

LAFCO

Santa Barbara Local Agency Formation Commission
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September 1, 2022 (Agenda)

Local Agency Formation Commission
105 East Anapamu Street
Santa Barbara CA 93101

SDRMA Underwriter Approval for Ancillary Benefits for SBLAFCO

Dear Members of the Commission:

RECOMMENDATION:

It is recommended that the Commission approve the Resolution and Memorandum of Understanding between SDRMA and SBLAFCO.

DISCUSSION:

LAFCO requested participation in Special District Risk Management Authority's (SDRMA's) Ancillary Coverages for the Delta Dental Low 51+ plan and VSP Option 2 Plan B coverages. These ancillary benefits would be offered to LAFCO employees in addition to the health benefits coverage also provided through CalPERS.

SDRMA advised the LAFCO EO that the program underwriter has approved our eligibility for the Delta Dental Low 51+ plan and VSP Option 2 Plan B coverages effective November 1, 2022 or within 4 weeks of submittal of enrollment forms. The attached documents are needed to complete these added benefits.

The costs associated with these new ancillary benefits would be paid by employees wanting to enroll. No costs are charged to LAFCO.

Attachments:

- Attachment A: Resolution Authorizing a MOU and Participation in SDRMA
Health Benefits Program
- Attachment B: MOU between SDRMA and SBLAFCO
- Attachment C: Program Participation Agreement

Please contact the LAFCO office if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "M. Prater", with a horizontal line extending to the right.

Mike Prater

Executive Officer

RESOLUTION NO. 22-15

**A RESOLUTION OF THE OF THE (GOVERNING BODY) OF SANTA BARBARA LOCAL AGENCY
FORMATION COMMISSION
APPROVING THE FORM OF AND AUTHORIZING THE EXECUTION OF A
MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING AND AUTHORIZING PARTICIPATION IN
THE SPECIAL DISTRICT RISK MANAGEMENT AUTHORITY'S HEALTH BENEFITS PROGRAM**

WHEREAS, Santa Barbara LAFCO, a public agency duly organized and existing under and by virtue of the laws of the State of California (the "ENTITY"), has determined that it is in the best interest and to the advantage of the ENTITY to participate in the Health Benefits Program offered by Special District Risk Management Authority (the "Authority"); and

WHEREAS, the Authority was formed in 1986 in accordance with the provisions of California Government Code 6500 *et seq.*, for the purpose of providing risk financing, risk management programs and other coverage protection programs; and

WHEREAS, participation in Authority programs requires the ENTITY to execute and enter into a Memorandum of Understanding which states the purpose and participation requirements for the Health Benefits Program; and

WHEREAS, all acts, conditions and things required by the laws of the State of California to exist, to have happened and to have been performed precedent to and in connection with the consummation of the transactions authorized hereby do exist, have happened and have been performed in regular and due time, form and manner as required by law, and the ENTITY is now duly authorized and empowered, pursuant to each and every requirement of law, to consummate such transactions for the purpose, in the manner and upon the terms herein provided.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE GOVERNING BODY OF THE ENTITY AS FOLLOWS:

Section 1. Findings. The ENTITY's Governing Body hereby specifically finds and determines that the actions authorized hereby relate to the public affairs of the ENTITY.

Section 2. Memorandum of Understanding. The Memorandum of Understanding, to be executed and entered into by and between the ENTITY and the Authority, in the form presented at this meeting and on file with the ENTITY's Secretary, is hereby approved. The ENTITY's Governing Body and/or Authorized Officers ("The Authorized Officers") are hereby authorized and directed, for and in the name and on behalf of the ENTITY, to execute and deliver to the Authority the Memorandum of Understanding.

Section 3. Program Participation. The ENTITY's Governing Body approves participating in the Special District Risk Management Authority's Health Benefits Program.

Section 4. Severability. If any provision of this resolution or the application thereof to any person or circumstance is held invalid, such invalidity shall not affect other provisions or applications of the resolution which can be given effect without the invalid provision or application, and to this end the provisions of this resolution are severable.

Section 5. Other Actions. The Authorized Officers of the ENTITY are each hereby authorized and directed to execute and deliver any and all documents which are necessary in order to consummate the transactions authorized hereby and all such actions heretofore taken by such officers are hereby ratified, confirmed and approved.

Section 6. Effective Date. This resolution shall take effect immediately upon its passage.

PASSED AND ADOPTED this 1st day of September, 2022 by the following vote:

AYES: _____

NOES: _____

ABSENT: _____

Stephen Shane Stark
Name

Chair

Attest: Natasha Carbajal, Commission Clerk

MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING

THIS MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING (HEREAFTER "MEMORANDUM") IS ENTERED INTO BY AND BETWEEN THE SPECIAL DISTRICT RISK MANAGEMENT AUTHORITY (HEREAFTER "SDRMA") AND THE PARTICIPATING PUBLIC ENTITY (HEREAFTER "ENTITY") WHO IS SIGNATORY TO THIS MEMORANDUM.

WHEREAS, on August 1, 2006, SDRMA was appointed administrator for the purpose of enrolling small public entities into the Public Risk Innovation, Solutions and Management (PRISM) Health and/or Employee Benefits Small Group Program (hereinafter "PROGRAM"); and

WHEREAS, the terms and conditions of the PROGRAM as well as benefit coverage, rates, assessments, and premiums are governed by the PRISM Health Committee and/or PRISM Employee Benefits Committee for the PROGRAM (the "COMMITTEE") and not SDRMA; and

WHEREAS, ENTITY desires to enroll and participate in the PROGRAM.

NOW THEREFORE, SDRMA and ENTITY agree as follows:

1. **PURPOSE.** ENTITY is signatory to this MEMORANDUM for the express purpose of enrolling in the PROGRAM.
2. **ENTRY INTO PROGRAM.** ENTITY shall enroll in the PROGRAM by making application through SDRMA which shall be subject to approval by the PROGRAM's Underwriter and governing documents and in accordance with applicable eligibility guidelines.
3. **MAINTENANCE OF EFFORT.** PROGRAM is designed to provide an alternative health benefit solution to all participants of the ENTITY including active employees, retired employees (optional), dependents (optional) and public officials (optional). ENTITY public officials may participate in the PROGRAM only if they are currently being covered and their own ENTITY's enabling act, plans and policies allow it. ENTITY must contribute at least the minimum percentage required by the eligibility requirements
4. **PREMIUMS.** ENTITY understands that premiums and rates for the PROGRAM are set by the COMMITTEE. ENTITY will remit monthly premiums based upon rates established for each category of participants and the census of covered employees, public officials, dependents and retirees.

Rates for the ENTITY and each category of participant will be determined by the COMMITTEE designated for the PROGRAM based upon advice from its consultants and/or a consulting Benefits Actuary and insurance carriers. In addition, SDRMA adds an administrative fee to premiums and rates for costs associated with administering the PROGRAM. Rates may vary depending upon factors including, but not limited to,

demographic characteristics, loss experience of all public entities participating in the PROGRAM and differences in benefits provided (plan design), if any.

SDRMA will administrate a billing to ENTITY each month, with payments due by the date specified by SDRMA. Payments received after the specified date will accrue penalties up to and including termination from the PROGRAM. Premiums are based on a full month, and there are no partial months or prorated premiums. Enrollment for mid-year qualifying events and termination of coverage will be made in accordance with the SDRMA Program Administrative Guidelines.

5. **BENEFITS.** Benefits provided to ENTITY participants shall be as set forth in ENTITY's Plan Summary for the PROGRAM and as agreed upon between the ENTITY and its recognized employee organizations as applicable. Not all plan offerings will be available to ENTITY, and plans requested by ENTITY must be submitted to PROGRAM underwriter for approval.
6. **COVERAGE DOCUMENTS.** Except as otherwise provided herein, coverage documents from each carrier outlining the coverage provided, including terms and conditions of coverage, are controlling with respect to the coverage of the PROGRAM and will be provided by SDRMA to each ENTITY. SDRMA will provide each ENTITY with additional documentation, defined as the SDRMA Program Administrative Guidelines which provide further details on administration of the PROGRAM.
7. **PROGRAM FUNDING.** It is the intent of this MEMORANDUM to provide for a fully funded PROGRAM by any or all of the following: pooling risk; purchasing individual stop loss coverage to protect the pool from large claims; and purchasing aggregate stop loss coverage.
8. **ASSESSMENTS.** Should the PROGRAM not be adequately funded for any reason, pro-rata assessments to the ENTITY may be utilized to ensure the approved funding level for applicable policy periods. Any assessments which are deemed necessary to ensure approved funding levels shall be made upon the determination and approval of the COMMITTEE in accordance with the following:
 - a. Assessments/dividends will be used sparingly. Generally, any over/under funding will be factored into renewal rates.
 - b. If a dividend/assessment is declared, allocation will be based upon each ENTITY's proportional share of total premiums paid for the preceding 3 years. An ENTITY must be a current participant to receive a dividend, except upon termination of the PROGRAM and distribution of assets.

- c. ENTITY will be liable for assessments for 12 months following withdrawal from the PROGRAM.
 - d. Fund equity will be evaluated on a total PROGRAM-wide basis as opposed to each year standing on its own.
9. WITHDRAWAL. ENTITY may withdraw subject to the following condition: ENTITY shall notify SDRMA and the PROGRAM in writing of its intent to withdraw at least 90 days prior to their requested withdrawal date. ENTITY may rescind its notice of intent to withdraw. Once ENTITY withdraws from the PROGRAM, there is a 3-year waiting period to come back into the PROGRAM, and the ENTITY will be subject to underwriting approval again.
 10. LIAISON WITH SDRMA. Each ENTITY shall maintain staff to act as liaison with SDRMA and between the ENTITY and SDRMA's designated PROGRAM representative.
 11. GOVERNING LAW. This MEMORANDUM shall be governed in accordance with the laws of the State of California.
 12. VENUE. Venue for any dispute or enforcement shall be in Sacramento, California.
 13. ATTORNEY FEES. The prevailing party in any dispute shall be entitled to an award of reasonable attorney fees.
 14. COMPLETE AGREEMENT. This MEMORANDUM together with the related PROGRAM documents constitutes the full and complete agreement of the ENTITY.
 15. SEVERABILITY. Should any provision of this MEMORANDUM be judicially determined to be void or unenforceable, such determination shall not affect any remaining provision.
 16. AMENDMENT OF MEMORANDUM. This MEMORANDUM may be amended by the SDRMA Board of Directors and such amendments are subject to approval of ENTITY's designated representative, or alternate, who shall have authority to execute this MEMORANDUM. Any ENTITY who fails or refuses to execute an amendment to this MEMORANDUM shall be deemed to have withdrawn from the PROGRAM on the next annual renewal date.
 17. EFFECTIVE DATE. This MEMORANDUM shall become effective on the later of the first date of coverage for the ENTITY or the date of signing of this MEMORANDUM by the Chief Executive Officer or Board President of SDRMA.
 18. EXECUTION IN COUNTERPARTS. This MEMORANDUM may be executed in several counterparts, each of which shall be an original, all of which shall constitute but one and the same instrument.

In Witness Whereof, the undersigned have executed the MEMORANDUM as of the date set forth below.

Dated: _____

By: _____

Special District Risk
Management Authority

Dated: _____

By: _____

Santa Barbara LAFCO, Chair

To:
From: PRISM / AUS Underwriting
Date:
Re: Small Group Program Application

We are happy to approve the application of **Name of Agency** for acceptance and participation in the PRISM Small Group program.

As part of this acceptance you will find two additional attachments to this letter:

1. Program Underwriting & Eligibility Rules
2. Program Participation Agreement

The Underwriting and Eligibility Rules are to serve as a general guide for program rules and expectations. These rules serve as expectations of member conduct within the program and are designed to protect both the pool and the member from actions that may increase the cost and risk in the program.

The Program Participation Agreement details the final terms of acceptance and any special exceptions or terms that have been made as part of this approval. Please read these terms carefully and contact your representative at SDRMA if you have any questions or clarifications.

Acceptance of the terms, completion and execution of the participation agreement will constitute full acceptance of the organization as a member of the program and eligible to participate in the insurance coverage program(s) applied for and accepted in this agreement. **Please return the signed Program Participation Agreement to SDRMA.**

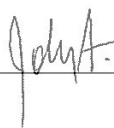
We thank you for your interest in the PRISM Small Group program and look forward to your participation in the program.

Sincerely,

FOR INTERNAL USE ONLY

Application is: Accepted Rejected Case No. _____

Effective: _____ Underwriter: _____

Date: _____ By:  _____
(Signature)

SMALL GROUP PROGRAM UNDERWRITING & ELIGIBILITY GUIDELINES

(Subject to attached Custom Contingencies and Caveats section)

Health Program Eligibility

Active Employees	Full-time salaried or hourly employees who are actively at work at least 30 hours per week.
Part-Time Employees	Part-time employees who are actively at work at least 20 hours per week.
Dependent Eligibility	Eligible dependents are covered to age 26 and will terminate coverage first of the month following 26th Birthday. Disabled dependents are covered regardless of age but must be approved by the plan administrator (claim fiduciary medical management) prior to annual enrollment.
COBRA Participants	Eligible to elect coverage through COBRA.
Board members, Trustees, Council Members, or Other Elected officials	Directors, board members, and other elected/appointed officials can only elect plan if they are eligible on the current plan and are subject to the same requirements as Active employees. Exceptions can be made at the recommendation of AUS and with the approval of the PRISMHealth Committee.
Retirees	To qualify for Medicare plans and rates, retiree must be enrolled in Medicare Parts A&B.
	Retired employees who are currently eligible and participating on the plan will be eligible to continue coverage under the program, if the coverage permits. Retirees who declined coverage may not enroll in any coverage at a subsequent enrollment date. Exceptions can be made at the recommendation of AUS.
	Medicare eligible retirees must enroll in Medicare parts A&B.

Health Program Underwriting (Continued on next page)

Group Size Requirements	
Minimum/Maximum	Minimum: 2 Full-Time Active Employees. Maximum: 200
Participation Guidelines	
Active Employees or Retirees	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Minimum participation of 75% of all eligible employees/Non-Medicare Retirees and Medicare Retirees. • Non-Medicare Retirees should be thoroughly reviewed by AUS if they exceed 20% of the total covered population. Exceptions can be made at the recommendation of AUS and with the approval of the PRISMHealth Committee.
Employer Contributions	
Contributions should be structured to allocate cost for tiers with dependent coverage. Cash-Back or "Cash-in-lieu-of" employer contributions are not preferred unless a specific exception has been made by underwriting.	
Active Employees, Board members, Trustees, Council Members, or Other Elected officials	Employer pays Minimum 75% of the single-only cost, 50% suggested contribution for dependents.
Retirees	No minimum employer contribution.
Waiting Period	
Date of hire is not allowed unless hire date is on the first of the month. All plan changes resulting from	

Qualifying Events will be effective on the 1st of the month following the event. Births and deaths are exceptions and coverage may be added/dropped outside of the first of the month following.

Underwriting Guidelines Continued-

Waivers

Coverage can only be waived with proof of group coverage through spouse, other group coverage, Medicare/Medical or COBRA. Waivers should be reviewed by AUS if they exceed 25% of the total covered population. Exceptions can be made at the recommendation of underwriting and with the approval of the PRISMHealth Committee. Non-Program participants are excluded from this waiver definition (i.e. union carve-out, PORAC).

Lock-out period

Small group members will comply with the withdrawal and termination rules of the JPA in which they contract for coverage.

Plan Selections and Combinations Guidelines

Plan Selection	<p>Subject to underwriting review and approval:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 2-100 enrolled lives: 2 plans + 1 Kaiser plan • 101-200 enrolled lives: 3 plans + 1 Kaiser plan
Plan Combinations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Only 1 HMO or HDHP plan may be offered to an employee group • Plans requested in addition to HMO or HDHP require approval from PRISM/AUS underwriting. • Future plan changes are subject to review and approval by PRISM/AUS underwriting

Eligibility Guidelines: Dental, Vision, Life, Disability and EAP

The following underwriting guidelines assume the employer will only be offering the PRISM Small Group coverage plans.

Active Employees	Full-time salaried or hourly employees who are actively at work at least 30 hours per week.
Part-Time Employees	Part-time employees who are actively at work at least 20 hours per week.
COBRA Participants	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dental & Vision: Eligible to elect coverage through COBRA. • Life/AD&D, Disability, EAP: Not eligible to elect coverage through COBRA.
Board members, Trustees, Council Members, or Other Elected officials	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dental, Vision, Life/AD&D,EAP: Directors, board members, and other elected/appointed officials can only elect plan if they are eligible on the current plan and are subject to the same requirements as Active employees. • Supplemental Life and Disability: Not eligible.
Retirees	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dental and Vision: Retirees are eligible • Life/AD&D, Disability, and EAP: Not eligible

Underwriting Guidelines: Dental, Vision, Life, Disability and EAP

Group Size Requirements	
Minimum/Maximum	Min: 2 Full-Time Active Employees Max: Up to 50 Employees*
Participation Guidelines	
Active Employees and retirees	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dental and Vision: 75% of all eligible. • Life/AD&D, Disability, and EAP: 75% of all eligible (No retirees)
Employer Contributions	
Contributions should be structured to allocate cost for tiers with dependent coverage. Cash-Back or "Cash-in-lieu-of" employer contributions are not permitted unless a specific exception* has been made by underwriting.	
Active Employees, Board members, Trustees, Council Members, or Other Elected officials	Employer pays 75% of the single-only cost, except for Supplemental Life. 50% suggested contribution for dependents.
Retirees	No minimum employer contribution (for eligible lines of coverage).
Lock-out period	
Small group members will comply with the withdrawal and termination rules of the JPA in which they contract for coverage.	
Plan Selection Guidelines	
Plan Selection	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Employers can select only one plan to offer their employees and dependents. • Basic Life and AD&D: Employer must select a plan for each class of employee (Designated by level of benefit)

* At the discretion of Underwriting. See Special Acceptance Terms section of Participation Agreement for further detail.

PROGRAM PARTICIPATION AGREEMENT

The coverage and premiums offered under this agreement are based on the information provided. The submission of any false information may result in the denial of coverage. The provision of known false or misleading information shall render this agreement null and void, and any insurance coverage offered hereunder shall be withdrawn retroactively to the effective date of the policy.

Agency Name:

Health Dental Vision Life Disability EAP

Future underwriting approval is required for coverage not requested / approved above.

Special Acceptance Terms

- **Agency Name is** subject to plan combination limitations. (refer to Plan Combination section)
- Rate proposal assumes full takeover of existing benefit plans and carriers
- This offer assumes cash-in-lieu is not currently in place and will not be offered in the future. Proof of other group coverage is required for all employees waiving coverage.

Standard Acceptance Terms

- The Underwriting & Eligibility Rules are part of the terms of this agreement and apply unless stated otherwise in the Special Acceptance Terms.
- Proposed rates are guaranteed ONLY for the current population of **Agency Name**, including all currently covered active employees, retirees and public officials (where approved).
- This proposal includes applicable Affordable Care Act Government Fees (Health plans only)
- Rate proposal assumes current enrollment as provided in census file submitted in Interest Packet. The PRISM reserves the right to potentially non-renew if the following changes occur and no corrective action is taken by the member organization:
 - If total program enrollment changes by more than 10%.
 - If the distribution of Actives versus non-Medicare Retirees changes by more than 10%.
 - If the tiered enrollment distribution changes by more than 10%.
 - If employer's contribution towards the employee only cost falls below 75%. This proposal assumes current employer contribution is at least 75% of employee-only cost unless a specific exception has been provided by underwriting. Contribution requirement does not apply to Voluntary Life.

GENERAL AGREEMENT AND SIGNATURE

Effective date requested: November 1, 2022 (Actual date will be assigned by PRISM if application is accepted). Application is hereby made to PRISM or the appropriate affiliated company for Employee benefits coverage identified above. If this application is accepted, this Program Participation Agreement will become part of the agreement to join the program.

Upon Acceptance of the application, the SBLAFCO will inform all persons who are eligible for coverage that they may apply for PRISM coverage under the Agreement/Policy. By signing below applicant acknowledges receipt and adherence of PRISM's underwriting and eligibility guidelines and terms of the Participation Agreement.

By:  Title: Executive Officer

(Authorized Signature)

Printed Name: Mike Prater