

Part III Actuarial Memorandum

Redacted Version

Highmark BCBSD, Inc.

d/b/a Highmark Blue Cross Blue Shield Delaware

Small Group Rate Filing

Effective January 1, 2022

TABLE OF CONTENTS

I.	GENERAL INFORMATION	1
II.	PROPOSED RATE CHANGES	2
III.	EXPERIENCE AND CURRENT PERIOD PREMIUM, CLAIMS, AND ENROLLMENT	2
IV.	BENEFIT CATEGORIES	3
V.	PROJECTION FACTORS	3
VI.	PLAN ADJUSTED INDEX RATES	5
VII.	CALIBRATION	5
VIII.	CONSUMER ADJUSTED PREMIUM RATE DEVELOPMENT	6
IX.	PROJECTED LOSS RATIO	6
X.	AV METAL VALUES	6
XI.	MEMBERSHIP PROJECTIONS	6
XII.	TERMINATED PLANS AND PRODUCTS	6
XIII.	PLAN TYPE	6
XIV.	ACTUARIAL CERTIFICATION	7

I. General Information

Document Overview

This document contains the Part III Actuarial Memorandum for Highmark Blue Cross Blue Shield of Delaware's ("Highmark BCBSDE") small group block of business rate filing ("Filing"), for products with an effective date of January 1, 2022. This actuarial memorandum is submitted in conjunction with the Part I Unified Rate Review Template.

The purpose of the actuarial memorandum is to provide certain information related to the submission, including support for the values entered into the Part I Unified Rate Review Template, which supports compliance with the market rating rules and reasonableness of applicable rate increases. This information may not be appropriate for other purposes.

This information is intended for use by the State of Delaware Department of Insurance, the Center for Consumer Information and Insurance Oversight (CCIIO), and their subcontractors to assist in the review of Highmark BCBSDE's Filing. However, we recognize that this certification may become a public document. Highmark BCBSDE makes no representations or warranties regarding the contents of this letter to third parties. Likewise, third parties are instructed that they are to place no reliance upon this actuarial memorandum prepared by Highmark BCBSDE that would result in the creation of any duty or liability under any theory of law by Highmark BCBSDE or its employees to third parties.

The results are actuarial projections. Actual experience is likely to differ for a number of reasons, including population changes, claims experience, and random deviations from assumptions.

I.1 Company Identifying Information:

- Company Legal Name: Highmark BCBSD, Inc.
- State: The State of Delaware has regulatory authority over these policies.
- HIOS Issuer ID: 76168
- Market: Small Group
- Effective Date: January 1, 2022

II. Proposed Rate Increase(s)

For all rate increases by plan, see the ‘Cumulative Rate Change % (over 12 mos prior)’ found in line Worksheet 2, 1.11 of the URRT. The rate changes vary by plan due to changes in the allowable plan level base rate components (pricing actuarial factors, geographic rating factors, network discounts, and administrative charges). These components are re-evaluated each year to keep pace with market changes and changes in health care costs. For 2022, the Company’s proposed rate revisions vary by plan according to the detail presented in the URRT, Worksheet 2.

An increase in base claims experience (removing the impact of COVID), risk adjustment have increased rates. These increases are being offset by savings due to improved pharmacy rebates, a decrease in the projection period COVID impact, a reduction in claims trends and retention, and an adjustment pursuant to the Delaware Department of Insurance’s rate filing review, to arrive at the net increase in rates proposed.

III. Experience and Current Period Premium, Claims, and Enrollment

III.1 Paid through Date:

Experience period claims were based on incurred calendar year 2020, paid through February 2021. This experience includes 2020 experience in Affordable Care Act (ACA) compliant plans.

III.2 Current Date:

The current date used for enrollment and premium is February 2021.

III.3 Allowed and Incurred Claims Incurred During the Experience Period:

- **Historical Experience:** The URRT historical experience section was completed with Highmark BCBSDE’s current experience for the small group block of business for the period January 1, 2020 through December 31, 2020, with claims paid through February 2021.
- **Claims Incurred During the 12-month experience period:** Worksheet 1, Section I shows the Company’s best estimate of the amount of claims that were incurred during the 12-month experience period for Highmark BCBSDE’s small group book-of-business.
- **Method for Determining Allowed Claims:** For non-capitated claims, the allowed charges are summarized from Highmark BCBSDE’s detailed claim-level historical data.

IV. Benefit Categories

Experience period claims data were pulled from Highmark BCBSDE's claims systems and categorized into benefit category components according to types of services associated with each claim. The resulting categories closely adhere to the preferred definitions of the Benefit Categories included in the URRT instructions.

V. Projection Factors

V.1 Trend Factors (cost/utilization)

The development of the CY 2022 rates reflects an assumption for trend.

V.2 Morbidity Adjustment

The morbidity adjustment reflects the anticipated changes in the average morbidity of the covered population (beyond allowable rating factors) from the experience period to the rating period.

Impact of COVID

To account for the impact of COVID, the Company made the following adjustments to its base experience period claims and its projected costs:

- a. The claims in the base experience period were adjusted to a non-COVID baseline environment; and
- b. The projected non-COVID baseline claims were adjusted by applying the anticipated impacts of COVID cost expected in the projection period.

V.3 Changes in Demographics

We applied an adjustment for change in rating factor (age, tobacco load and area combined).

V.4 Plan Design Changes

The following adjustments were made to reflect the expected differences in benefits between the experience period and projection period:

- Anticipated changes in the average utilization of services due to differences in average cost sharing requirements during the experience period and average cost sharing requirements in the projection period: -0.1%
- Change in network benefits: None

- Newly mandated benefits required under state law, which are not reflected in the experience period claims: None.
- New benefits that are not part of the essential health benefit package or required under state law that did not exist in the experience period claims: None.
- The removal of benefits covered in the experience period claims that will not be covered in the projection period: None.

V.5 Other Adjustments

We applied an adjustment pursuant to the review of the Delaware Department of Insurance.

V.6 Manual Rate Adjustments

As Highmark BCBSDE's small group experience is fully credible, no manual rate is developed or used in this projection.

V.7 Credibility of Experience

The experience is for Highmark BCBSDE's ACA plans in 2020. It is large enough to be fully credible. Our results are based 100% on the experience rate.

V.8 Establishing the Index Rate

The index rates as shown on Worksheet 1 of the URRT are simply the average allowed claims for the Essential Health benefits for the experience and projected populations, respectively, for Highmark BCBSDE.

V.9 Development of the Market-wide Adjusted Index Rate

The Market-wide Adjusted Index Rate is the Index Rate further adjusted for risk adjustment and the exchange fee.

V.10 Reinsurance

The rate development is appropriately adjusted for any reinsurance contacts in effect for Highmark BCBSDE.

V.11 Risk Adjustment Payment/Charge

To arrive at the anticipated risk transfer for 2022, the Company determines the risk adjustment calculation components for the projected 2022 Company portfolio and uses its current knowledge of the Delaware Small Group market profile to estimate the risk adjustment components for the entire state Market. The impact from the High Cost Risk Pool program was considered.

V.12 Exchange User Fees

The projected Exchange User Fees are developed from the Exchange user fees to be charged by CMS in 2022, multiplied by the percentage of business the Company expects to purchase Market coverage through the Exchange for the Company. For the Company, all business will be offered Off Exchange in 2022, so there are no Exchange User Fees charged in the rate development.

VI. Plan Adjusted Index Rates

The Plan Adjusted Index Rates are calculated by applying the allowable rating factors as described below to the Market-wide Adjusted Index Rate.

VI.1 AV and Cost Sharing Design of Plan

The proposed rates include consideration of AV and utilization due to cost sharing differences

VI.2 Provider Network Adjustment

The proposed rates include consideration of provider network adjustments

VI.3 Benefits in Addition to EHB

Only the expected costs of essential health benefits (EHB) are included in each of the Company's plans.

VI.4 Administrative Expense

The proposed rates reflect internal administrative costs. This cost was developed based on standard expense allocation methods.

VI.5 Taxes and Fees

The following fees were added: Patient-Centered Outcomes Research Institute Fee, Risk Adjustment User Fee, and the impact of Delaware House Bill No. 193

VI.6 Profit & Risk Load

The proposed rates include consideration for a profit and risk load.

VII. Calibration

VII.1 Age Curve Calibration (to age 21, non-smoker, area with 1.0 geographic factor, January 1 effective date)

An age calibration is calculated using Highmark BCBSDE average age factor of the projected population.

VII.2 Geographic Factor Calibration

The state of Delaware only has one geographic region. No calibration is necessary.

VII.3 Tobacco Use Rating Factor Calibration

Highmark BCBSDE does not currently utilize tobacco rating factors.

VIII. Consumer Adjusted Premium Rate Development

The plan adjusted index rate represents the rate for a non-smoker, 1.0 age factor and 1.0 geographic factor for a 1/1/2022 renewal. Consumer adjusted premium rate is obtained by multiplying by the combined age, geographic, and quarterly renewal calibration factors for the calibrated age/non-smoker in a 1.0 geographical area. The standard HHS Age Curve along with the filed tobacco factors and geography factors can be used to calculate any rate found in the QHP rate template.

IX. Projected Loss Ratio

The anticipated medical loss ratio is calculated consistently with the federally prescribed MLR methodology.

X. AV Metal Values

The AV Metal Values included in Worksheet 2 of the Part I Unified Rate Review Template were based on the Federal AV Calculator.

XI. Membership Projections

Membership projections originate from the Highmark BCBSDE's forecast for 2022. These projections reflect expected changes in market share due to market competition.

XII. Terminated Plans and Products

Highmark BCBSDE is terminating several QHP plans that had experience in the 2020 calendar year period. These plans are being terminated due to a re-evaluation of benefit design options and marketing considerations. These plans will be mapped to a corresponding plan of similar metal level and plan design, and the experience period members and allowed charges will be moved to the mapped plans in the URRT.

XIII. Plan Type

The Plan types listed in Worksheet 2, Section I of the Part I Unified Rate Review Template describe Highmark BCBSDE's plans adequately.

XIV. Actuarial Certification

I am a member of the American Academy of Actuaries and meet its qualification standards for actuaries issuing statements of actuarial opinions in the United States. This filing is prepared on behalf of Highmark BCBSDE to accompany its initial rate filing (for calendar year 2022) for the Small Group Market off the Delaware Exchange.

I hereby certify that the projected Index Rate is, to the best of my knowledge and understanding:

- In compliance with all applicable State and Federal Statutes and Regulations (45 CFR 156.80 and 147.102),
- Developed in compliance with the applicable Actuarial Standards of Practice
- Reasonable in relation to the benefits provided and the population anticipated to be covered
- Neither excessive nor deficient.

I certify that the Index Rate and only the allowable modifiers as described in 45 CFR 156.80(d)(1) and 45 CFR 156.80(d)(2) were used to generate plan level rates.

I certify that the geographic rating factors reflect only differences in the costs of delivery (which can include unit cost and provider practice pattern differences) and do not include differences for population morbidity by geographic area.

I certify that the AV Calculator was used to determine the AV Metal Values shown in Part I of Worksheet 2 in the URRT for all plans.

The Unified Rate Review Template does not demonstrate the process used by Highmark BCBSDE to develop the rates. Rather, it represents information required by Federal regulation to be provided in support of the review of rate increases, for certification of Qualified Health Plans for Federally-facilitated Exchanges and for certification that the Index Rate is developed in accordance with Federal regulation and used consistently and only adjusted by the allowable modifiers.

Signed: [REDACTED]

Date: 09/10/2021