

**2026 Blue Cross and Blue Shield Service Benefit Plan - Standard and Basic Option****Section 3. How You Get Care****You need prior Plan approval for certain services:****Emergency inpatient admission**

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**• Emergency inpatient admission**

If you have an emergency admission due to a condition that you reasonably believe puts your life in danger or could cause serious damage to bodily function, you, your representative, the physician, or the hospital must phone us within two business days following the day of the emergency admission, even if you have been discharged from the hospital. If you do not phone us within two business days, a \$500 penalty may apply – see *Warning* under *Inpatient hospital admissions* earlier in this Section and *If your facility stay needs to be extended* below.

**Admissions to residential treatment centers do not qualify as emergencies.**