Q. What is “Excess Athletic Accident Insurance” and why does Amherst College have a policy?
A. Amherst Athletics obtains coverage through Gallagher Student Health & Special Risk (Gallagher) to help cover medical expenses related to a covered athletic injury that results from a school sponsored/supervised sports activity. The excess policy pays after any other valid/collectible insurance that the student-athlete carriers (i.e. the Amherst Student Health Plan or a parent's employer plan, etc.). The Excess Athletic Accident Insurance is designed to cover expenses left to the patient’s responsibility on their primary insurance Explanation of Benefits (EOB), such as co-pays, deductibles, and coinsurance once the $500 deductible has been met.

Q. How do I become eligible? How does it work?
A. Every student-athlete is automatically eligible for coverage under the plan as soon as they are cleared for athletic participation at Amherst. If a student-athlete is injured while participating in a school sponsored/supervised athletic practice or competition, an accident claim form will be completed by Amherst’s athletic training staff and submitted to the claims company, BMI Benefits.

Q. Do I still need to have primary insurance since Amherst Athletics has this policy?
A. YES, you do. All Amherst student-athletes are required to have primary health insurance. The Excess Athletic Accident policy ONLY covers school-sponsored/supervised athletic related injury charges not paid by primary insurance and shown as the patient’s responsibility on the primary insurance EOB. This policy does not cover any bills associated with general illness or non-athletic injuries.

Q. What documents are needed in order for Excess Athletic Accident Insurance to process a claim?
A. The provider must submit the following documents to the claims company (BMI Benefits):
   1) **Itemized claim** – The provider will either bill the claims administrator with a
      HCFA 1500 or UB04, and it will contain the following information:
      o Provider’s Name and address
      o Tax ID Number
      o Date(s) of Service
      o Diagnostic Code(s) and Procedure Code(s)
      o The Fee for Each Procedure
   2) **Primary Explanation of Benefits** (EOB) – This is a statement from your primary insurance company that outlines what charges will be covered or denied, and what will be left as patient responsibility (co-pay, coinsurance, deductible, etc.).
Q.  What is the benefit period for an injury?
A.  The benefit period is 2-years / 104 weeks from the date of injury. This is on a per injury basis.

Q.  What expenses does the Excess Athletic Accident Insurance policy cover?
A.  The policy is designed to cover most expenses beyond your primary insurance coverage for school-sponsored/supervised athletic related accidents and injuries, up to charges of 100% Usual & Customary.

Q.  How will claims be processed?
A.  The provider will take down your primary insurance information, as well as the Excess Athletic Accident Policy information. Bills will be sent to your primary insurance for processing. If you remember to present the Excess Athletic Accident Insurance information upfront the providers should automatically send any outstanding balances (in the form of an Itemized Claim + Primary EOB) to BMI Benefits to process under the Excess Athletic Accident policy. Please refer to the Claims Filing Procedure Form for additional information.

Q.  What can cause a delay in processing and paying a claim?
A.  BMI Benefits cannot process a claim that is missing one or more of the following documents: the Athletic Accident Claim Form, the Itemized Claim or the Primary EOB / denial. BMI will not be able to process a claim with just the balance due, balance forward, or past due statements.

Q.  Is there a deductible associated with Excess Athletic Accident Insurance Policy?
A.  There is a $500 per Injury Deductible. This means that any intercollegiate sports injury medical charges not covered by primary insurance and shown as the student athlete’s responsibility on the primary EOB (for eligible medical claims) are covered at 100% of Usual and Customary charges up to $90,000 per Injury once the deductible has been met. The deductible coordinates with primary insurance, and as such, if reduced with payments made by the primary insurance towards eligible medical claims.

Q.  Why does the policy cover up to $90,000 per Injury?
A.  Amherst is a NCAA Division III member institution. The NCAA provides “catastrophic” accident medical coverage for all of their member institutions. Their policy has a $90,000 per injury deductible. As such, Amherst has purchased coverage on behalf of their student-athletes to ensure the deductible would be met for eligible claims.

Q.  What if I already paid the bills that I got from a school-sponsored athletic injury after my primary insurance paid? Can I get reimbursed?
A.  Yes, you can get reimbursed for costs you have already paid. To do this you need to submit a receipt or some other proof of payment along with the Itemized Claim (HCFA 1500 or UB04) and primary EOBs. Keep in mind it usually takes longer to be reimbursed. For this reason, we try to have providers bill the Excess Athletic Accident insurance up front. Please refer to the Claims Filing Procedure Form for additional information.
Q. I felt sick and went to the ER without telling my athletic trainer. Will the athletic department’s Excess Athletic Accident Insurance plan help cover this?
A. The Excess Athletic Accident insurance plan does not cover charges due to general illness because it is not caused by Amherst athletic participation. Therefore, services for general “non-athletic” medical concerns (cold/flu, appendicitis for example) are not covered under this plan.

Q. During a covered athletic event I was injured and now I need dental work done to repair the injury. Does the policy cover dental claims?
A. Yes, the Excess Athletic Accident Insurance plan will cover eligible dental injuries to sound and natural teeth. In order to have dental claims covered, since coverage with BMI Benefits is excess to all other valid and collectable insurance, the dental provider would need to bill both your dental insurance and health insurance policies before your claims can be submitted to the Excess Athletic Accident policy.

Q. What address should I use when filling out medical forms at offices – my Amherst or home address?
A. Most students tend to move fairly often, so we recommend that you list your home address to make sure bills arrive efficiently. If you list your home address, be sure to ask your parents or guardians to let you know if medical bills are received. For international students, however, we do recommend always listing their current local address, and properly follow mail forwarding procedures during each move. Postage can get expensive and confusing with international addresses, and mail takes much longer to arrive, possibly delaying the entire claims process.

Do you still have additional questions?
Amherst’s Insurance Broker, Gallagher Student Health & Special Risk can help answer any policy related or coverage related questions.

Email: SpecialRisk@GallagherStudent.com
Phone: (877) 345-8928
Fax: (617)479-0860

If you have questions regarding where to submit claims or if you need to check the status of claims you should contact BMI Benefits, the claims company.

BMI Benefits
PO Box 511
Matawan, NJ 07747
P: (800) 445-3126
F: (732) 583-9610
Clerk@BobMcCloskey.com