Dependent Certification and Designation of Primary Care Physician

If you added dependents to medical coverage during the Summer Enrollment period, please remember that you will receive a request from Aon Hewitt to supply documents to support eligibility for state medical coverage. It is very important that you supply the documents to Aon Hewitt by the date requested. Be sure to follow up with Aon Hewitt to confirm that the verification process is complete. ERS considers it the member’s responsibility to complete the dependent eligibility process and will cancel all benefits that the dependent is enrolled in if the process is not completed.

Any new dependents added to medical will need to designate a primary care physician with United Healthcare. You can designate on September 1st or later by calling UnitedHealthcare at 1-866-336-9371 or by logging into your account on the MYUHC website.

TexFlex

Effective September 1st, ADP is the new vendor for TexFlex. TexFlex debit cards will be mailed to health care account participants in late August. You must activate the card prior to use and the card cannot be used until September 1, 2015. For those of you that receive reimbursements by direct deposit, you will need to complete a direct deposit form with ADP. The direct deposit form will be available under the “Forms” tab on the ADP website sometime in September. Please visit the FAQ page of the ADP website and the ERS Employee News webpage for more important information regarding the transition to ADP.

Interested in Saving Additional Money for Retirement?

Benefit eligible employees can enroll in a Texa$aver 457 account or a voluntary 403(b) tax sheltered account. You can find additional information regarding the Texa$aver 457 on the Texa$aver website or by calling 1-800-634-5901. You can find a list of approved vendors for a voluntary 403(b) tax sheltered account on the HR Benefits webpage in the Retirement section. Please call Judy Salazar, ext 4784, if interested in a Voluntary 403(b) account.

Changes to HealthSelect benefits and what they mean for participants

Medical and prescription deductibles are included in the total network out-of-pocket maximum, starting in January

Starting January 1, 2016, prescription drug deductibles and copays will be included in the total network out-of-pocket maximum for HealthSelect of Texas. Currently, out-of-pocket prescription costs aren’t included in the maximum. ERS is making this change to comply with provisions of the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act of 2010 (ACA) and as a benefit to HealthSelect participants.

Because of the change, prescription drug deductibles will now be based on the calendar year rather than plan year, in alignment with any medical deductibles. The PY15 prescription deductibles that started on September 1, 2014 will carry through December 31, 2015. This will give participants more time before they have to spend out of pocket to meet the deductibles.

The annual prescription drug deductible will remain at $50 per person.
Important Information for Humana-Dental DHMO Members

Employees and dependents enrolled in the DHMO dental plan must designate a primary dentist to receive benefits. You can designate a primary dentist by calling HumanaDental at 1-877-377-0987 from 7 am to 7 pm CT, Monday through Friday. To find a participating dentist, click on the “Find a DHMO Dentist” link on the HumanaDental website and enter your zip code.

Retirement Rates Effective 9/1/2015

TRS
Employee: 7.2%
Employer: 6.8%

ORP
Employee: 6.65%
Employer: 6.6% (non-grandfathered)
Employer: 8.5% (grandfathered)

How do the state and participants share health care costs?

ERS works consistently to manage health care costs so State of Texas employees and retirees continue to receive high-quality coverage at reasonable prices. Cost-management efforts include sharing costs with plan participants. To help participants better understand how ERS-administered health plans work, ERS produced a short video, “Cost sharing and how it works” that explains how the State of Texas and plan participants share costs for health care. It helps answer these frequently asked questions:

✦ What are copays, coinsurance and deductibles?
✦ Why do premium contributions for dependents go up every year?

How much does the State pay for my health care, compared to how much I pay?

We hope you’ll take a few minutes to watch the video.

Your Go-to App for Health

The UnitedHealthcare Health4Me™ app provides instant access to critical health information from your smart phone. You can search for physicians or facilities, view claims, member ID card, account balances and benefit plan details. Health4Me app is available for download in the app store for iPhones or Google play for Androids. To learn more, click here.

To download the app, please follow these instructions:

If you have an iPhone:
1) Find the AppStore
2) Search for "Health4Me"
3) Click "Install"

If you have an Android phone (ex: Samsung):
1) Find the "Play Store"
2) Search for "Health4Me"
3) Click "Install"

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