

Watch Out for Body Brokers

Finding treatment can feel confusing. Many people and groups offer help. Most want to help you. Others may want to use your insurance to make money.

Be careful if someone, even a person you know, offers free travel, luxury housing, gifts, or money for your insurance information. The person may be a **body broker**.

What Is a Body Broker?

A body broker is paid to send people to a treatment center. They may earn more money for each person they send. They may call themselves “recovery experts” or “treatment advisors.” Some are part of the recovery community. This can make them seem trustworthy.

They may contact:

- People they already know
- People living on the street
- People asking for help online
- People who recently left treatment

Their goal may be to use your insurance; not to find the care that is best for you.

If an offer seems too good to be true, it probably is.

Traveling for Treatment?

Sometimes traveling for care may be necessary. Before traveling, obtain answers to the following questions.

- Why do I need to travel?
- Who is paying for the trip?
- Where will I live?
- What happens if treatment ends early?
- How will I get home?
- Who will pay for my return trip?

Report Suspected Fraud

If a person or treatment center seems more interested in your insurance than your health, contact your insurance company or department of insurance.

Your recovery should come first—not your insurance benefits.



Coalition Against Insurance Fraud

YOUR LOGO HERE

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Looking for Addiction Treatment?

Watch Out for Body Brokers

Know the Warning Signs

Be careful if someone:

- ❗ Contacts you when you did not ask for help
- ❗ Offers free flights or money for travel
- ❗ Promises luxury housing or a free place to stay
- ❗ Offers cash, gifts, food, or other rewards
- ❗ Quickly asks what insurance you have
- ❗ Promises treatment with no costs
- ❗ Guarantees that treatment will work
- ❗ Claims to have very high success rates
- ❗ Pressures you to make a quick choice
- ❗ Tries to keep you from talking with family or friends
- ❗ Sends you to a program without asking about your health
- ❗ Gives advice but cannot show a medical or treatment license
- ❗ Will not explain who is paying them

How to Find Safe, Trusted Care



Start with people you trust

Ask a doctor, licensed healthcare provider, or trusted nonprofit for help. You can also call the number on your insurance card.



Be careful with ads and hotlines

Do not assume that a social media ad, website, or 1-800 number is safe. Find out who operates it and how they are paid.



Check the treatment center

Make sure the center is licensed. Ask whether it has received serious complaints or faced action from the state.



Ask why the care is right for you

A treatment center should review your health and explain its plan. Be cautious if it orders frequent tests or services but cannot clearly explain why you need them.



Understand the costs

Ask what your insurance will pay and what you may have to pay. Get all promises about free care, housing, or travel in writing.



Read before you sign

Read all forms carefully. Ask questions about anything you do not understand. Do not sign a form that is blank or contains information that is not true.



Tell someone where you are going

Share the name, address, and phone number of the treatment center with someone you trust. Stay in contact during treatment.