

## **Affidavit of Domestic Partnership Instructions**

A Domestic Partner is a person who meets the following criteria:

1. Domestic Partners may be of the same gender or the opposite gender;
2. Neither partner is or has been for the past 6 months, married, legally separated, a cohabiter or a Domestic Partner to another individual;
3. The partners have cohabited for at least 6 months and continue to cohabitate;
4. The partners are at least 18 years of age and mentally competent to consent to contract and mentally competent to execute the BCBSMT affidavit of Domestic Partnership;
5. The partners are not related by blood to a degree that would bar marriage in the State of Montana;
6. The partners are each other's sole Domestic Partners and intend to remain so indefinitely; and
7. the Partners are responsible for each other's common welfare and have a financial, interdependent relationship evidenced by any of the following:
  - a. Mutually granted financial or health care powers of attorney;
  - b. Designation of each other as primary beneficiary in wills, life insurance policies or retirement plans;
  - c. Executed a joint lease, mortgage or deed; or
  - d. Have a joint ownership of a banking account.

**NOTE:** This definition was created and implemented by Blue Cross Blue Shield of Montana (BCBSMT) for our internal Policy, and to provide a guideline to groups that choose to offer coverage to Domestic Partners. A self-funded group may choose to create their own definition of Domestic Partner and/or Affidavit of Domestic Partnership based on their internal guidelines and definitions.