

California Schools VEBA & Kindbody Benefits – 2026 Changes (Effective 1/1/2026)

The State of California has enacted Senate Bill 729 (SB 729), which requires fully insured health plans to cover the diagnosis and treatment of infertility, including in vitro fertilization (IVF). This mandate also includes coverage for fertility medications, up to 3 oocyte retrievals, and embryo transfers. These services will be integrated into HMO medical plans starting on your plan's renewal date.

What This Means for VEBA HMO Members:

Members enrolled in the following HMO plans will be affected by the state mandate: Kaiser, UnitedHealthcare (UHC), Cigna, SIMNSA, and VEBA Direct as these HMO plans will now include fertility services as part of their core medical benefits.

Kindbody will no longer administer fertility benefits for employees and their spouses or partners enrolled in UnitedHealthcare (UHC), Cigna, SIMNSA, and VEBA Direct HMO plans. However, all HMO members, including Kaiser members, will have access to a 20% discount on services at Kindbody clinics when paying out-of-pocket as self-pay patients.

Additionally, all HMO members, *excluding Kaiser members*, will have access to the following Kindbody services.

- 6 Holistic Health Sessions
- Menopause – Virtual care and support
- NEW! KindMan – Male Diagnostic & Fertility Services (up to 3 KindCycles)
- NEW! KindDoula – Virtual care with doula specialists
- NEW! Fertility Preservation (including elective preservation) (up to 3 KindCycles)

Continued Access for VEBA PPO Members:

Employees and spouses/partners enrolled in the UMR and Surest PPO plans will continue to have full access to Kindbody's fertility services, as these services will not be integrated into your core medical benefits. In addition to the current Kindbody offerings, PPO members will now enjoy a suite of new enhancements through the Kindbody program, including:

- Fertility Services (IUI, IVF) (*now up to 3 KindCycles*)
- Fertility RX
- 6 Holistic Health Sessions
- Menopause – Virtual care and support
- NEW! Fertility Preservation (including elective preservation) (up to 3 KindCycles)
- NEW! KindMan – Male Diagnostic & Fertility Services (up to 3 KindCycles)
- NEW! KindDoula – Virtual care with doula specialists