

Government of West Bengal

Finance Department

Medical Cell

No. 9205-F (MED)

dt. 5th October, 2009

Memorandum

After the West Bengal Health Scheme, 2008 came into effect from 01-06-09; requests for clarifications of some of the points laid down in the said Scheme are being received by this department from various corners.

After careful consideration of the matter the undersigned is directed by order of the Governor to offer the following para-wise clarifications on the points for information and guidance of all concerned:

Sl. No.	Points of Doubt	Clarifications
1.	<p>“Dependent member of the family of an employee” has been defined in clause 3(e) of the West Bengal Health Scheme (as amended under notification no. 6722-F dt. 04-07-09) and conditions of dependency has been clarified in Para-3 of the memo no. 3474-F dt. 11-05-09.</p> <p>Whether conditions of dependency are applicable for spouse who has income more than Rs. 1500/- per month?</p>	<p>For availing the medical facilities under the West Bengal Health Scheme, 2008 children, minor brothers, unmarried/ widowed/ divorced daughters, unmarried/ widowed/ divorced sisters shall be deemed to be dependent on the Govt. Employee if they are normally residing with him/her and their income from all sources does not exceed Rs. 1500/- per month.</p> <p>The conditions of dependency are not applicable to the spouse. In other words, spouse is automatically included for medical benefits under the West Bengal Health Scheme, 2008 and hence where both husband and wife are State Govt. employees none of them will be entitled to draw regular medical allowance if either of them opts to come under the scheme.</p> <p>(i) However both the husband and wife, if they are State Govt. employees, may exercise option separately to come under the Scheme. In those cases they will get identity cards as per their entitlement of accommodation. Their parents and other family members as per definition of “family” of the Scheme will get the benefits under the Scheme. A joint declaration is to be furnished stating the names of their beneficiaries and duly counter-signed by their employers. Name of sons and daughters may be shown either with the father or mother as per their option.</p> <p>(ii) If the spouse is an employee of central govt. /Bank or employed in a corporation / undertaking financed</p>

		<p>wholly or partly by the Central or State Government, local bodies, aided institutions and Private organisations, which provide medical services, the medical facility can be availed of at one place only. Therefore, if spouse wants to get the benefits under the West Bengal Health Scheme, 2008 an official certificate from his/ her employer is to be obtained first regarding relinquishment of medical allowance and medical benefits available from his/ her employer.</p> <p>Above procedures may also be followed in the case of a Government Pensioner enrolled under the West Bengal Health Scheme, 2008, in other words, if spouse is a pensioner or Government employee, both will not be entitled to get medical relief or medical allowance, as the case may be, where pensioner opts to come under the Scheme.</p>
2.	A new entrant to Government service and having no G.P.F. number. What procedure will be taken for his/ her enrolment under the Scheme?	New entrants into Government service may be enrolled under the Scheme following the procedure of enrolment as laid down under clause-4 of the Scheme. The Head of the Office/ Cadre Controlling shall issue him/ her "Temporary Family Permit" without any Employee Code till he/ she gets G.P.F. Number.
3.	West Bengal Secretariat Service is a Constituted Service but there is no Service Record Cell under the PAR Department for that Service Officers. Who will issue identity cards to such Service Officers?	Identity Cards to the West Bengal Secretariat Service Officers may be issued by the Administrative Departments with due information to the PAR Department.
4.	Whether animal bite cases will come under the purview of "Injuries caused by accidents" under clause 7(1)(x) of the West Bengal Health Scheme, 2008 for reimbursement of the cost of OPD treatment?	Yes.

5.	Whether "Registration Charges", "Service Taxes" charged by empanelled H.C.O.s are reimbursable?	Yes.
6.	Whether the cost of special devices like hearing aid/ artificial appliances, wheel chair, etc. are reimbursable?	Costs of special devices are reimbursable on the basis of the advice of Specialist Surgeons/ Physicians of recognised hospitals.
7.	For treatment of a Govt. employee/ Govt. pensioner and members of his/ her family in a Speciality Hospital outside West Bengal, prior permission of Secretary of the Department is required. Whether consultation of the West Bengal Health Scheme Authority, as stated in Para-10 of the F.D. memo no. 3474-F dt. 11-05-09, is essential in each and every case?	As per Clause-14 of the West Bengal Health Scheme, 2008, Secretary of a department may allow a Government employee/ Government pensioner or family members to receive medical treatment in a Speciality Hospital outside the State, as recognised under notification no. 3473-F dt. 11-05-09. But such permission may be given when treatment in such a hospital is essential and referred by a recognised hospital. To determine essentiality of the treatment outside the State the West Bengal Health Scheme Authority should be consulted.
8.	As stated in Para-4 of the F.D. memo no. 3475-F dt. 11-05-09 Pension Sanctioning Authority shall issue enrolment certificate in Form-II in respect of Pensioner/ Family Pensioner and direct the concerned Treasury to discontinue regular monthly medical relief w.e.f. the date mentioned in the enrolment certificate. What procedure is to be followed in case of	For Pensioners drawing pension from Bank in Kolkata, the Pension Sanctioning Authority shall issue enrolment certificate in Form-II and direct the concerned Bank for discontinuation of monthly medical relief w.e.f. the date mentioned in the enrolment certificate. A copy of the enrolment certificate is to be sent to the A.G. (A. & E.), West Bengal for information.

	Pensioners residing in Kolkata and drawing pension direct from Bank?	
9.	Whether State Govt. pensioners residing in a place outside the State are entitled to get the benefits of the the West Bengal Health Scheme?	Yes. Such pensioners may contact the concerned Pension Sanctioning Authority for enrolment under the Scheme. Enrolment certificates in those cases should be sent to the A.G. (A. & E.), West Bengal, Treasury Building for taking necessary action towards discontinuation of monthly medical relief w.e.f. the date mentioned in the enrolment certificate.
10.	Whether Government employees retired before 01-06-2009 will be entitled to get the benefits of the West Bengal Health Scheme, 2008?	Yes.

This order shall be deemed to have taken effect from 01-06-2009.

Special Secretary to the
Government of West Bengal