

HEALTH BENEFITS E-NEWS

*Department of Human Resource
Management
Office of Health Benefits*

June 29, 2015

Anthem Launches Free “Pedal to Health” Interactive Guide to Bicycling

Excitement is building in Richmond for the UCI Road World Championships (Worlds) cycling event, which begins September 19. In anticipation of the event, Anthem Blue Cross and Blue Shield has developed a new “Pedal To Health” interactive, online guide to bicycling. The guide at anthem.com/pedaltohealth is available to COVA Care and COVA HDHP members as part of their health benefits. So ride a bike for exercise and help the environment at the same time! Attached is a flyer with more information for employees.

Resolving Premium Reward Questions

The Office of Health Benefits has revised the Premium Rewards Summary to assist Benefits Administrators in answering questions on premium rewards for the 2015-16 plan year. It is posted on the DHRM website at <http://www.dhrm.virginia.gov/benefitsadministration/publications> as “2015-16 Premium Rewards Summary.” Also available online is an updated 2015-16 Premium Rewards Review Form at www.dhrm.virginia.gov/benefitsadministration/baforms.

Process Revised for Plan Administrator Participation in Benefits Events: College and University New Hire Orientations

During July, August, and September, colleges and universities will be conducting orientations for their new fall semester faculty members. Last year, in an attempt to offer health plan resources for those sessions, the Office of Health Benefits offered some specific times during which health plan vendors would be available to offer presentations regarding State Health Benefit Program plan options. Since that process didn't seem to meet the needs of colleges and universities, this year we have asked our vendors to reserve those months specifically to be resources for these new hire orientations. While the opportunity for the vendors (e.g., Aetna, Anthem) to provide a presentation is encouraged, it will not be a requirement for their participation. We hope that prioritizing faculty member orientations during this time frame will help to meet the special timing needs of the higher education populations. Other Benefits Administrators who might have similar special new-hire needs for health benefits information during this period may also request the vendors' participation. Vendor participation will be on a first-come/first-serve basis.

Please note that the new publication “Getting to Know Your Benefits” is another excellent resource for new hires and is online at <http://www.dhrm.virginia.gov/benefitsadministration/baguidetoopenenrollment>. See the article below.

To request attendance at your new hire orientation, please submit the attached form to Anne Waring (anne.waring@dhrm.virginia.gov), who will notify all of the vendors. Going forward, this form will be available at www.dhrm.virginia.gov/benefitsadministration/baforms. The vendors will contact you directly to make specific arrangements. During this period, please limit your requests to activities related to new hires. However, this would not preclude other employees' attendance.

A New Resource for Employee Orientation

In an effort to address the needs of Benefits Administrators for resources during new hire orientation, the Office of Health Benefits has given a new look to an old booklet. Called "[Getting to Know Your Benefits](#)," the booklet is a revised version of the previous "About Your Benefits" publication. This new resource is an overview of employee eligibility and health benefits. It does NOT include the Summary of Benefits or Monthly Premiums Chart, which must be provided separately to employees. "Getting to Know Your Benefits" is now posted under the "Guide to Open Enrollment" for Benefits Administrators on the Resources tab and also will be posted after July 1 on the DHRM website's Health Coverage home page.

Please do not reply to this e-mail. You may send inquiries to the Office of Health Benefits mailbox at ohb@dhrm.virginia.gov.