It has been brought to our attention that there has been some confusion in the administration of the Vision Benefit provided under the Westport Public Schools plan of benefits administered effective September 1, 2010 by CIGNA.

The Plan of Benefits for all the collective bargaining groups provides the payment in-full for a routine eye-examination once every two (2) years.

Please be aware that CIGNA Vision is separate from the CIGNA Medical plan. There is separate administration, customer service, provider network. You will see a different member service number for CIGNA vision benefits on the back of your combined ID card. The CIGNA Vision Network consists of optometrists and ophthalmologists. CIGNA has also contracted with Target, JC Penney, Pearle Vision and Sears.

Should you have any questions regarding the Cigna Vision Network or whether services are covered as medical or vision benefits, please contact CIGNA Vision Customer Service at 1-877-478-7557.

As with medical coverage, we recommend that you determine whether your provider is in-network or out-of-network prior to receiving vision services. This will determine how your claims will be billed and how much you are responsible for based on your plan’s Summary of Benefits.

If your current provider is not in-network with Cigna Vision, you may nominate them to be included via a form obtained through Customer Service. You may also search for an in-network provider via the link “Find a Cigna Vision Eye Care Professional” at www.cigna.vsp.com. We recommend that you create an account profile both at this site and at www.mycigna.com for easy access to both reference materials and to your personal account information via the password protected site.

HOW DO YOU DETERMINE IF YOU SHOULD USE THE CIGNA VISION PLAN OR THE CIGNA MEDICAL PLAN?

1. Routine vision care would include an eye health examination or a prescription for eyeglasses and would be covered under Cigna vision benefits. The Cigna Vision Network would be responsible for these services.

2. If you have a condition of the eye; i.e.; cataract, diabetes-related, etc., these services are not routine vision services. It would be a medical condition of the eye and would be covered under the medical benefit - not the vision benefit. Your medical ID card should be presented to the provider to indicate your coverage and benefits under Cigna.

NJH:abm