

# Your Complaint and Appeal Rights

You can make complaints about:

- the care or service we provide
- the quality or availability of a healthcare service
- the care or service you get from any provider in our network.

You also have the right to appeal any action we take or decision we make about your coverage.

## What if I need help understanding a denial?

Check your member booklet or benefits summary to understand what your plan does or does not cover. You can learn more about [explanation of benefit notices](#) or [medical necessity](#) on our website. If you still have questions, call Customer Service at 800-722-1471.

## What if I don't agree with a decision my health plan

**makes?** You have the right to appeal such a decision within 60 days of the date you get notice of our decision.

Depending on your plan, you may have more than 60 days to file your appeal. Please refer to your member booklet.

## How do I make a complaint?

Call Customer Service at 800-722-1471. The complaint process allows Customer Service to quickly and informally correct errors, clarify benefits or take steps to improve our service.

Customer Service may ask you to send your complaint for review through the formal internal appeals process outlined below.

## How do I file an appeal?

Use our [Member Appeal form](#), or send a letter to:

Premera Blue Cross  
Attn: Member Appeals P.O. Box 91102  
Seattle, WA 98111-9202

Or fax our Appeals Department at (425) 918-5592.

## What if my situation is urgent?

If your provider thinks a delay will harm your health and we agree, we will speed up your review.

## Who may file an appeal?

You or someone you choose to act for you may file an appeal.

Complete the appeals authorization section on the [Member Appeal form](#) if you want to have someone act for you.

## Can I offer more information about my appeal?

Yes, you may send us more information with your appeal submission.

## Can I ask for copies of information related to my appeal?

Yes, you may ask for copies by contacting us at:

Premera Blue Cross  
Attn: Member Appeals P.O. Box 91102  
Seattle, WA 98111-9202

Or fax our Appeals Department at (425) 918-5592. There is no cost for these copies.

## What happens next?

If you file an appeal, we will review our decision and send you a written response. If we continue to deny the payment, coverage or service request, we will send you information about further appeal rights, including those about independent review.

## Resources to help you:

If you have questions about a denial of a claim or your appeal rights, contact Premera Customer Service for help at 800-722-1471.

For Fully Insured Plans, you may also seek assistance from the Washington Consumer Assistance Program. If you have questions or concerns about the actions of your insurance company or agent or would like information on your rights to file an appeal, contact the Washington state Office of the Commissioner's consumer protection hotline at 1-800-562-6900 or visit [www.insurance.wa.gov](http://www.insurance.wa.gov). The insurance commissioner protects and educates insurance consumers, advances public interest, and provides fair and efficient regulation of the insurance industry. 5000 Capitol Blvd SE, Tumwater, WA 98501

If your plan is governed by the Federal Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 (ERISA), you can also contact the Employee Benefits Security Administration of the U.S. Department of Labor. You may have the right to bring a lawsuit in superior court within 3 years.

Employee Benefits Security Administration  
866-444-3272



BLUE CROSS

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### Discrimination is Against the Law

Premera Blue Cross (Premera) complies with applicable Federal and Washington state civil rights laws and does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, age, disability, sex, gender identity, or sexual orientation. Premera does not exclude people or treat them differently because of race, color, national origin, age, disability, sex, gender identity, or sexual orientation. Premera provides free aids and services to people with disabilities to communicate effectively with us, such as qualified sign language interpreters and written information in other formats (large print, audio, accessible electronic formats, other formats). Premera provides free language services to people whose primary language is not English, such as qualified interpreters and information written in other languages. If you need these services, contact the Civil Rights Coordinator. If you believe that Premera has failed to provide these services or discriminated in another way on the basis of race, color, national origin, age, disability, sex, gender identity, or sexual orientation, you can file a grievance with: Civil Rights Coordinator — Complaints and Appeals, PO Box 91102, Seattle, WA 98111, Toll free: 855-332-4535, Fax: 425-918-5592, TTY: 711, Email [AppealsDepartmentInquiries@Premera.com](mailto:AppealsDepartmentInquiries@Premera.com). You can file a grievance in person or by mail, fax, or email. If you need help filing a grievance, the Civil Rights Coordinator is available to help you. You can also file a civil rights complaint with the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Office for Civil Rights, electronically through the Office for Civil Rights Complaint Portal, available at <https://ocrportal.hhs.gov/ocr/portal/lobby.jsf>, or by mail or phone at: U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, 200 Independence Ave SW, Room 509F, HHH Building, Washington, D.C. 20201, 1-800-368-1019, 800-537-7697 (TDD). Complaint forms are available at <http://www.hhs.gov/ocr/office/file/index.html>. You can also file a civil rights complaint with the Washington State Office of the Insurance Commissioner, electronically through the Office of the Insurance Commissioner Complaint Portal available at <https://www.insurance.wa.gov/file-complaint-or-check-your-complaint-status>, or by phone at 800-562-6900, 360-586-0241 (TDD). Complaint forms are available at <https://fortress.wa.gov/oic/onlineservices/cc/pub/complaintinformation.aspx>.

### Language Assistance

**ATENCIÓN:** si habla español, tiene a su disposición servicios gratuitos de asistencia lingüística. Llame al 800-722-1471 (TTY: 711).

**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 800-722-1471 (TTY: 711)。

**CHÚ Ý:** Nếu bạn nói Tiếng Việt, có các dịch vụ hỗ trợ ngôn ngữ miễn phí dành cho bạn. Gọi số 800-722-1471 (TTY: 711).

**주의:** 한국어를 사용하시는 경우, 언어 지원 서비스를 무료로 이용하실 수 있습니다. 800-722-1471 (TTY: 711) 번으로 전화해 주십시오.

**ВНИМАНИЕ:** Если вы говорите на русском языке, то вам доступны бесплатные услуги перевода. Звоните 800-722-1471 (телетайп: 711).

**PAUNAWA:** Kung nagsasalita ka ng Tagalog, maaari kang gumamit ng mga serbisyo ng tulong sa wika nang walang bayad. Tumawag sa 800-722-1471 (TTY: 711).

**УВАГА!** Якщо ви розмовляєте українською мовою, ви можете звернутися до безкоштовної служби мовної підтримки.

Телефонуйте за номером 800-722-1471 (телетайп: 711).

**ប្រយ័ត្ន:** បើសិនជាអ្នកនិយាយ ភាសាខ្មែរ, សេវាជំនួយផ្នែកភាសា ដោយមិនគិតលុយ គឺអាចមានសំរាប់អ្នក។ ចូរ ទូរស័ព្ទ 800-722-1471 (TTY: 711)។

**注意事項:** 日本語を話される場合、無料の言語支援をご利用いただけます。800-722-1471 (TTY:711) まで、お電話にてご連絡ください。

**ማስታወሻ:** የሚናገሩት ቋንቋ አማርኛ ከሆነ የትርጉም እርዳታ ድርጅቶች፣ በነጻ ሊያገለግሉት ተዘጋጅተዋል። ወደ ሚከተለው ቁጥር ይደውሉ 800-722-1471 (መስማት ለተሳናቸው፡ 711)።

**XIYYEEFFANNA:** Afaan dubbattu Oroomiffa, tajaajjila gargaarsa afaanii, kanfaltiidhaan ala, ni argama. Bilbilaa 800-722-1471 (TTY: 711).

**ملحوظة:** إذا كنت تتحدث اذكر اللغة، فإن خدمات المساعدة اللغوية تتوافر لك بالمجان. اتصل برقم 800-722-1471 (رقم هاتف الصم والبكم: 711).

**ਧਿਆਨ ਦਿਓ:** ਜੇ ਤੁਸੀਂ ਪੰਜਾਬੀ ਬੋਲਦੇ ਹੋ, ਤਾਂ ਭਾਸ਼ਾ ਵਿੱਚ ਸਹਾਇਤਾ ਸੇਵਾ ਤੁਹਾਡੇ ਲਈ ਮੁਫਤ ਉਪਲਬਧ ਹੈ। 800-722-1471 (TTY: 711) 'ਤੇ ਕਾਲ ਕਰੋ।

**ACHTUNG:** Wenn Sie Deutsch sprechen, stehen Ihnen kostenlos sprachliche Hilfsdienstleistungen zur Verfügung. Rufnummer: 800-722-1471 (TTY: 711).

**ໂປດອຸບ:** ຖ້າວ່າ ທ່ານເວົ້າພາສາ ລາວ, ການບໍລິການຊ່ວຍເຫຼືອດ້ານພາສາ, ໂດຍບໍ່ຄ່າສິ່ງຄ່າ, ຄວນມີພ້ອມໃຫ້ທ່ານ. ໂທ 800-722-1471 (TTY: 711).

**ATANSYON:** Si w pale Kreyòl Ayisyen, gen sévis èd pou lang ki disponib gratis pou ou. Rele 800-722-1471 (TTY: 711).

**ATTENTION:** Si vous parlez français, des services d'aide linguistique vous sont proposés gratuitement. Appelez le 800-722-1471 (ATS : 711).

**UWAGA:** Jeżeli mówisz po polsku, możesz skorzystać z bezpłatnej pomocy językowej. Zadzwoń pod numer 800-722-1471 (TTY: 711).

**ATENÇÃO:** Se fala português, encontram-se disponíveis serviços linguísticos, grátis. Ligue para 800-722-1471 (TTY: 711).

**ATTENZIONE:** In caso la lingua parlata sia l'italiano, sono disponibili servizi di assistenza linguistica gratuiti. Chiamare il numero 800-722-1471 (TTY: 711).

**توجہ:** اگر بہ زبان فارسی گفتگو می کنید، تسهیلات زبانی بصورت رایگان برای شما فراهم می باشد. با 800-722-1471 (TTY: 711) تماس بگیرید.