

From: Student Affairs <studentaffairs@ecommm.du.edu>

Sent: Thursday, 30 July 2026 09:00:51

Subject: Important billing updates for Health & Counseling Center (HCC)—effective Fall 2026



July 30, 2026

Dear students,

As the new academic year approaches, we want to share [several important updates to the Health and Counseling Center \(HCC\) billing and payment process](#). These changes are designed to expand access to care while ensuring the long-term sustainability of student health services.

These changes will take effect on:

- **Aug. 1, 2026**, for law students on the semester schedule.
- **Sept. 1, 2026**, for all other students on the quarter schedule.

What's Changing

Student Health Fee

- The [Student Health Fee](#) (formerly the Health and Counseling Fee) will continue to be charged each enrolled term. This fee supports campus-wide public health services to include prevention and education programs, crisis support, and other essential health initiatives.
- Like other mandatory student fees (such as technology or activity fees), it cannot be waived or reduced.

Expanded Insurance Acceptance

- To make HCC medical and counseling services more accessible for more students, the HCC will soon begin accepting insurance plans beyond the DU Student Health Insurance Plan (SHIP).

- Currently we are finalizing contracts with several insurance providers, including Colorado Medicaid, to become in-network providers. The HCC website will be updated with accepted plans as those agreements are confirmed.

Insurance Billing for Clinical Services

- With this change, all students receiving clinical services, **including those enrolled in DU SHIP**, will have services billed through their insurance.
- Depending on your insurance plan, you may be responsible for out-of-pocket costs such as copays, just as you would be when visiting an off-campus provider. These costs may count toward your annual deductible and out-of-pocket maximum based on your specific insurance plan.

For complete information about the new billing and payment process, please visit the [Using and Paying for HCC Services page](#). Together, these changes will help expand access to the convenient, high-quality medical and counseling care available through the HCC.

What Isn't Changing

- Degree-seeking students enrolled in person may continue to use HCC clinical services regardless of their insurance coverage. If students prefer, or the HCC is not yet “in network” for their plans, students may choose to pay out of pocket and submit receipts to their insurance provider for possible reimbursement.
- Many HCC and campus wellness services will continue to be available at no additional cost, including:
 - Drop-in mental health consultations (Monday–Friday, 1–3 p.m. at the Ritchie Center)
 - 24/7 phone access to medical and mental health provider triage
 - [CAPE survivor support services](#)
 - Prevention, education, and involvement opportunities through [Campus Recreation and Well-being](#)

- The annual health insurance decision period (accepting DU SHIP or requesting a waiver) will open by Aug. 1. As in previous years, the online portal will be available through the HCC homepage as soon as it is live.

For additional information, please review [the HCC Changes 2026–27](#) webpage.

If you have questions, please contact the Health and Counseling Center by emailing hccinfo@du.edu or calling 303-871-2205 during business hours.

We look forward to supporting your health and well-being throughout the coming academic year.

Sincerely,

Michael LaFarr, PsyD, MBA
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