

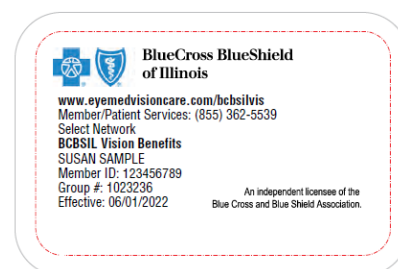
Changes to the Vision Plan in 2024

Starting January 1, 2024, the vision plan will be administered by Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Illinois (BCBSIL). While BCBSIL will be the administrator of the plan, they have contracted EyeMed Vision Care, LLC to provide customer service and claims administration services. The relationship between BCBSIL and EyeMed is that of independent contractors. Through this arrangement with EyeMed, you still have access to the same benefits and to EyeMed's extensive network of vision care providers.

The vision plan will remain a standalone benefit which means you may choose to participate in the plan regardless of whether you choose any other BCBSIL medical or dental plans offered by Northwestern. You will be assessed a separate premium if you chose to enroll, the same as in past years.

What's changing?

In December 2023, everyone enrolled in the vision plan for 2024 will receive an insurance card with the BCBSIL logo and account information. It is important that if you currently have an EyeMed insurance card, you discontinue its use starting January 1, 2024 and begin using the BCBSIL card.



Premiums are decreasing! Starting in January 2024, the premiums for the vision plan will decrease \$2-\$5 per month based on your enrollment tier (Employee Only, Family, etc.). Premiums are available on the vision plan [website](#).

If you currently have an online account with EyeMed or use their mobile app, you will need to **create a new** EyeMed [online](#) and/or [mobile app](#) account **AFTER** you receive the BCBSIL ID card. Unfortunately, you cannot use the same email address for both accounts. Therefore, you will need to use a different email address from your current/past EyeMed account. EyeMed requires this because your old claims information will still be available under the old account and your new claims information will be available with the new account.

What's not changing?

Most things! You retain access to EyeMed's extensive network of vision care providers. The plan design, such as copayments and coinsurance, will not change in the new plan year. Additionally, you still receive coverage for exams, lenses, contacts, and frames once every 12 months.

Additional resources

- [BCBSIL vision plan overview](#)
- [BCBSIL vision plan FAQ](#)
- [Create online account](#) (after you receive BCBSIL ID card)
- [Create mobile app account](#) (after you receive BCBSIL ID card)
- [Watch BCBSIL vision plan overview](#)
- Contact the askHR Service Center with additional questions:
 - askHR@northwestern.edu
 - 847-491-4700