



## Your Rights and Protections Against Surprise Medical Bills

When you get emergency care or are treated by an out-of-network provider at an in-network hospital or ambulatory surgical center, you are protected from balance billing. In these cases, you shouldn't be charged more than your plan's copayments, coinsurance and/or deductible.

### WHAT IS "BALANCE BILLING" (SOMETIMES CALLED "SURPRISE BILLING")?

When you see a doctor or other health care provider, you may owe certain [out-of-pocket costs](#), like a [copayment](#), [coinsurance](#), or [deductible](#). You may have additional costs or have to pay the entire bill if you see a provider or visit a health care facility that isn't in your health plan's network.

"Out-of-network" means providers and facilities that haven't signed a contract with your health plan to provide services. Out-of-network providers may be allowed to bill you for the difference between what your plan pays and the full amount charged for a service. This is called "**balance billing**." This amount is likely more than in-network costs for the same service and might not count toward your plan's deductible or annual out-of-pocket limit.

"Surprise billing" is an unexpected balance bill. This can happen when you can't control who is involved in your care—like when you have an emergency or when you schedule a visit at an in-network facility but are unexpectedly treated by an out-of-network provider. Surprise medical bills could cost thousands of dollars depending on the procedure or service.

### YOU'RE PROTECTED FROM BALANCE BILLING FOR:

#### Emergency services

If you have an emergency medical condition and get emergency services from an out-of-network provider or facility, the most they can bill you is your plan's in-network cost-sharing amount (such as copayments, coinsurance, and deductibles). You **can't** be balance billed for these emergency services. This includes services you may get after you're in stable condition, unless you give written consent and give up your protections not to be balanced billed for these post-stabilization services.

Connecticut passed its own law in 2015 to address balance billing. The law applies to health plans regulated by Connecticut's Department of Insurance and has similar protections to those provided under the federal No Surprises Act. For more information, see Conn. Gen. Stat. §§ [38a-477aa](#) and [20-7f](#) or the Connecticut Department of Insurance website at [portal.ct.gov/CID/General-Consumer-Information/No-Surprises-Act](http://portal.ct.gov/CID/General-Consumer-Information/No-Surprises-Act).

#### Certain services at an in-network hospital or ambulatory surgical center

When you get services from an in-network hospital or ambulatory surgical center, certain providers there may be out-of-network. In these cases, the most those providers can bill you is your plan's in-network cost-sharing amount. This applies to emergency medicine, anesthesia, pathology, radiology, laboratory, neonatology, assistant surgeon, hospitalist,

or intensivist services. These providers **can't** balance bill you and may **not** ask you to give up your protections not to be balance billed.

If you get other types of services at these in-network facilities, out-of-network providers **can't** balance bill you, unless you give written consent and give up your protections.

**You're never required to give up your protections from balance billing. You also aren't required to get out-of-network care. You can choose a provider or facility in your plan's network.**

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**When balance billing isn't allowed, you also have these protections:**

- You're only responsible for paying your share of the cost (like the copayments, coinsurance, and deductible that you would pay if the provider or facility was in-network). Your health plan will pay any additional costs to out-of-network providers and facilities directly.
- Generally, your health plan must:
  - Cover emergency services without requiring you to get approval for services in advance (also known as "prior authorization").
  - Cover emergency services by out-of-network providers.
  - Base what you owe the provider or facility (cost-sharing) on what it would pay an in-network provider or facility and show that amount in your explanation of benefits.
  - Count any amount you pay for emergency services or out-of-network services toward your in-network deductible and out-of-pocket limit.

**If you think you've been wrongly billed, contact:**

- Connecticut Department of Insurance: [portal.ct.gov/CID/Consumer-Affairs/File-a-Complaint-or-Ask-a-Question](http://portal.ct.gov/CID/Consumer-Affairs/File-a-Complaint-or-Ask-a-Question) or Consumer Helpline: 800-203-3447 or 860-297-3900
- The State of Connecticut Office of the Healthcare Advocate at 866-466-4446 or [Healthcare.advocate@ct.gov](mailto:Healthcare.advocate@ct.gov).
- Visit [cms.gov/nosurprises/consumers](https://cms.gov/nosurprises/consumers) for more information about your rights under federal law.

**Español (Spanish)**

ATENCIÓN: si habla español, tiene a su disposición servicios gratuitos de asistencia lingüística. Llame al 1-860-679-2626

**Polski (Polish)**

UWAGA: Jeżeli mówisz po polsku, możesz skorzystać z bezpłatnej pomocy językowej. Zadzwoń pod numer 1-860-679-2626

**Português (Portuguese)**

ATENÇÃO: Se fala português, encontram-se disponíveis serviços linguísticos, grátis. Ligue para 1-860-679-2626

**Italiano (Italian)**

ATTENZIONE: In caso la lingua parlata sia l'italiano, sono disponibili servizi di assistenza linguistica gratuiti. Chiamare il numero 1-860-679-2626

**Français (French)**

ATTENTION: Si vous parlez français, des services d'aide linguistique vous sont proposés gratuitement. Appelez le 1-860-679-2626

**繁體中文 (Chinese)**

注意：如果您使用繁體中文，您可以免費獲得語言援助服務。請致電 1-860-679-2626

**Kreyòl Ayisyen (French Creole)**

ATANSYON: Si w pale Kreyòl Ayisyen, gen sèvis èd pou lang ki disponib gratis pou ou. Rele 1-860-679-2626

**Deutsch (German)**

ACHTUNG: Wenn Sie Deutsch sprechen, stehen Ihnen kostenlos sprachliche Hilfsdienstleistungen zur Verfügung. Rufnummer: 1-860-679-2626

**हिंदी (Hindi)**

ध्यान दें: यदि आप हिंदी बोलते हैं तो आपके लिए मुफ्त में भाषा सहायता सेवाएं उपलब्ध हैं। 1-860-679-2626 पर कॉल करें।

**Русский (Russian)**

ВНИМАНИЕ: Если вы говорите на русском языке, то вам доступны бесплатные услуги перевода. Звоните 1-860-679-2626

**العربية (Arabic)**

ملحوظة: إذا كنت تتحدث اذكر اللغة، فإن خدمات المساعدة اللغوية تتوافر لك بالمجان. اتصل برقم 1-860-679-2242x-1 (رقم هاتف الصم والبكم: 1-860-679-2626)

**λληνικά (Greek)**

ΠΡΟΣΟΧΗ: Αν μιλάτε ελληνικά, στη διάθεσή σας βρίσκονται υπηρεσίες γλωσσικής υποστήριξης, οι οποίες παρέχονται δωρεάν. Καλέστε 1-860-679-2626

**Tagalog (Tagalog – Filipino)**

PAUNAWA: Kung nagsasalita ka ng Tagalog, maaari kang gumamit ng mga serbisyo ng tulong sa wika nang walang bayad. Tumawag sa 1-860-679-2626

**Tiếng Việt (Vietnamese)**

CHÚ Ý: Nếu bạn nói Tiếng Việt, có các dịch vụ hỗ trợ ngôn ngữ miễn phí dành cho bạn. Gọi số 1-860-679-2626

**Shqip (Albanian)**

KUJDES: Nëse flitni shqip, për ju ka në dispozicion shërbime të asistencës gjuhësore, pa pagesë. Telefononi në 1-860-679-2626

**한국어 (Korean)**

주의: 한국어를 사용하시는 경우, 언어 지원 서비스를 무료로 이용하실 수 있습니다. 1-860-679-2626 번으로 전화해 주십시오