

**EBSA FORM 700-- CERTIFICATION**

(revised July 2021)

Public Health Service Act section 2713 requires, among other things, that certain group health plans and issuers provide benefits for women's preventive services without cost sharing as provided for in comprehensive guidelines supported by the Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA). The HRSA Guidelines provide exemptions for group health plans and student health insurance coverage under certain circumstances related to an objection to providing contraception coverage. An accommodation process is also available for eligible entities, under which the obligation to provide benefits for contraceptive services is shifted to the entity's issuer or third party administrator. The accommodation process is described in 26 CFR 54.9815-2713A, 29 CFR 2590.715-2713A, and 45 CFR 147.131. These instructions and model notice may be used to claim an accommodation (not the exemption) from the contraceptive coverage requirements.

An eligible entity may, but is not required to, use a completed copy of this form to provide notice to its issuer or third party administrator that the objecting entity has a sincerely held religious or, if applicable under the accommodation process that is in effect, moral objection to coverage of all or a subset of contraceptive services, pursuant to 26 CFR 54.9815-2713A, 29 CFR 2590.715-2713A, and 45 CFR 147.131. Alternatively, an objecting entity may also provide notice to the Secretary of Health and Human Services. A model notice is available at -

<http://www.cms.gov/ccio/resources/Regulations-and-Guidance/index.html#Prevention>.

An organization may revoke its use of the accommodation process at a later date if it chooses to do so provided that written notice of any such revocation is given to participants and beneficiaries consistent with guidance issued by the Secretary of Health and Human Services. The guidance is available at <https://www.cms.gov/CCIIO/Resources/Regulations-and-Guidance/Downloads/Notice-Issuer-Third-Party-Employer-Preventive.pdf>. Entities should check current regulations and guidance to determine if revocation is available.

If you intend to utilize the accommodation process and choose to use this form instead of notifying HHS, please fill out this form completely and provide it to your plan's health insurance issuers (for insured coverage) or third party administrators (for self-insured coverage). This form should be made available for examination upon request and maintained on file for at least 6 years following the end of the last applicable plan year.

Name of the objecting entity	
Name and title of the individual who is authorized to make, and makes, this certification on behalf of the entity	
Mailing and email addresses and phone number for the individual listed above	

I certify the organization is an objecting entity (as described in 26 CFR 54.9815-2713A(a), 29 CFR 2590.715-2713A(a); 45 CFR 147.131(c)) that has a sincerely held [ ] religious or, as applicable, [ ] moral objection to providing coverage for some or all of any contraceptive services.

*I declare that I have made this certification, and that, to the best of my knowledge and belief, it is true and correct. I also declare that this certification is complete.*

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of the individual listed above

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

Notice to Third Party Administrators of Self-Insured Health Plans

In the case of a group health plan that provides benefits on a self-insured basis, the provision of this certification to a third party administrator for the plan that will process claims for contraceptive coverage required under 26 CFR 54.9815-2713(a)(1)(iv) or 29 CFR 2590.715-2713(a)(1)(iv) constitutes notice to the third party administrator that the eligible organization:

- (1) Will not act as the plan administrator or claims administrator with respect to claims for contraceptive services, or contribute to the funding of contraceptive services; and
- (2) The obligations of the third party administrator are set forth in 26 CFR 54.9815-2713A, 29 CFR 2510.3-16, and 29 CFR 2590.715-2713A.

This form or a notice to the Secretary is an instrument under which the plan is operated.

### PRA Disclosure Statement

According to the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it displays a valid OMB control number. The valid OMB control number for this information collection is 0938-1344. This information collection may be used, but is not required to be used, by an eligible entity to claim an accommodation (not the exemption) from the contraceptive coverage requirements. Health insurance issuers and third party administrators will need the notification in order to make, or arrange for, separate payments for contraceptive services furnished to participants and beneficiaries (or student enrollees and covered dependents) eligible for such coverage. The time required to complete this information collection is estimated to average 50 minutes per response, including the time to review instructions, gather the data needed, to review and complete the information collection. This information collection is required to obtain or retain a benefit (45 CFR 147.131). This is a third party notification and the issue of confidentiality between third parties is out of scope for the collection. If you have comments concerning the accuracy of the time estimate(s) or suggestions for improving this form, please write to: CMS, 7500 Security Boulevard, Mail Stop C4-26-05, Attention: Information Collections Clearance Officer Baltimore, Maryland 21244-1850. or [Russell.tipps@cms.hhs.gov](mailto:Russell.tipps@cms.hhs.gov).