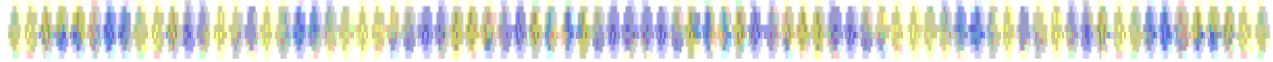


Spring 2009 BENEFITS ALERT for NYS Employees

Providing important information about your benefits

In This Issue:

- ✓ Dependent Eligibility Verification Project
- ✓ Dependent Students
- ✓ SUNY Optional Retirement Program (ORP)
- ✓ Pre-retirement Seminar
- ✓ GA/TA Summer Hlth Notice
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NYS HEALTH INSURANCE PROGRAM (NYSHIP) DEPENDENT ELIGIBILITY VERIFICATION PROJECT

****IMPORTANT NOTICE TO ALL HEALTH INSURANCE ENROLLEES WITH FAMILY COVERAGE:**

If you had NYSHIP FAMILY coverage as of February 1, 2009, you will be sent information to your home this spring by the *NYS Department of Civil Service (Employee Benefits Division)* and *Budco Health Services Solution* to verify eligibility of all dependents on your plan as of February 1, 2009.

It will be very important to **IMMEDIATELY** read all materials you receive and follow the instructions by the stated deadlines. Failure to timely document eligibility of all dependents may result in loss of the dependent(s) coverage.

This is an independent audit being conducted by *Budco Health Services Solution* on behalf of the NYS Department of Civil Service. **The Employee Benefits Office is unable to participate in this audit.** Materials sent by *Budco* will contain a special toll-free number where all questions concerning this project must be directed. For more information about the project, please visit <http://www.cs.state.ny.us/nyshipeligibilityproject/overview.cfm>.

If you have not received a packet from *Budco* by April 30, 2009, please contact Employee Benefits at 437-4729 to verify your mailing address.



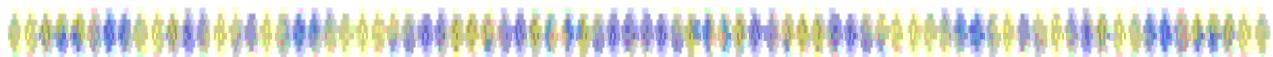
HAVE A DEPENDENT WHO WILL NO LONGER BE A FULLTIME STUDENT?

If you have a dependent on your health insurance who is no longer going to be a full-time student, you must notify Employee Benefits at 437-4729 to remove him/her from your coverage **before** they finish classes. Special coverage extension periods and/or COBRA may be available. If there is any indication they *might* not return, call now.



SUNY-ORP EMPLOYEE CONTRIBUTION CESSATION – PHASE 2 (AIG, ING, METLIFE & TIAA-CREF PARTICIPANTS)

Phase 2 of the elimination of mandatory employee contributions after ten years of ORP membership for those joining the ORP on or after July 27, 1976 will be reflected in the check of April 1, 2009. Those affected will experience a reduction in employee contributions from 2% to 1%. Coinciding with this reduction, employer contributions will increase by 1%.



PRE-RETIREMENT SEMINAR FOR FACULTY AND PROFESSIONAL STAFF

To be held Wednesday, April 8, in the Campus Center 375. Topics to include: health insurance, social security, retirement, and more. Open to UUP and M/C employees age 50 and over. **Must be registered to attend.**

For information and registration, contact Employee Benefits at Durban@uamail.albany.edu, or 437-4729.



GRADUATE/TEACHING ASSISTANT SUMMER HEALTH INSURANCE CONTINUATION

If you have Graduate and/or Teaching Assistants, they may soon be asking you to sign a form indicating the expectation that they will continue as a Graduate/Teaching Assistant in Fall 2009. An expectation is NOT a commitment; rather, it means they are more likely than not to be a GA/TA in the fall. Summer health coverage is only available to continuing GATAs. Students who are graduating or who have exhausted assistantship funding will have COBRA available.



EAP SPRING INTO WELLNESS FAIR


April 22 - Campus Center Ballroom. For more information:

http://www.albany.edu/eap/annual_events.htm#SPRING_INTO_WELLNESS_FAIR



A Final Note....

- ✓ **Tax withholding rate changes** associated with the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009, which went into affect with the check of 3/18/09, may cause federal under-withholding for some couples filing jointly and employees with multiple jobs. Please review your withholding and consult a tax professional with questions. Review NYS Comptroller Dinapoli's message at: http://www.osc.state.ny.us/agencies/pbull/agencies/2009_2010/887att.pdf. To adjust your withholding allowances, complete a new W-4 at <http://hr.albany.edu/content/forms.asp#payroll>.
- ✓ **Keep your permanent address up to date** with Human Resources through MyUAlbany or by calling 437-4700. We will also update health insurance and payroll records. You must contact other benefit providers directly.
- ✓ **Enroll in Direct Deposit** as a fast and secure way to receive your salary every pay day regardless of vacation schedules, holidays, etc. Download the enrollment form at <http://hr.albany.edu/content/deposit.asp>.



Brought to you by the Office of Human Resources Management, Employee Benefits, UAB 300
437-4729 (p)
437-4731 (f)
<http://hr.albany.edu/>