

Questions or concerns?  
Please contact:

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Blue Cross and Blue Shield  
of Vermont provides  
administrative services  
and does not assume any  
financial risk for claims.

# Cost transparency tool for medical services

*Are you interested in estimating the cost of your care before you go to the provider's office?*

BCBSVT has a tool to help you **estimate** the cost of your medical care before you go to the provider's office. The cost estimator tool provides financial information for specific services related to your benefit plan that you receive with a network provider.

Depending on the services you receive, your actual charges may be different from the estimated charges found on the estimator tool. If you have questions about discrepancies between estimated and actual costs, speak with your provider or his/her office staff.

The cost estimator tool will not know whether you have specific benefit limits. If you are unsure whether benefit limits apply, contact BCBSVT's customer service team by dialing the number on the back of your ID card.

## To access the cost-estimator tool follow these easy steps:

- 1** Log in to our Member Resource Center.
- 2** From the landing page, click the link to the cost estimator and then click the accept button to continue to the national doctor and hospital finder page.
- 3** Once there, fill out your location and choose "costs for procedures" in the category dropdown box.
- 4** Because you're logged into the MRC, your plan's alpha prefix (the three letters at the beginning of your ID number on your ID card) will automatically populate.
- 5** You may review cost estimates for your 2018 benefit plan on or after January 1, 2018.
- 6** Now that you're logged in, enter the type of service for which you'd like a cost estimate (e.g., specialist office visit). Certain services may have multiple options, so choose the one that fits your needs.
- 7** After you hit search, your estimated out-of-pocket cost will display next to the name of the provider on the right side of the page. You will also see the average total cost of the procedure.

