

Notice of Privacy Practices

Pursuant to your Authorization. When required by law, we will ask for your written authorization before using or disclosing your protected health information. If you choose to sign an authorization to disclose information, you can later revoke that authorization to prevent any future uses or disclosures.

To Business Associates. We may enter into contracts with entities known as Business Associates that provide services to or perform functions on behalf of the plan. We may disclose protected health information to Business Associates once they have agreed in writing to safeguard the protected health information. For example, we may disclose your protected health information to a Business Associate to administer claims. Business Associates are also required by law to protect protected health information.

To the Plan Sponsor. We may disclose protected health information to certain employees of KANKAKEE AREA SPECIAL for the purpose of administering the Plan. These employees will use or disclose the protected health information only as necessary to perform plan administration functions or as otherwise required by HIPAA, unless you have authorized additional disclosures. Your protected health information cannot be used for employment purposes without your specific authorization.

Your Rights

Right to Inspect and Copy. In most cases, you have the right to inspect and copy the protected health information we maintain about you. If you request copies, we will charge you a reasonable fee to cover the costs of copying, mailing, or other expenses associated with your request. Your request to inspect or review your health information must be submitted in writing to the person listed below. In some circumstances, we may deny your request to inspect and copy your health information. To the extent your information is held in an electronic health record, you may be able to receive the information in electronic format.

Right to Amend. If you believe that information within your records is incorrect or if important information is missing, you have the right to request that we correct the existing information or add the missing information. Your request to amend your health information must be submitted in writing to the person listed below. In some circumstances, we may deny your request to amend your health information. If we deny your request, you may file a statement of disagreement with us for inclusion in any future disclosures of the disputed information.

Right to an Accounting of Disclosures. You have the right to receive an accounting of certain disclosures of your protected health information. The accounting will include disclosures that were made (1) for purposes of treatment, payment or health care operations; (2) to you; (3) pursuant to our authorization; (4) to our friends or family in your presence or because of an emergency; (5) for national security purposes; or (6) incidental to otherwise permissible disclosures.

Your request for an accounting must be submitted in writing to the person listed below. You may request an accounting of disclosures made within the last six years. You may request one accounting free of charge within a 12-month period.

Right to Request Restrictions. You have the right to request that we not use or disclose information for treatment, payment, or other administrative purposes except when specifically authorized by you, when required by law, or in emergency circumstances. You also have the right to request that we limit the protected health information that we disclose to someone involved in your care or the payment for your care, such as a family member or friend.

Your request for restrictions must be submitted in writing to the person listed below. WE will consider your request, but in most cases are not legally obligated to agree to those restrictions. However, we will comply with any restriction request if the disclosure is to a health plan for purposes of payment or health care operations (not for treatment) and the protected health information pertains solely to a health care item or service that has been paid for out-of-pocket and in full.

Right to Request Confidential Communications. You have the right to receive confidential communications containing your health information. Your request for restrictions must be submitted in writing to the person listed below. We are required to accommodate reasonable requests. For example, you may ask that we contact you at your place of employment or send communications regarding treatment to an alternate address.

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Right to be Notified of a Breach. You have the right to be notified in the event that we (or one of our Business Associates) discover a breach of your unsecured protected health information. Notice of any such breach will be made in accordance with Federal requirements.

Right to Receive a Paper Copy of this Notice. If you have agreed to accept this notice electronically, you also have a right to obtain a paper copy of this notice from us upon request. To obtain a paper copy of this notice, please contact the person listed below.

Our Legal Responsibility.

We are requested by law to protect the privacy of your protected health information, provide you with certain rights with respect to your protected health information, provide you with this notice about our privacy practices, and follow the information practices that are described in this notice. We may change our policies at any time. In the event that we made a significant change in our policies, we will provide you with a revised copy of this notice. YOU can also request a copy of our notice at any time. For more information about our privacy practices, contact the following:

Individual's Name or Person's Title: Tammy Kulpa
Organization's Name: KANKAKEE AREA SPECIAL EDUCATION COOPERATIVE
Street Address: One Stuart Drive
City / State / Zip: Kankakee, IL 60901-8947
Phone Number and e-Mail Address: 815-939-3651 kulpat@kasec.org

Complaints

If you are concerned that we have violated your privacy rights, or you disagree with a decision we made about access to your records, you may contact the person listed above. You also may send a written complaint to the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services – Office of Civil Rights. The person listed above can provide you with the appropriate address upon request or you may visit www.hhs.gov/oci for further information. You will not be penalized or retaliated against for filing a complaint with the Office of Civil Rights or with us.