

Wellness Program Disclosure – City of Corpus Christi

Your health plan is committed to helping you achieve your best health. Rewards for participating in a wellness program are available to all employees. If you think you might be unable to meet a standard for a reward under this wellness program, you might qualify for an opportunity to earn the same reward by different means. Contact Human Resources and we will work with you (and, if you wish, with your doctor) to find a wellness program with the same reward that is right for you in light of your health status.



NOTICE REGARDING WELLNESS PROGRAM

The Wellness Incentive program is a voluntary wellness program available to all employees, and employees who are enrolled in medical insurance may earn a discount toward health premiums. The program is administered according to federal rules permitting employer-sponsored wellness programs that seek to improve employee health or prevent disease, including the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, the Genetic Information Nondiscrimination Act of 2008, and the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act, as applicable, among others. If you choose to participate in the wellness program you might be asked to complete a voluntary health risk assessment or "HRA" that asks a series of questions about your health-related activities and behaviors and whether you have or had certain medical conditions (e.g., cancer, diabetes, or heart disease). You might also be asked to complete a biometric screening, which will include a blood test for glucose and lipid levels. You are not required to complete the HRA or to participate in the blood test or other medical examinations. However, employees who choose to participate in the wellness program will receive an incentive of \$20 per pay period for a fiscal year. Although you are not required to complete the HRA or participate in the biometric screening, only employees who do so or complete one of the alternative published methods will receive the incentive. The information from your HRA and the results from your biometric screening will be used to provide you with information to help you understand your current health and potential risks and may also be used to offer you services through the wellness program, such as tobacco cessation classes or weight loss classes. You also are encouraged to share your results or concerns with your own doctor.

Protections from Disclosure of Medical Information

We are required by law to maintain the privacy and security of your personally identifiable health information. Although the wellness program and the City of Corpus Christi may use aggregate information it collects to design a program based on identified health risks in the workplace, the wellness incentive program will never disclose any of your personal information either publicly or to the employer, except as necessary to respond to a request from you for a reasonable accommodation needed to participate in the wellness program, or as expressly permitted by law. Medical information that personally identifies you that is provided in connection with the wellness program will not be provided to your supervisors or managers and may never be used to make decisions regarding your employment.

Your health information will not be sold, exchanged, transferred, or otherwise disclosed except to the extent permitted by law to carry out specific activities related to the wellness program, and you will not be asked or required to waive the confidentiality of your health information as a condition of participating in the wellness program or receiving an incentive. Anyone who receives your information for purposes of providing you services as part of the wellness program will abide by the same confidentiality requirements.

In addition, all medical information obtained through the wellness program will be maintained separate from your personnel records, information stored electronically will be encrypted, and no information you provide as part of the wellness program will be used in making any employment decision. Appropriate precautions will be taken to avoid any data breach, and in the event a data breach occurs involving information you provide in connection with the wellness program, we will notify you immediately. You may not be discriminated against in employment because of the medical information you provide as part of participating in the wellness program, nor may you be subjected to retaliation if you choose not to participate.

If you have questions or concerns regarding this notice, or about protections against discrimination and retaliation, please contact Employee Benefits at 361-826-3300 option 2.