

Guest Membership

Wellmark Health Plan of Iowa has an added benefit for you and your dependents while away from home for at least 90 consecutive days. We call this Guest Membership and it includes access to Blue Cross and Blue Shield participating hospitals, physicians, and other health care providers from which you can receive covered services. Guest Membership is only available to members traveling or residing outside Iowa, but still within the United States.

Guest Membership is a valuable benefit for:

- Dependents attending school out of state, full-time, in an accredited institution of higher learning
- Members traveling for at least 90 consecutive days
- Family members who reside in another state, but are covered under the same health plan

To locate a participating physician outside of Iowa while on Guest Membership, please call 800-810-BLUE (2583) or visit the National Doctor & Hospital Finder at bcbs.com. You'll need to select providers that are listed within the BlueCard Traditional network on this website.



Here are some more important things to remember about your Guest Membership:

- Whenever you receive services out of state, make sure you visit network providers in order to receive benefits.
- Present your Wellmark ID card upon receiving services.
- Inpatient admissions, home health services, hospice services, private duty nursing, and home infusion therapy must still be pre-certified by calling the number on your ID card.
- If you change your permanent residence from Iowa, you'll need to contact your employer group and change health plans.
- You will need to contact Customer Service for address changes or when you return to Iowa.
- Your benefits (non-emergency) are not transferable to any state where you happen to be traveling. They are approved only for the state where you have signed up for a Guest Membership.

How to request Guest Membership

Notify a Wellmark Health Plan of Iowa Customer Service representative if you or your dependent will be living away from home for at least 90 consecutive days.

FOLLOW-UP CARE. If you are traveling and need follow-up care that cannot wait until you return to your service area, you may go to a local BlueCard provider for follow-up care. Level 3 benefits will apply.