**BCBenefits:**
A Contraceptive Access Fund

**What is BCBenefits?**
Power to Decide has established BCBenefits, a contraceptive access fund to support true access to birth control for women in need by alleviating the cost barriers of accessing the birth control method that is right for them. BCBenefits will provide women the financial support they need to pay for transportation, childcare, and lost wages associated with health care appointments, as well as unreimbursed costs for contraceptive services and supplies.

**Why the Contraceptive Access Fund?**

Every woman deserves access to the health care she needs to decide if, when, and under what circumstances to get pregnant and have a child. Yet that is not the reality for at least 19.5 million women who are struggling to make ends meet. In fact, 97 percent of U.S. women age 13-44 in need of publicly funded contraception live in contraceptive deserts—counties without reasonable access to the full range of contraceptive methods.

As a result of these access barriers, these women must consider untenable trade-offs, such as whether to use budgeted transportation funds to get to work or to a health care appointment, how to care for their children if they need to travel to an appointment far from home, and many more.

**How will BCBenefits support access? Who will be eligible?**
BCBenefits will help alleviate these barriers to access by providing women living at or up to 250% of the federal poverty level with the support they need to access the birth control method right for them.

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**The average annual cost of contraception:**

One Year of Contraceptives

- $385
- + Ride to Clinic
- $36
- + 3 Hours of Childcare
- $44
- + 3 Hours of Lost Wages
- $44
- = Total Cost
- $514
Women may be eligible for support in the form of:

- Reimbursement for direct costs of contraception not covered by insurance.
- Gas cards, ride vouchers, or other transportation offsets so women can travel safely to appointments.
- Reimbursement for childcare and unpaid time off necessary to attend appointments.

How will it work?

Bedsider.org, a program of Power to Decide, will host BCBenefits. Bedsider is a reproductive health network that offers information about sexual health and birth control, where to access services, and how to navigate sex, health, and relationships.

When and where will it be available?

BCBenefits launched nationally in April 2019 and will continue to roll out new benefits throughout the year.

How You Can Help

Do you believe all women should have unfettered access to the birth control method right for them? We need your support to make that happen! Any level helps. You can donate $50, $100, or more to directly support women’s access, or you can work with us to support a local contraceptive access fund hosted by Bedsider.

About Power to Decide

Power to Decide is a private, non-partisan, non-profit organization that works to ensure all people—no matter who they are, where they live or what their economic status might be—have the power to decide if, when, and under what circumstances to get pregnant and have a child.

Please visit us at www.PowerToDecide.org or follow us on Facebook and Twitter.