



October 2017

Subscriber ID: [REDACTED]  
Plan Name: Gold 80 PPO

## Time to renew your health coverage.

Dear [REDACTED]

We previously sent you information about your health plan changes for 2018. Rates have been formally announced and we are now able to provide your final monthly premium. We appreciate your patience during this time.

To help you make an informed decision about your new health coverage, which begins January 1, 2018, below is your 2018 premium information for your health coverage.

### Your Blue Shield Plan Summary for 2018

	2017 (Current plan)	2018 (effective January 1, 2018)
Medical Plan Name	Gold 80 PPO	Gold 80 PPO
Medical Monthly Premium	\$1,426.80	\$1,817.69 <b>A change of \$390.89 or 27.4%</b>

*\*Your 2018 monthly premium is based on our records as of September 27, 2017.*

*This amount may vary based on any changes to your situation, such as age, adding or removing dependents, or moving your household to a new address.*

### There are 3 steps to renew your coverage with Blue Shield

**1. Review your new 2018 premium and benefit changes.**

Look at your plan information provided to you in the previous letter along with this letter to assist with your decision making.

**2. Check out 2018 coverage options.**

Go to [blueshieldca.com/renewalcenter](http://blueshieldca.com/renewalcenter) to view important plan documents and browse plan options.

**3. Choose your plan for 2018.**

**The 2018 open enrollment period is from November 1, 2017 to January 31, 2018.**

During this time, you can renew your current plan or choose a different plan. Select your plan by the enrollment deadline.

An independent member of the Blue Shield Association A-49486-Of Ex-A OPPO-YT (1/18)



dues appendix

Blue Shield of California

Gold 80 PPO

Subscriber Name: [REDACTED]  
 Subscriber #: [REDACTED]

Effective Date: January 1, 2018

This appendix is a part of your agreement and replaces the dues appendix previously issued as of the effective date set forth above. Therefore, it should be kept with the agreement for future reference. The dues amounts are based on the final product approved for coverage during the enrollment process as well as the age of the subscriber and any covered dependent(s) during the calendar year indicated on the appendix.

Monthly dues (per member)

2018

Member	Age	Medical Rate
MA [REDACTED]	49	\$564.74
DIE [REDACTED]	54	\$706.75
HA [REDACTED]	17	\$292.96
WIL [REDACTED]	14	\$253.24
<b>Rate Totals</b>		\$1,817.69

2017- 492.24  
 616.02  
 183.22  
 183.22  


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 \$ 1,474.70

395.92 — 2016  
 494.00  
 153.77  
 153.77  


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 \$ 1,197.46

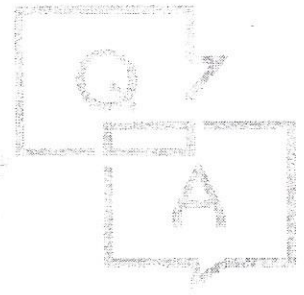


Jeff Smith, Vice President and General Manager  
 Individual and Family Plans  
 Blue Shield of California



# Answers to frequently asked questions

We want to provide answers to questions you might have to help you understand your updated plan and continue your coverage in 2018.



## About your current plan

### Q. My health plan monthly premium increased? Why did this happen?

- A. Health plan premiums include estimated costs for services, administration, and taxes. Major drivers affecting 2018 premiums are:
- **Changes to certain provisions of the Affordable Care Act and the decision not to continue federal funding of cost-sharing reductions, which impact monthly plan rates.**
    - A federal tax on all health insurers will be reinstated in 2018, so that additional cost is once again part of rates. It accounts for about 3 percent of the rate increase.
    - Another 3 percent is attributed to the uncertainty of whether the federal government will enforce the mandate for individuals to buy health insurance or pay a penalty.
    - The other 2 percent is based on changes to the federal risk adjustment program, which was created to stabilize the market.
  - **The cost of hospital services, physician services and prescription drug coverage for our individual members continues to rise.** Those increases are driven both by higher payment rates to healthcare providers, as well as increased utilization of services.

In addition, premiums can increase every year to factor in your age. However, premium changes can/will never be raised or lowered based on your personal medical expenses or utilization.

### Q. How do I keep the same plan in 2018?

- A. Visit [blueshieldca.com/renew](http://blueshieldca.com/renew) and select *keep your plan*, then simply continue to pay your monthly premium. Your 2018 monthly premium will be applied starting with your January bill.

### Q. I have changes to make, but still want to keep the same plan in 2018?

- A. Go to [blueshieldca.com/renew](http://blueshieldca.com/renew) to make any changes, such as adding or deleting dependents or updating your address. Any changes you make may directly affect your monthly premium.

