certain diseases;
- as required by law if we suspect child abuse or neglect; we may also release your personal health information as required by law if we believe you to be a victim of abuse, neglect, or domestic violence;
- if required by law to a government oversight agency conducting audits, investigations, or civil or criminal proceedings;
- if required to do so by a court or administrative ordered subpoena, discovery request, or qualified protective order;
- to law enforcement officials as required by law;

- to coroners and/or funeral directors consistent with law;
- if necessary to arrange an organ or tissue donation from you or a transplant for you;
- for certain research purposes when such research is approved by an institutional review board with established rules to ensure privacy;
- if you are a member of the military as required by armed forces services; we may also release your personal health information if necessary for national security or intelligence activities;
- if necessary to avert a serious threat to health or safety; or,
- to workers' compensation agencies if necessary for your workers' compensation benefit determination.

YOUR HIPAA PRIVACY RIGHTS

Access to Your Health Information

You have the right to obtain a copy and inspect specific items of your personal health information, such as your policy or claim information, for as long as we maintain it. We may deny your request to access certain personal health information, as permitted or required by law. We may require your request for access in writing. Your request for access should contain as much detail as possible regarding the personal health information you wish to review. We may charge a reasonable fee for access to your personal health information.

Amendments to Your Health Information

You have the right to request an amendment of the personal health information we maintain about you if you believe it is incorrect. We are not legally obligated to make all requested amendments but will give each request appropriate consideration. Requests for amendment must be in writing and must state the reasons for the amendment request.