



MICA Student Health Insurance Policy

Dear Student/ Parent:

As part of our commitment to foster optimal health and wellness for our students, MICA has a mandatory student health insurance policy in place for all students. If you have private health insurance that is comparable to the school-sponsored plan, you may waive out of the insurance. If you do not have private health insurance, or it does not provide coverage in the Baltimore, MD area, you will need to enroll in the insurance. The policy requires students attending MICA to maintain health insurance coverage that covers them every day of their higher education career. This policy helps to ensure that students do not have to make a choice between continuing their education and paying medical bills.

Student Health Insurance and Healthcare Reform

In order to support this requirement, MICA has sponsored an Aetna Student Health Insurance policy that is fully compliant with the federal regulations under the Affordable Care Act (ACA) of 2010, better known as healthcare reform. On March 16, 2012 the federal government released the requirements for Student Health Insurance plans. These requirements included an extensive list of preventative services that must be provided with no additional cost sharing, as well as other benefits that reduce the out-of-pocket expense of the insured. This school-sponsored plan provides the robust schedule of benefits required under these regulations as well as benefits that are specific to the population at MICA.

Cost of the Student Health Insurance and Financial Aid

The cost, including all administrative fees, of the school-sponsored student health insurance plan is \$2,086 for effective dates August 1, 2023-July 31, 2024. If you will be enrolling in this plan and are applying for financial aid, please keep this cost in mind when completing your loan requests. Your award letter will list the maximum amount of any loan that you (or your parents) may be eligible to receive. The Financial Aid Office is able to increase any parent PLUS loan, GRAD PLUS loan, or private educational loan to include student health insurance costs. If you want to have these loans increased to cover the cost of your student health insurance, please email the Financial Aid Office at finaid@mica.edu and let them know.

We recognize the increase in the cost of insurance will affect everyone over the next few years and MICA is providing access to this plan to assist students in controlling their health insurance expenditures. By partnering with Aetna and QM Services, our student health insurance administrators, we ensure MICA students have access to an ACA-compliant policy that costs less than what can be found in the marketplace for comparable, individual health plans.

Next Steps/Deadline to Respond

No action is required at this time. Over the next few weeks, a mailing will be sent to your home address (on file at MICA) with subsequent reminder emails sent to your MICA email address regarding the student health insurance and how to enroll in or waive out of the school sponsored plan. **You must complete the waiver or enrollment no later than September 11, 2023 in order to avoid a financial penalty. If you do not take any action by September 11, you will be automatically enrolled in the school-sponsored plan.**

Wishing you good health and much academic success,

Judith M. Kinney, PhD
Associate Vice President, Student Health & Wellness
Maryland Institute College of Art

You may visit www.qmservicesinc.com for additional information on the Student health insurance program and answers to frequently asked questions.

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