Early Start Summer Success Programs

UC SHIP Questions (FAQs)

What is UC SHIP and why is UCSD requiring it?
UC SHIP is an acronym for the University of California, Student Health Insurance Plan. The comprehensive insurance plan is underwritten by Anthem Blue Cross and is mandated at all UC's in California, with an exception to UC Berkeley. To satisfy this requirement of enrollment, ALL registered students are automatically enrolled in to UC SHIP as part of the quarterly registration fees.
It is an OPT out offering. You will be automatically enrolled in this Plan unless a health fee waiver request is submitted during the appropriate timeframes. Every student must have comprehensive insurance in order to be enrolled at any UC school. If you have insurance that meets our health fee waiver guidelines, you may submit a health fee waiver before each quarter – Fall, Winter, and Spring during the specified time frames. There are no late waivers accepted, no exceptions.

Why is UCSD requiring me to have health insurance?
Insurance has been made a mandatory condition of enrollment for all UC schools. This is for the safety of the student and the school.

Does it cost anything?
I thought this Summer Program was free? UC SHIP is a requirement of school enrollment and there is a premium cost to have the insurance coverage. Each quarter, through your school registration, a health fee is assessed to your student account. You have the option of waiving out of this insurance, but you must have your own health insurance and you must file a health fee waiver to avoid paying for the school offered insurance. This fee is the financial responsibility of the student.

What are my options?
You have two choices: you are automatically enrolled in UC SHIP for your coverage OR demonstrate that you already have sufficient medical coverage by completing the Health Fee Waiver. This alternative coverage will still have to meet the standards of the UC Regents and a health fee waiver must be submitted and approved before the deadline.

Will enrolling in Early Start UC SHIP affect my enrollment for the Fall Quarter?
You are automatically enrolled in SHIP each quarter. This is an opt-out initiative. The health fee is one of your registration fees. If you do not want the SHIP coverage, you must file a health fee waiver on TritonLink prior to the start of the Fall 2023 quarter. The health fee waiver will be open May 3, 2023 through September 20, 2023.
Your deadline to submit the Early Start form will be:
- Summer Bridge – July 17th, 2023 for start date 8/7/2023
- PATH – July 17th, 2023 for start date 8/7/2023
- Summer Engineering Institute – July 17th, 2023 for start date 8/7/2023

What steps should I take if I want to enroll in UC SHIP?
To start, complete the Early Start UC SHIP form provided by e-mail and submit it by e-mail to your corresponding program representative on or before the deadline. It will then be billed to the same account for your other UC fees.

What steps should I take if I want to waive my UC SHIP enrollment?
You should complete the form that you receive from your program. Choose the option "No, I do not wish to enroll, I want to waive my enrollment." After submitting the form to your program representative, you will also have to submit the Health Fee Waiver online once the waiver period starts on May 3, 2023.
Your deadline to submit the Early Start form will be:
- Summer Bridge – July 17th, 2023 for start date 8/7/2023
- PATH – July 17th, 2023 for start date 8/7/2023
- Summer Engineering Institute – July 17th, 2023 for start date 8/7/2023

Why would I want to enroll in UC SHIP?
The primary reason would be that you do not have health insurance. UC SHIP is tailored to college students and so is a bit more affordable than conventional insurance. If you do have insurance, compare it to the coverage of UC SHIP and the standards set by the UC Regents. If your insurance does not meet the standards, you will either have to find another insurance plan that does, or enroll in UC SHIP.

What happens if I do nothing?
You will not be able to participate in the Summer Success Program. You are automatically enrolled in SHIP each quarter. This is an opt-out initiative. The health fee is one of your registration fees. If you do not want the SHIP coverage, you must file a health fee waiver on TritonLink prior to the start of the Fall 2023 quarter. The health fee waiver will be open May 3, 2023 through September 20, 2023.

What is required to waive the insurance?
You must be covered by a health plan administered in the United States that meets our waiver criteria. You will file a health fee waiver on the TritonLink prior to the Fall 2023 quarter and you will be required to submit a copy of your insurance card which will be verified for eligibility. It's an expensive lesson if you don't opt out timely – there are no exceptions.

What are the benefits under UC SHIP?
UC SHIP offers unlimited medically necessary services for hospitalization, primary care, specialty care, and diagnostic services. The UC SHIP also provides for a limited basic benefit plan through Delta Dental PPO, and a routine eye exam each school year. The plan also provides members with a $120 allowance each school year to assist in paying for eye glasses or contact lenses.

What are the Benefits away from Campus?
If you get sick or need to see a doctor while outside of the campus area, call us at 858-534-3300 and we will assist you in accessing the care you need.

What if I am having a medical emergency?
If you are having a medical emergency, visit the nearest Emergency Room ($125 copay) or Urgent Care ($50 copay) to access appropriate care.

Why go to a UCSD Medical Center?
Your coverage is optimal under the UC SHIP when you receive care at a UC provider or facility. Your coverage for UCSD Specialty care providers (with a referral from Student Health) is a $10 copay per visit.

Your coverage for hospitalized services is 90% at UC Medical Centers throughout the state of California. Urgent Care at any UC Health facility is a $25 copay.

For more benefit details, call Anthem at 1-866-940-8306 or visit our website:
https://shwadmin.ucsd.edu/uc-ship/index.html