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Introduction
Personal issues, planning for life events or simply managing daily life can affect your work, health and family. That's why it is so important to have an employee assistance program (EAP) that provides the broadest possible menu of services to address employee needs. The benefits available with RIT’s EAP are much more than counseling. While the term “EAP” traditionally referred to counseling services for employee work or personal problems, or substance abuse programs, today's complex world requires a great deal more.

You and your eligible family members are eligible for all of the services under RIT’s EAP, which is offered through GuidanceResources®. This summary explains Rochester Institute of Technology’s Employee Assistance Program.

Important Note About Passwords
Password security is critical due to the confidential, private, and financial data that is available online. The employee/participant/covered family member is responsible for maintaining security of their passwords and adhering to RIT information security polices and standards.

General Information

Who Is Covered and When
All regular full-time and part-time employees are eligible for the Rochester Institute of Technology Employee Assistance Program (EAP). Coverage begins on your date of hire. Your spouse/partner and eligible children are also covered under the EAP.

The eligibility rules for children are as follows:
- The child of the employee or the employee’s spouse who is under age 26.
- The child of the employee’s domestic partner who is under age 26.
- The foster child (under age 18) of the employee, defined as an individual who is placed with the employee by an authorized placement agency or by judgment decree, or other court order.
- Any other child who is under age 26, and
  - for whom the employee is the legal guardian or custodian, and
  - who resides in the employee’s home, and
  - who is claimed as a tax dependent on the employee’s federal income tax return.

Who Pays for This Protection
RIT pays the total premium of providing employee assistance services to employees.

Areas of Coverage
There are several areas of coverage:
- Confidential Counseling
- Financial Information and Resources
- Legal Support and Resources
Counseling Benefits
This no-cost counseling service helps you address stress, relationship and other personal issues you and your family may face. It is staffed by Guidance Consultants – highly trained masters and doctoral level clinicians who will listen to your concerns and quickly refer you to in-person counseling and other resources for:

- Stress, anxiety and depression
- Relationship/marital conflicts
- Problems with children
- Job pressures
- Grief and loss
- Substance abuse

Counselors are available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. When you call, you connect immediately with a counselor. Each eligible family member is eligible for up to six (6) counseling sessions (phone and in-person combined) per person per calendar year per issue (number of sessions approved is based on counseling need so it may be less than six). If further sessions are needed, you pay the cost of the visits in full. You may be eligible for coverage under your medical plan; contact your medical insurance carrier directly for further details.

To obtain services, simply contact the EAP directly and the representative will help you over the phone or schedule an appointment for you. There are participating counselors in Monroe and the surrounding counties.

Financial Information and Resources
Speak by phone with GuidanceResources Certified Public Accountants and Certified Financial Planners on a wide range of financial issues, including:

- Getting out of debt
- Credit card or loan problems
- Tax questions
- Retirement planning
- Wills/Estates planning
- Saving for college

Legal Support and Resources
Talk to GuidanceResources attorneys by phone. If you require representation, they will refer you to a qualified attorney in your area for a free 30-minute consultation with a 25% reduction in customary legal fees thereafter. Call about:

- Divorce and family law
- Debt and bankruptcy
- Wills/Estate planning
- Landlord/tenant issues
- Real estate transactions
- Civil and criminal actions
- Contracts

Work-Life Solutions
The GuidanceResources Work-life specialists will do the research for you, providing qualified referrals and customized resources for:

- Child and elder care
- Moving and relocation
- Making major purchases
- College planning
- Pet care
- Home repair
**GuidanceResources Online**

GuidanceResources Online is your one stop for expert information on the issues that matter most to you: relationships, work, school, children, wellness, legal, financial, free time and more.

- Timely articles, Help Sheets, tutorials, streaming videos and self-assessments
- "Ask the Expert" personal responses to your questions
- Child care, elder care, attorney and financial planner searches

**Contacting the EAP**

You can call the EAP toll-free: **1-844-572-9730/V and 1-800-697-0353/TTY**, 24 hours a day, 365 days per year.

To access the EAP’s website:

1. Go to [www.guidanceresources.com](http://www.guidanceresources.com)
2. Click on **I am a First Time user**
3. Enter the Web ID: RITEAP
4. Complete the registration
5. You can choose your own User Name and Password; they should be different than any RIT User Name and Password

**Mandatory EAP Referrals**

In certain situations a supervisor/manager may require that an employee attend counseling sessions due to poor work performance. The EAP may also provide assistance in assessing an employee’s fitness for duty when behavioral health and/or chemical dependency issues are involved. In these cases, the employee will sign a "Release of Information Statement" and the only information released is whether the employee has or has not attended sessions and if the employee has agreed to follow or is following the course of action recommended by the counselor. The nature of the problem and the remedial actions proposed are not disclosed. No other information is released.

**All Treatment Is Confidential**

When you call the EAP voluntarily, you are guaranteed confidentiality, unless disclosure is required by law. The EAP may be required legally to release specific information when your safety or the safety of someone else is seriously threatened.

Any information that is discussed in the counseling sessions is strictly confidential; it is not revealed nor communicated to RIT. The only time RIT is informed as to whether an employee is attending counseling is if the employee's supervisor has strongly advised an employee to attend counseling due to his or her work performance, and the employee has signed a "Release of Information Statement." In such a case, the only information released is whether the employee has or has not attended sessions and if the employee has agreed to follow or is following the course of action recommended by the counselor. The nature of the problem and the remedial actions proposed are not disclosed. No other information is released.

**When Coverage Ends**

Your EAP coverage ends the last day of the month in which

- Your employment ends*;
- Your employment ends under the RIT Severance Plan (coverage does not continue during the severance period, unless you elect coverage under COBRA);
- You retire;
• You no longer meet the Plan’s eligibility requirements; this includes transfer to an employment category that is not eligible for coverage under the Plan, such as adjunct faculty;
• You die; or
• RIT discontinues the Plan.

* Special Note for 9-month faculty:
• Coverage will end on June 30 for a faculty member on a 9-month contract, provided that the faculty member works until the end of the contract period, and the contract is not being renewed for the following academic year;
• Coverage for a faculty member on a 9-month contract will continue during the summer between the two academic years, provided that the contract is being renewed for the following academic year.

Generally, your dependent’s coverage ends when your coverage ends. However, a dependent’s coverage also will end on the last day of the month in which he or she no longer meets the Plan’s eligibility requirements.

Coverage May Be Continued
In certain circumstances, your coverage and that of your dependents may be continued beyond the date it normally would end. Coverage may continue as shown below, provided you make any required premium contributions.
• For a Disabled Child - Coverage for an unmarried child who is physically or mentally incapable of self-support may be continued beyond the age limit of the plan provided the disability occurred before that age and family coverage was in effect before the disability occurred.
• For a Personal Leave of Absence – Coverage may continue while on a personal leave of absence of up to four months. For leaves of absence beyond four months, coverage is not continued.
• For a Professional Leave of Absence - Coverage is continued for up to two years while on an approved professional leave of absence, including a sabbatical.
• For Long-Term Disability – Coverage is continued during long term disability. Coverage will end when benefits under RIT’s long term disability plan ends.

When You Are Eligible for COBRA
The following contains important information about your right to COBRA continuation coverage, which is a temporary extension of coverage under the Plan. This information explains COBRA continuation coverage, when it may become available to you and your family, and what you need to do to protect the right to receive it.

The right to COBRA continuation coverage was created by a federal law, the Consolidated Omnibus Budget Reconciliation Act of 1985 (COBRA). COBRA continuation coverage can become available to you and other members of your family when group health coverage would otherwise end.

You may have other options available to you when you lose group health coverage. For example, you may be eligible to buy an individual plan through the Health Insurance Marketplace. By enrolling in coverage through the Marketplace, you may qualify for lower costs on your monthly premiums and lower out-of-pocket costs. Additionally, you may qualify for a 30-day special enrollment period for another group health plan for which you are eligible (such as a spouse’s plan), even if that plan generally doesn’t accept late enrollees.

What is COBRA Continuation Coverage?
COBRA continuation coverage is a continuation of the coverage when coverage would otherwise end because of a life event known as a “qualifying event.” Specific qualifying events are listed later in this section. After a
qualifying event, COBRA continuation coverage must be offered to each person who is a “qualified beneficiary.” You, your spouse, and your eligible children could become qualified beneficiaries if coverage under the Plan is lost because of the qualifying event. Under the Plan, qualified beneficiaries who elect COBRA continuation coverage must pay for COBRA continuation coverage.

If you are an employee, spouse, or eligible child, you will become a qualified beneficiary if an employee loses coverage. An eligible employee, covered spouse or covered eligible child are entitled to an additional 18 months of coverage under the Plan because one of the following qualifying events happen:

- You no longer meet the Plan’s eligibility requirements; this includes transfer to an employment category that is not eligible for coverage under the Plan, such as part-time employees and adjunct faculty;
- Your approved leave of absence ends (personal, professional, Family and Medical Leave Act) and you do not return to work; or
- Your approved leave of absence continues, but the maximum benefits continuation period is reached (i.e., coverage ends); or
- Your employment ends for any reason other than your gross misconduct.

If you are the spouse of an employee, you will become a qualified beneficiary if you lose your coverage. You are entitled to an additional 36 months of coverage under the Plan because any of the following qualifying events happen:

- Your spouse dies;
- Your spouse becomes entitled to Medicare benefits (under Part A, Part B, or both); or
- You become divorced or legally separated from your spouse.

Your eligible children will become qualified beneficiaries if they lose coverage. They are entitled to an additional 36 months of coverage under the Plan because any of the following qualifying events happen:

- The parent-employee dies;
- The parent-employee becomes entitled to Medicare benefits (Part A, Part B, or both);
- The parents become divorced or legally separated; or
- The child stops being eligible for coverage under the Plan as an eligible child.

Note regarding domestic partners and their children: Under federal law, the domestic partner and/or children of a domestic partner are not considered qualified beneficiaries. However, RIT does extend continuing coverage to these individuals as though they were COBRA-eligible.

When is COBRA Coverage Available?
The Plan will offer COBRA continuation coverage to qualified beneficiaries only after the Plan’s COBRA Administrator has been notified that a qualifying event has occurred. The employer must notify the COBRA administrator of the following qualifying events:

- the end of employment or change in employment or benefits eligibility;
- death of the employee;
- commencement of a proceeding in bankruptcy with respect to the employer; or
- the employee’s becoming entitled to Medicare benefits (under Part A, Part B, or both).

For all other qualifying events (divorce or legal separation of the employee and spouse or an eligible child’s losing eligibility for coverage as an eligible child), you must notify RIT Human Resources in
writing within 60 days after the qualifying event occurs. The employee or family member can provide notice on behalf of themselves, as well as other family members affected by the qualifying event. Written notice of the qualifying event should be sent to RIT Human Resources, at the address provided at the end of this summary, and should include the following information:

- Request Date (month/day/year)
- Employee Name
- Employee ID Number
- Name of person losing coverage
- Relationship to employee
- Address for person losing coverage
- Reason for loss of coverage (additional documentation may be requested)
- Date coverage was lost (month/day/year)

How is COBRA Coverage Provided?
Once the Plan Administrator receives notice that a qualifying event has occurred, COBRA continuation coverage will be offered to each of the qualified beneficiaries. Each qualified beneficiary will have an independent right to elect COBRA continuation coverage. Covered employees may elect COBRA continuation coverage on behalf of their spouses, and parents may elect COBRA continuation coverage on behalf of their children.

COBRA continuation coverage is a temporary continuation of coverage that generally lasts for 18 months due to employment termination or the employee becoming ineligible for coverage. Certain qualifying events, or a second qualifying event during the initial period of coverage, may permit a beneficiary to receive a maximum of 36 months of coverage; these events include the death of the employee, the employee's becoming entitled to Medicare benefits (under Part A, Part B, or both), your divorce or legal separation, or an eligible child's losing eligibility as an eligible child.

There are also ways in which this 18-month period of COBRA continuation coverage can be extended.

Disability extension of 18-month period of continuation coverage
If you or anyone in your family covered under the Plan is determined by the Social Security Administration to be disabled and you notify the Plan Administrator in a timely fashion, you and your entire family may be entitled to receive up to an additional 11 months of COBRA continuation coverage, for a total maximum of 29 months. The disability would have to have started at some time before the 60th day of COBRA continuation coverage and must last at least until the end of the 18-month period of continuation coverage.

Second qualifying event extension of 18-month period of continuation coverage
If your family experiences another qualifying event during the 18 months of COBRA continuation coverage, the spouse and eligible children in your family can get up to 18 additional months of COBRA continuation coverage, for a maximum of 36 months, if notice of the second qualifying event is properly given to the Plan. This extension may be available to the spouse and any eligible children receiving continuation coverage if the employee or former employee dies, becomes entitled to Medicare benefits (under Part A, Part B, or both), or gets divorced or legally separated, or if the eligible child stops being eligible under the Plan as an eligible child. This extension is only available if the second qualifying event would have caused the spouse or eligible child to lose coverage under the Plan had the first qualifying event not occurred.
Are there other coverage options besides COBRA Continuation Coverage?
Yes. Instead of enrolling in COBRA continuation coverage, there may be other coverage options for you and your family through the Health Insurance Marketplace, Medicaid, or other group health plan coverage options (such as a spouse’s plan) through what is called a “special enrollment period.” Some of these options may cost less than COBRA continuation coverage. You can learn more about many of these options at www.healthcare.gov.

Paying for Continuation Coverage
You do not have to show that you are insurable to choose COBRA continuation coverage. However, under the law, you may have to pay all or part of the premium for your continuation coverage. Your employer reserves the right to charge an additional 2% administration fee in addition to the regular premium.

For disability extensions up to 29 months if an individual is determined to be disabled (for Social Security disability purposes) Rochester Institute of Technology reserves the right to charge an additional 50% of the regular premium. There is a grace period of at least 30 days for payment of the regularly scheduled premium. The law also says, that at the end of the 18 month or 3 year continuation coverage period, you must be allowed to enroll in an individual conversion health plan provided under your insurance carrier.

Grace period for monthly payments
Although monthly payments are due on the first day of each month of COBRA coverage, COBRA participants will be given a grace period of 30 days to make each monthly payment. COBRA coverage will be provided for each month as long as payment is made before the end of the grace period for that payment, but coverage is subject to being suspended as explained below.

If payment is made after the due date but before the end of the 30-day grace period for that month, health coverage may be suspended as of the first day of the month when payment was due. Coverage will be retroactively reinstated (going back to the first day of the month) when the payment for that month is received. Any claim(s) submitted for reimbursement while coverage is suspended may be denied and may have to be resubmitted once coverage is reinstated.

Termination of Continuation Coverage
The law also provides that your continuation coverage may be terminated for any of the following five reasons:

1. Rochester Institute of Technology no longer provides group health coverage to any of its employees;
2. The premium for your continuation coverage is not paid on time;
3. You become covered by another group plan, unless the plan contains any exclusions or limitations with respect to any pre-existing condition you or your covered dependents may have Rochester Institute of Technology must limit pre-existing exclusion period to no more than 12 months (18 for a late entrant)). A plan’s pre-existing conditions exclusion period will be reduced by each month that you and your family had continuous health coverage (including COBRA continuation coverage) with no break in coverage greater than 63 days. Please note that exclusions and limitations with respect to pre-existing condition requirements have been eliminated for children 19 years of age and under through the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act (also known as Health Care Reform). Pre-existing conditions exclusions and limitations will no longer apply after 2014;
4. You become entitled to Medicare;
5. You extend coverage for up to 29 months due to your disability and there has been a final determination that you are no longer disabled.
If You Have Questions
If you have questions, contact your benefits representative in the Human Resources Department. For more information about your rights under ERISA, including COBRA, the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act, and other laws affecting group health plans, contact the nearest Regional or District Office of the U.S. Department of Labor’s Employee Benefits Security Administration (EBSA) in your area or visit the EBSA website at www.dol.gov/ebsa. (Addresses and phone numbers of Regional and District EBSA Offices are available through EBSA’s website). For more information about the Marketplace, visit www.HealthCare.gov.

Keep Your Plan Informed of Address Changes
In order to protect your family’s rights, you should keep the Plan Administrator informed of any changes in the addresses of family members. You should also keep a copy, for your records, of any notices you send to the Plan Administrator.

Plan Contact Information for return of COBRA Election Forms and Premium Payments:

P&A Group
17 Court Street, Suite 500
Buffalo, NY 14202
Attn: RIT COBRA

Written notice is considered to have been made on the date the notice is postmarked or, if notice is delivered by carrier or in person, the date it is signed as being received by that office.

All notices must include: the name and address of the employee covered under the Plan, the name(s) and address(es) of the Qualified Beneficiary(ies), the Qualifying Event and the date the event happened.

FAILURE TO NOTIFY THE PLAN IN A TIMELY MANNER WILL RESULT IN LOSS OF ELIGIBILITY FOR COBRA CONTINUATION COVERAGE.

Statement of ERISA Rights
As a participant in the Plan, you are entitled to certain rights and protections under the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 (ERISA). ERISA provides that all plan participants shall be entitled to:

Receive Information about Your Plan and Benefits
Examine, without charge, at the Plan Administrator’s office and at other specified locations, such as other work-sites, all documents governing the plan, including insurance contracts, collective bargaining agreements and a copy of the latest annual report (Form 5500 Series) filed by the plan with the U. S. Department of Labor and available at the Public Disclosure Room of the Employee Benefit Security Administration.

Receive a summary of the plan’s annual financial report, if any. The Plan Administrator is required by law to furnish each participant with a copy of this summary annual report.

Continue Group Health Plan Coverage
Continue health care coverage for yourself, spouse or eligible children if there is a loss of coverage under the plan as a result of a qualifying event. You or your dependents may have to pay for such coverage. Review this summary plan description and the documents governing the plan of the rules governing your COBRA continuation coverage rights.
You are entitled to a reduction or elimination of exclusionary periods of coverage for preexisting conditions under your group health plan, if you have creditable coverage from another plan. You should be provided a certificate of creditable coverage, free of charge, from your group health plan or health insurance issuer when you lose coverage under the plan, when you become entitled to elect COBRA continuation coverage, when your COBRA continuation coverage ceases, if you request it before losing coverage, or if you request it up to 24 months after losing coverage. Without evidence of creditable coverage, you may be subject to a pre-existing condition exclusion for 12 months (18 months for late enrollees) after your enrollment date in your coverage.

Prudent Actions by Plan Fiduciaries
In addition to creating rights for plan participants ERISA imposes duties upon the people who are responsible for the operation of the employee benefit plan. The people who operate your plan, called “fiduciaries” of the plan, have a duty to do so prudently and in the interest of you and other plan participants and beneficiaries. No one, including your employer or any other person, may fire you or otherwise discriminate against you in any way to prevent you from obtaining a welfare benefit or exercising your rights under ERISA.

Enforce Your Rights
If your claim for a welfare benefit is denied or ignored, in whole or in part, you have right to know why this was done, to obtain copies of documents relating to the decision without charge, and to appeal any denial, all within certain time schedules.

Under ERISA, there are steps you can take to enforce the above rights. For instance, if you request a copy of plan documents or the latest annual report from the plan and do not receive them in 30 days, you may file suit in a Federal court. In such a case, the court may require the plan administrator to provide the materials and pay you up to $110 a day until you receive the materials, unless the materials were not sent because of reasons beyond the control of the administrator. If you have a claim for benefits which is denied or ignored, in whole or in part, you may file suit in a state or federal court. In addition, if you disagree with the plan’s decision or lack thereof concerning the qualified status of a domestic relations order or a medical child support order, you may file suit in federal court.

If it should happen that the plan fiduciaries misuse the plan’s money or if you are discriminated against for asserting your rights, you may seek assistance from the U. S. Department of Labor, or you may file suit in a federal court. The court will decide who should pay court costs and legal fees. If you are successful the court may order the person you have sued to pay these costs and fees. If you lose, the court may order you to pay these costs and fees, for example, if it finds your claim is frivolous.

Assistance with Your Questions
If you have any questions about your Plan, you should contact the Plan Administrator. If you have any questions about this statement or about your rights under ERISA, or if you need assistance in obtaining documents from the Plan Administrator, you should contact the nearest office of the Employee Benefit Security Administration, U. S. Department of Labor, listed in your telephone directory or the Division of Technical Assistance and Inquiries, Employee Benefits Security Administration, U. S. Department of Labor, 200 Constitution Avenue N. W., Washington, D.C. 20210. You may also obtain certain publications about your rights and responsibilities under ERISA by calling the publication’s hotline of the Employee Benefits Security Administration.

Notice of Privacy Practices
This Notice describes how some of the Rochester Institute of Technology (the “Plan Sponsor”) employee benefit plans administered by our carriers, vendors and/or any third-party administrator (collectively referred to
in this notice as the “Plan,” “we,” “us,” or “our”), may use and disclose Protected Health Information, as defined below, to carry out payment and health care operations, and for other purposes that are permitted or required by law. The plans covered by these regulations are RIT’s Medical Care and Prescription Drug Plan, Dental Care Plan, Vision Care Plan, Beneflex, Employee Assistance Program, and Long Term Care Insurance (the “Plan”).

We are required by the privacy regulations issued under the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act of 1996 (“HIPAA”) to maintain the privacy of Protected Health Information and to provide individuals covered under the Plan with notice of our legal duties and privacy practices concerning Protected Health Information. We are required to abide by the terms of this Notice so long as it remains in effect. We reserve the right to change the terms of this Notice of Privacy Practices as necessary and to make the new Notice effective for all Protected Health Information maintained by us. If we make material changes to our privacy practices, copies of revised notices will be provided to all participants in the Plan. Copies of RIT’s current Notice may be obtained by using the contact information below, or can be found on RIT’s HR website at http://www.rit.edu/benefits.

Protected Health Information (“PHI”) means individually identifiable health information, as defined by HIPAA, that is created or received by the Plan and that relates to the past, present, or future physical or mental health or condition of an individual; the provision of health care to an individual; or the past, present, or future payment for the provision of health care to an individual; and that identifies the individual or for which there is a reasonable basis to believe the information can be used to identify the individual. PHI includes information of persons living or deceased.

**Uses And Disclosures Of Your Protected Health Information**

The following categories describe different ways that we use and disclose PHI. For each category of uses and disclosures we will explain what we mean and, where appropriate, provide examples for illustrative purposes. Not every use or disclosure in a category will be listed. However, all of the ways we are permitted or required to use and disclose PHI will fall within one of the categories.

**Your Authorization** – We will not use or disclose your PHI for marketing purposes or sell your PHI unless you have signed a written authorization. Additionally, any other uses or disclosures not described in this Notice will be made only after you have signed a form authorizing the use or disclosure. You have the right to revoke that authorization in writing except to the extent that (1) we have taken action in reliance upon the authorization or (2) the authorization was obtained as a condition of obtaining coverage under the Plan and we have the right, under other law, to contest a claim under the coverage or the coverage itself.

**Uses and Disclosures for Payment** – There may be requests, uses, and disclosures of your PHI as necessary for payment purposes. For example, information regarding your medical procedures and treatment may be used to process and pay claims. Your PHI may also be disclosed for the payment of a health care provider or a health plan.

**Uses and Disclosures for Health Care Operations** – Your PHI may be used as necessary for our health care operations. Examples of health care operations include activities relating to the creation, renewal, or replacement of your Plan coverage, reinsurance, compliance, auditing, rating, business management, quality improvement and assurance, and other functions related to the Plan.

**Treatment** – Although the law allows use and disclosure of your PHI for purposes of treatment, as a group health plan, your information generally does not need to be disclosed for treatment purposes. Your physician or health care provider is required to provide you with an explanation of how they use and share your PHI for purposes of treatment, payment and health care operations.
Family and Friends Involved in Your Care – If you are available and do not object, your PHI may be disclosed to your family, friends, and others who are involved in your care or payment of a claim. If you are unavailable or incapacitated and it is determined that a limited disclosure is in your best interest, limited PHI may be shared with such individuals. For example, the Plan’s claims administrator may use its professional judgment to disclose PHI to your spouse concerning the processing of a claim.

Business Associates – At times we use outside persons or organizations to help us provide you with the benefits under the Plan. Examples of these outside persons and organizations might include vendors that process your claims. At times it may be necessary for us to provide certain of your PHI to one or more of these outside persons or organizations. Business Associates are also required by law to protect PHI.

Plan Sponsor – PHI may be disclosed to certain employees of the Plan Sponsor for the purpose of administering the Plan. These employees will use or disclose the PHI only as necessary to perform plan administration functions or as otherwise required by HIPAA, unless you have authorized additional disclosures. Your PHI cannot be used for employment purposes without your specific authorization.

Other Uses and Disclosures – There are certain other lawful uses and disclosures of your PHI without your authorization. Disclosures are allowed

- for any purpose required by law. For example, we may be required by law to use or disclose your PHI to respond to a court order.
- for public health activities, such as reporting of disease, injury, birth and death, and for public health investigations.
- if we suspect child abuse or neglect, or if we believe you to be a victim of abuse, neglect, or domestic violence, your PHI may be disclosed to the proper authorities.
- if authorized by law to a government oversight agency (e.g., a state insurance department) conducting audits, investigations, or civil or criminal proceedings.
- in the course of a judicial or administrative proceeding (e.g., to respond to a subpoena or discovery request).
- for law enforcement purposes, your PHI may be disclosed to the proper authorities.
- to coroners, medical examiners, and/or funeral directors consistent with law.
- for cadaveric organ, eye or tissue donation.
- for research purposes, but only as permitted by law.
- to avert a serious threat to health or safety.
- if you are a member of the military as required by armed forces services, and for other specialized government functions such as national security or intelligence activities.
- to workers’ compensation agencies for your workers’ compensation benefit determination.
- if required by law, your PHI will be released to the Secretary of the Department of Health and Human Services for enforcement of HIPAA.

In the event applicable law, other than HIPAA, prohibits or materially limits our uses and disclosures of PHI, as described above, uses or disclosure of your PHI will be restricted in accordance with the more stringent standard.
Rights That You Have

Access to Your PHI – You have the right of access to copy and/or inspect your PHI that we maintain in designated record sets. You have the right to request that we send a copy of your PHI that we maintain in designated record sets to another person. Certain requests for access to your PHI must be in writing, must state that you want access to your PHI or that you want your PHI sent to another person (who must be named in the request), and must be signed by you or your representative (e.g., requests for medical records provided to us directly from your health care provider). We may charge you a fee for copying and postage.

Amendments to Your PHI – You have the right to request that PHI that we maintain about you be amended or corrected. We are not obligated to make all requested amendments but will give each request careful consideration. To be considered, your amendment request must be in writing, must be signed by you or your representative, and must state the reasons for the amendment/correction request.

Accounting for Disclosures of Your PHI – You have the right to receive an accounting of certain disclosures made of your PHI. Examples of disclosures that we are required to account for include those to state insurance departments, pursuant to valid legal process, or for law enforcement purposes. To be considered, your accounting requests must be in writing and signed by you or your representative. The first accounting in any 12-month period is free; however, we may charge you a fee for each subsequent accounting you request within the same 12-month period.

Restrictions on Use and Disclosure of Your PHI – You have the right to request restrictions on certain uses and disclosures of your PHI for insurance payment or health care operations, disclosures made to persons involved in your care, and disclosures for disaster relief purposes. For example, you may request that your PHI not be disclosed to your spouse. Your request must describe in detail the restriction you are requesting. Your request will be considered, but in most cases there is no legal obligation to agree to those restrictions. However, we will comply with any restriction request if the disclosure is to a health plan for purposes of payment or health care operations and the PHI pertains solely to a health care item or service that you have paid for out-of-pocket and in full. We retain the right to terminate an agreed-to restriction if we believe such termination is appropriate. In the event of a termination by us, we will notify you of such termination. You also have the right to terminate, in writing or orally, any agreed-to restriction. You may make a request for a restriction (or termination of an existing restriction) by contacting us at the telephone number or address below.

Request for Confidential Communications – You have the right to request that communications regarding your PHI be made by alternative means or at alternative locations. For example, you may request that messages not be left on voice mail or sent to a particular address. We are required to accommodate reasonable requests if you inform us that disclosure of all or part of your information could place you in danger. Requests for confidential communications must be in writing, signed by you or your representative, and sent to us at the address below.

Right to be Notified of a Breach – You have the right to be notified in the event that we (or one of our Business Associates) discover a breach of your unsecured PHI. Notice of any such breach will be made in accordance with federal requirements.

Right to a Copy of the Notice – If you have agreed to accept this Notice electronically, you have the right to a paper copy of this Notice upon request by contacting us at the telephone number or address below.

Complaints – If you believe your privacy rights have been violated, you can file a complaint with us in writing at the address below. You may also file a complaint in writing with the Secretary of the U.S. Department of Health
and Human Services in Washington, D.C., within 180 days of a violation of your rights. There will be no retaliation for filing a complaint.

For Further Information
If you have questions or need further assistance regarding this Notice, you may contact your benefits representative in RIT’s Human Resources Department. The mailing address is 8 Lomb Memorial Dr., Rochester, NY 14623.

Administrative Claim Procedures
Claims concerning eligibility, participation, contributions, or other aspects of the operation of the Plan should be in writing and directed to the Plan Administrator; this section does not apply to claims for benefits or services under the Plan. The Plan Administrator will generally notify you of its decision within 90 days after it receives your claim.

However, if the Plan Administrator determines that special circumstances require an extension of time to decide your claim, the Plan Administrator may obtain an additional 90 days to decide the claim. Before obtaining this extension, the Plan Administrator will notify you, in writing and before the end of the initial 90-day period, of the special circumstances requiring the extension and the date by which the Plan Administrator expects to render a decision.

If your claim is denied in whole or in part, the Plan Administrator will provide you with a written or electronic notice that explains the reason or reasons for the decision, including specific references to Plan provisions upon which the decision is based, a description of any additional material or information that might be helpful to decide the claim (including an explanation of why that information may be necessary), a description of the appeals procedures and applicable filing deadlines and your right to bring an action under Section 502(a) of ERISA.

If you disagree with the decision reached by the Plan Administrator, you may submit a written appeal to the Plan Administrator requesting a review of the decision. Your written appeal must be submitted within 60 days of receiving the Plan Administrator’s decision and should clearly state why you disagree with the Plan Administrator’s decision. You may submit written comments, documents, records and other information relating to the claim even if such information was not submitted in connection with the initial claim for benefits. Additionally, upon request and free of charge, you may have reasonable access to and copies of all documents, records and other information relevant to the claim.

The Plan Administrator will generally decide your appeal within 60 days after it is received. However, if the Plan Administrator determines that special circumstances require an extension of time to decide the claim, it may obtain an additional 60 days to decide the claim. Before obtaining this extension, the Plan Administrator will notify you, in writing and before the end of the initial 60-day period, of the special circumstances requiring the extension and the date by which it expects to render a decision.

The Plan Administrator will provide you with written or electronic notice of its decision. In the case of an adverse decision, the notice will explain the reason or reasons for the decision, include specific references to Plan provisions upon which the decision is based, and indicate that you are entitled to, upon request and free of charge, reasonable access to and copies of documents, records, and other information relevant to the claim. Additionally, the notice will include a statement regarding your right to bring an action under Section 502(a) of ERISA. Generally, you must exhaust your internal administrative appeal rights before you can bring a legal action against the Plan. The Plan Administrator has full discretionary power to construe and interpret the Plan and its decisions are final and binding on all parties.
Important Information about the Plan

Employer: Rochester Institute of Technology

Employer Identification Number: 16-0743140

Plan Sponsor: Rochester Institute of Technology
8 Lomb Memorial Drive
Rochester, NY 14623
(585) 475-2424

Plan Name: Employee Assistance Program

Plan Number: 508

Plan Year: January 1 - December 31

Plan Administrator: Associate Director
Human Resources, Benefits
Rochester Institute of Technology
8 Lomb Memorial Drive
Rochester, NY 14623
(585) 475-2424

Agent for Service of Legal Process: Office of Legal Affairs
Rochester Institute of Technology
154 Lomb Memorial Drive
Rochester, New York 14623-5608

Service of legal process may also be made on the Plan Administrator.