

BlueCross Pennsylvania Highmark (1/08)

http://www.ibx.com/health_plans/ (Link to site only)

BlueCross West Virginia Mountain State

<http://www.msbcbs.com/> (Link to site only)

- BMI of 40 or greater OR BMI 35-39 with co morbidities (e.g., hypertension, cardiovascular heart disease, dyslipidemia, diabetes mellitus type II, sleep apnea)
- 18 years of age or older
- Participated in non-surgical treatment (e.g., dietitian/nutritionist consultation, low calorie diet, exercise program, and behavior modification) and attempts at weight loss have failed
- Must participate in and meet the criteria of a structured nutrition and exercise program. This includes dietitian/nutritionist consultation, low calorie diet, increased physical activity, behavioral modification and/or pharmacologic therapy, documented in the medical record. This structured nutrition and exercise program must meet all of the following criteria: supervised and monitored by a physician working in cooperation with dietitians and/or nutritionists for a cumulative total of 6 months or longer, within two years prior to the surgery. This must be documented in the medical records by an attending physician who supervised the patient's progress. A summary letter is not sufficient documentation
- Psychological evaluation
- Consult with surgeon
- Nutritional evaluation
- Gastric bypass and LapBand are covered procedures