

**2026 Blue Cross and Blue Shield Service Benefit Plan - Standard and Basic Option****Section 3. How You Get Care****Where you get covered care:****Balance Billing Protection****Balance Billing Protection**

FEHB Carriers must have clauses in their in-network (participating) provider agreements. These clauses provide that, for a service that is a covered benefit in the plan brochure or in some cases for services determined not medically necessary, the in-network provider agrees to hold the covered individual harmless (and may not bill) for the difference between the billed charge and the in-network contracted amount. If an in-network provider bills you for covered services over your normal cost share (deductible, copay, co-insurance) contact your Carrier to enforce the terms of its provider contract.