

## 2026 Supplemental Grocery Benefit Guide

### Background Information

The **Grocery Benefit** is a supplemental benefit included on all Clever Care 2026 plans. It helps members access nutritious food, supporting better health outcomes and overall well-being. This benefit is primarily offered under the **Special Supplemental Benefit for the Chronically Ill (SSBCI)**, meaning members who meet certain chronic condition criteria may qualify. By making healthy foods more accessible, this benefit can help reduce complications related to chronic conditions and improve overall quality of life.

**Federal Disclaimer:** Clever Care Health Plan, Inc. is an HMO and HMO C-SNP with a Medicare contract. Enrollment depends on contract renewal.

Plan	Benefit Description (Monthly Allowance)
Longevity	Use Flex Card allowance with rollover. <b>Must qualify &amp; request activation</b>
Value	
Total+	Use Flex Card allowance with rollover. <b>Automatic</b> on the effective date
Breathe+	

### What is the Grocery Benefit?

- If a member on any Clever Care plan has a qualifying SSBCI chronic condition, their Flex Benefits card will open up to allow grocery purchases.
- In addition, Clever Care offers a Preventive Care Rewards Program, where members can earn up to \$300 per year for completing preventive services.

### Do all Clever Care members need to request the benefit?

- Longevity and Value plans: Members must first complete a Health Risk Assessment (HRA) before requesting SSBCI grocery benefits.
  - Request activation online: [Grocery Benefit Request](#)
  - Or contact Member Services at (833) 388-8168 (TTY:711) from 8 am to 8 pm, seven days a week, from October 1 to March 31; and 8 am to 8 pm, weekdays, from April 1 to September 30. Total+ and Breathe+ plans: The benefit is automatically available starting on the member's effective date.

## **Do members get a separate card for groceries?**

- No. If a member qualifies, they use their existing Flex Benefits card to purchase groceries.

## **What grocery stores accept the card?**

- The network (through NationsBenefits) includes a wide variety of retailers, such as:
  - Ralphps, Kroger, Albertsons, Vons, Food-4-Less, Walmart, Trader Joe's, Dollar General, CVS, and Walgreens.
  - Specialty markets such as H Mart, TS Emporium, Hannam Market World, Good Fortune, Thanh Long, Saigon City, Hoa Binh, and many more.

## **What types of items can be purchased?**

- Eligible: produce, beverages, dairy, meat/seafood, deli, frozen/prepared foods, bakery items, and more.
- Not eligible: alcohol, tobacco, and other restricted items.

## **What if there are issues with the card?**

- Members should contact Member Services at (833) 388-8168 (TTY:711) from 8 am to 8 pm, seven days a week, from October 1 to March 31; and 8 am to 8 pm, weekdays, from April 1 to September 30.

## **How can members check their balance?**

- Balances are available through the NationsBenefits App or at [nationsbenefits.com](https://nationsbenefits.com).
- First-time users must create an account with:
  - Name, Member ID, Date of Birth, and a password.
  - Their Member ID will be the User ID for the portal.

## **How are members notified of approval or denial?**

- Approval: Members receive a letter from Clever Care.
- Denial: Members receive both a letter and a phone call from Clever Care.

## **What are the SSBCI qualifying criteria for grocery benefits?**

- For Longevity and Value plans, the member must have 1 chronic condition to meet the Special Supplemental Benefits for the Chronically Ill (SSBCI) criteria to qualify for the grocery allowance.
- Total+ and Breathe+ automatically qualify.

**The qualifying conditions are:**

<p><b>1. Autoimmune disorders</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Dermatomyositis</li> <li>• Polymyalgia rheumatica</li> <li>• Polyarteritis nodosa</li> <li>• Polymyositis</li> <li>• Psoriatic arthritis</li> <li>• Rheumatoid arthritis</li> <li>• Scleroderma</li> <li>• Systemic lupus erythematosus</li> </ul> <p><b>2. Cancer</b> (excluding pre-cancer or in-situ status)</p> <p><b>3. Cardiovascular disorders</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Cardiac arrhythmias</li> <li>• Coronary artery disease</li> <li>• Peripheral vascular disease</li> <li>• Chronic venous thromboembolic disorder</li> </ul> <p><b>4. Chronic alcohol or drug dependency</b></p> <p><b>5. Chronic and disabling mental health conditions</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Bipolar disorders</li> <li>• Major depressive disorders</li> <li>• Paranoid disorder</li> <li>• Schizophrenia</li> <li>• Schizoaffective disorder</li> </ul>	<p><b>6. Chronic Gastrointestinal Diseases</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Hepatitis B</li> <li>• Hepatitis C</li> <li>• Inflammatory bowel disease</li> <li>• Non-alcoholic fatty liver disease (NAFLD)</li> <li>• Pancreatitis</li> </ul> <p><b>7. Chronic Heart Failure</b></p> <p><b>8. Chronic Kidney Disease (CKD)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Must be on dialysis</li> </ul> <p><b>9. Chronic Lung Disorders</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Asthma</li> <li>• Chronic bronchitis</li> </ul> <p><b>10. Conditions associated with cognitive impairment</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Alzheimer's disease</li> <li>• Dementia</li> </ul> <p><b>11. Diabetes</b></p> <p><b>12. Immunodeficiency and Immunosuppressive disorders</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• HIV</li> </ul>	<p><b>13. Neurologic disorders</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Amyotrophic lateral sclerosis (ALS)</li> <li>• Cerebral palsy</li> <li>• Chronic fatigue syndrome</li> <li>• Epilepsy</li> <li>• Extensive paralysis (hemiplegia, monoplegia, paraplegia, quadriplegia)</li> <li>• Fibromyalgia</li> <li>• Huntington's disease</li> <li>• Multiple sclerosis</li> <li>• Parkinson's disease</li> <li>• Polyneuropathy</li> <li>• Spinal cord injury</li> <li>• Spinal stenosis</li> <li>• Stroke-related neurologic deficit</li> </ul> <p><b>14. Post-Organ Transplantation Care</b></p> <p><b>15. Severe Hematologic disorders</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Aplastic anemia</li> <li>• Chronic venous thromboembolic disorder</li> <li>• Hemophilia</li> <li>• Immune thrombocytopenic purpura</li> <li>• Myelodysplastic syndrome</li> <li>• Sickle-cell disease (excluding sickle-cell trait)</li> </ul> <p><b>16. Stroke</b></p>
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