

THE LOCAL CHOICE E-NEWS

Department of Human Resource Management State and Local Health Benefits Programs

July 13, 2020

New Guidance Due To Impact of COVID-19 Outbreak Extends Deadlines for Extended Coverage/COBRA

As part of the National Emergency Relief due to the Novel Coronavirus Disease (COVID-19), a joint committee comprised of multiple Federal Agencies (the "Agencies"), has issued a Joint Notice that provides a temporary extension of certain timeframes as it relates to Extended Coverage/COBRA Beneficiaries' Election Period and Premium Payments.

Since Extended Coverage/COBRA is an Employer law, we recommend you send the attached Notice to any participants whose coverage was terminated since January 1, 2020, and they were eligible for COBRA. This Notice should also be sent to anyone who was offered COBRA, regardless if they were enrolled, are currently enrolled or did not elect to enroll.

This Notice should also be included in any future COBRA notices you send out.

You may use the reports provided in your HuRMan folder to help identify who should receive this notice.

If any former participants or current COBRA enrollees have questions regarding these extensions, they should direct their questions to you.

Please do not reply to this e-mail. You may send inquiries to tlc@dhrm.virginia.gov.