



NTDSE
Empowering All To Achieve

Niles Township District for Special Education #807
Cook County Districts 67, 68, 69, 70, 71, 72, 73, 73.5, 74

5-20-26

TO: Tarin Kendrick

FROM: Kathy Gavin

RE: PROPOSED HEALTHCARE RATES FOR 2026-2027

The Educational Benefit Cooperative (EBC) is an entity created under Illinois state law that allows school districts to join together to purchase insurance. NTDSE links with 100+ other school districts and 3 sub-pools through EBC to purchase affordable medical and dental insurance for qualifying staff members. Joining with other school districts allows NTDSE to receive the benefit of reduced healthcare costs by participating in a larger “group buy”. School districts impact their rate increases year-to-year based on the specific number /dollar value of claims made by their staff members. Historically, NTDSE has been in the lowest to middle tier of rate increases due to a good claim history. Our membership in EBC has provided NTDSE with the ability to offer great healthcare benefits to staff members while experiencing some cost containment independent of the insurance increases seen throughout the industry in the last several years.

2026-2027 Rate adjustment information for the individual plan types is as follows:

PLAN	EBC DISTRICTS' AVERAGE PREMIUM ADJUSTMENT	NTDSE PREMIUM ADJUSTMENT	EBC AVERAGE PAID CLAIM LOSS RATIO	NTDSE PAID CLAIM LOSS RATIO
Blue Cross Blue Shield PPO	16.2%	16.2%	109.0%	107.45
Blue Cross Blue Shield HMO	16.4%	16.4%	105.7%	103.5%
MetLife Dental	3.9%	3.9%	98.7%	90%

The following factors have also significantly contributed to the 2026-27 insurance rate increases:

- A continued increase in the use of specialty drugs and a dramatic overall increase in the cost of prescriptions.
- Nationwide increase in healthcare system costs.
- A surge in the rate of inflation and an increase in market uncertainty.

Rate changes are effective July 1, 2026. The open enrollment period for staff occurs during the month of May.

The following chart contains EBC and NTDSE's historical rate change information for the last 3 years and the 2026-2027 proposed rate adjustment for comparative purposes.

	EBC AVERAGE PPO RATE CHANGE	NTDSE PPO CHANGE	EBC AVERAGE HMO CHANGE	NTDSE HMO RATE CHANGE	EBC AVERAGE DENTAL RATE CHANGE	NTDSE DENTAL RATE CHANGE
7/26-6/27	16.2%	16.2%	16.4%	16.4%	3.9%	3.9%
7/25-6/26	6.9%	7.9%	5.2%	5.2%	4.05	4.05
7/24-6/25	7.3%	7.3%	8.8%	8.8%	6.3%	6.3%
7/23-6/24	10.4%	10.4%	7.5%	7.5%	2.6%	2.6%

The following chart illustrates the paid Claim Loss Ratio for all EBC districts. This loss ratio represents the total losses incurred (paid and reserved) in claims divided by the total premiums paid.

PPO AVERAGE LOSS RATIO = 109.0%		
Paid Claim Loss Ratio	26-27 Rate Adjustment	# of EBC Members in Band
0.0% to 79.0%	11.2%	0
79.1% to 85.5%	12.2%	2
85.6% to 92.0%	13.2%	6
92.1% to 98.5%	14.2%	14
98.6% to 105.0%	15.2%	26
105.1 to 113.0%	16.2%	43
113.1% to 119.5%	17.2%	10
119.6% to 126.0%	18.2%	13
126.1% to 132.5%	19.2%	5
132.6% to 139.0%	20.2%	5
139.1% +	21.2%	2

HMO AVERAGE LOSS RATIO = 105.7%		
Paid Claim Loss Ratio	26-27 Rate Adjustment	# of EBC Members in Band
0.0% to 75.7%	11.4%	7
75.8% to 82.2%	12.4%	7
82.2% to 88.7%	13.4%	3
88.8% to 95.2%	14.4%	14
95.3% to 101.7%	15.4%	17
101.8% to 109.7%	16.4%	20
109.8% to 116.2%	17.4%	19
116.3% to 122.7%	18.4%	11
122.8% to 129.2%	19.4%	4
129.3% to 135.7%	20.4%	5
135.8% +	21.4%	2

DENTAL AVERAGE LOSS RATIO = 98.7%		
Paid Claim Loss Ratio	26-27 Rate Adjustment	# of EBC Members in Band
0.0% to 68.7%	-1.1%	0
68.8% to 83.7%	1.4%	11
83.8% to 113.7%	3.9%	51
113.8% to 128.7%	6.4%	8
128.8% +	8.9%	0

I recommend the acceptance of the rate renewals for the plans listed above for the 2026/27 school year.