

**Government of West Bengal  
Department of Health & Family Welfare  
General Administration Branch  
Swasthya Bhawan**

No. HF/O/GA/2532/W-117/2020

Dated : 02.12.2020

**NOTIFICATION**

**Sub: Extension of coverage under "Swasthya Sathi" to make it a "Universal Health Protection Scheme" for the people of State of West Bengal"**

With an objective to provide comprehensive health coverage facilities, the State Government has introduced a flagship unique group health protection scheme "Swasthya Sathi" as notified vide Finance (Audit) Department Notification No. 1104-F(P) dated 25th February, 2016. The coverage and scope of the Scheme including financial limit of benefits were subsequently extended from time to time to provide wider coverage.

(2) However, there are still large numbers of households in West Bengal, who are economically vulnerable vis-à-vis ability to defray high cost of medical treatment and are in the need to be provided with proper medical care . As good health is considered essential to sustained economic and social development, there is an urgent need for extending such health coverage to every citizen of West Bengal.

(3) In the backdrop of the above, it has been under active consideration of the State Government for some time past to provide comprehensive health coverage to all the families in the State to achieve the goal of "Universal Health Coverage" to ensure that all people in the State have access to standard health services.

(4) Now, therefore, the Governor is pleased to decide that the Swasthya Sathi Scheme will now cover all the permanent residents of the State except those covered by any health insurance/assurance scheme/coverage by any Government/ Government Organizations, Parastatals/Public Sector Undertakings etc. as detailed below:

- a) Families covered under West Bengal Health Scheme, 2008;
- b) Families covered under Central Government Health Scheme, 1954;
- c) Families covered under Employees' Insurance Scheme under ESI Act, 1948;
- d) Families covered under any Group Medical Insurance Scheme operating for the benefit of employees in any Central/State Public Sector Undertaking, Urban Local bodies, Statutory Bodies, Statutory Corporations, Trusts/ Societies/ Boards or the like under administrative control of any Government;
- e) Any employee of the State Government/Central Government drawing Medical Allowance as per Government Rules;
- f) Any other category as may be notified by the State Government from time to time.

5. An employee under the State Government drawing Medical Allowance as per Rules may opt to come under Swasthya Sathi after foregoing such medical allowance in full.
6. Existing definition of family to include all dependent children irrespective of age and parents of both the spouses will continue and one Swasthya Sathi Smart Card will be issued in the name of the eldest female member of the family.
7. The scheme at present shall be implemented through Assurance Mode. The benefits and process of extending health care services in any empanelled hospital under the existing Swasthya Sathi scheme will remain unaltered.
8. The Health and Family Welfare Department, West Bengal will continue to function as the Nodal Department in respect of the administration of the Swasthya Sathi Scheme. It shall arrange for required Human Resource support, logistic and mobility support and technical support for efficient implementation and management of the Swasthya Sathi Scheme for the expanded base of beneficiaries.

This notification is issued with the concurrence of Finance Department vide UO no. Group O/2020-2021/0052 dated 30.11.2020 and approval of the Cabinet vide No.1697 dated 02.12.2020.

Sd/-  
**Secretary**  
**Health and Family Welfare Department**

HF/O/GA/2532/W-117/2020/1(13)

Dated:02.12.2020

Copy forwarded for information and necessary action to:

1. The Principal Accountant General(A&E),West Bengal,Treasury Buildings,Kolkata-1.
2. The Principal Accountant General(Audit),West Bengal,Treasury Buildings,Kolkata-1.
3. The Additional Chief Secretary/Principal Secretary/Secretary.....
4. The Commissioner.....
5. The District Magistrate.....
6. The Sub-Divisional Officer.....
7. The Registrar General, Calcutta High Court.
8. The Pay & Accounts Officer,Kolkata Pay & Accounts Office-I,81/2/2,Phears lane, Kolkata-700012.
9. The Pay & Accounts Officer,Kolkata Pay & Accounts Office-II,p-1,Hyde Lane, Hawahar Buildings, Kolkata-700073.
10. The Pay & Accounts Officer-III,I.B. Market,Salt Lake City,Kolkata-700106.
11. The.....Department/Directorate.
12. The PS to Chief Secretary Government of West Bengal.

13. The Special Secretary, Finance (Budget) Department for Uploading this Notification  
In Finance Department website.

  
Commissioner in  
Health & Family Welfare Department

HF/O/GA/2532/W-117/2020/2(26)

Dated:02.12.2020

Copy forwarded for information and necessary action to:

- 1 The Secretary, H& FW Department and State Nodal Officer, Swasthya Sathi.
- 2 The Managing Director, NHM, Swasthya Sathi Building
- 3 The Secretary, Nursing.
- 4 The Director of Health Services, WB.
- 5 The Director of Medical Education, WB.
- 6 The Additional Secretary & Commissioner, Food Safety, Swasthya Bhawan.
- 7 The Additional Secretary, HS Branch, Swasthya Bhawan.
- 8 The Additional Secretary, Mental Health Branch, Swasthya Bhawan.
- 9 The Additional Secretary, IT Cell, Swasthya Bhawan.
- 10 The Commissioner, Dental Branch
- 11 The Commissioner, GA Branch
- 12 The Special Secretary, MERT Branch, Swasthya Bhawan.
- 13 The Managing Director, WBMSCL, Swasthya Sathi Building
- 14 The Secretary, West Bengal Health Recruitment Board
- 15 The Secretary, Clinical Establishment Regulatory Commission
- 16 The Director of Homoeopathy, West Bengal, Swasthya Bhawan.
- 17 The Director of Ayurveda, West Bengal, Swasthya Bhawan.
- 18 The Director of State Drug Control, WB, P-16, India Exchange Place Extension,  
Kit Buildings, (5<sup>th</sup> Floor), Kolkata-700 073.
- 19 The Director of State Drug Control & Research Laboratory, WB,  
2, Convent Lane, Kolkata-700 015.
- 20 The Joint Secretary, Law Branch, Swasthya Sathi Building
- 21 The Financial Advisor, H&FW Department, Swasthya Bhawan.
- 22 Deputy Secretary, FW Branch
- 23 The Assistant Secretary & DDO, H&FW Department, Swasthya Bhawan.
- 24 The P.A to Secretary, Health & Family Welfare Department, Swasthya Bhawan, Sector-V, GN-29,  
Salt Lake, Kolkata-700091.
- 25 IT Cell, Health & Family Welfare Department, for Uploading this Notification In the website of  
this Department.
- 26 The Establishment Cell of this Department.

  
Commissioner in  
Health & Family Welfare Department