

# Guest membership

## Take your health care benefits with you



No matter where life takes you, make sure you're covered. If you're planning to be out of the area for at least 90 days, apply for comprehensive health care benefits in your travel area through the Away from Home Care® program.

Independence Blue Cross (Independence) can help you apply for a guest membership with a participating HMO plan in your travel area, where available. Guest memberships may be appropriate for situations like:

- Long-term work assignment
- Students who temporarily live away while at college
- Retirees with a dual residence

### How to get started

At least 30 days prior to leaving the service area, log in at **ibx.com** to complete your application.

If you sign up to receive digital communications from Independence, you'll get email or text alerts when your:

- Application is received
- Application is approved
- Guest membership is scheduled to expire in 60 days
- Guest membership has expired

Sign up for email and text alerts for updates about your guest membership and other important information.

**[ibx.com/getconnected](https://ibx.com/getconnected)**

### Selecting a local PCP

You'll need to select a primary care physician (PCP) who is in the network of your Host HMO health plan within ten business days of your guest membership effective date. If you do not select a PCP, the Host HMO health plan will assign one to you.

Note: If you plan to return to the Philadelphia region for a period of time (e.g., a student who is home on break from college), be sure to update your PCP to one in the Keystone Health Plan East network for that time.

### Additional details

If your Independence medical coverage is terminated for any reason, your guest membership will also be terminated on the same date. Refer to your member benefit booklet for additional information, limitations, and restrictions regarding the Away from Home Care program.

If you have questions or need to end your guest membership, call the Customer Service number on the back of your member ID card.

Independence Blue Cross offers products through its subsidiaries Independence Hospital Indemnity Plan, Keystone Health Plan East and QCC Insurance Company, and with Highmark Blue Shield — independent licensees of the Blue Cross and Blue Shield Association.