

THE LOCAL CHOICE E-NEWS

Department of Human Resource Management State and Local Health Benefits Programs

April 8, 2013

Transition to Benefit Eligibility System (BES)

With this renewal, enrollment and eligibility will be transitioned from Anthem to the Department of Human Resource Management (DHRM). Up until June 1 (or September 1 for certain school groups), you will continue to send enrollment forms to Anthem, as you do now. In May you will receive detailed instructions on how to submit enrollment changes to DHRM.

Enhancements as a result of the transition include:

- **One Bill per Month** - You will not receive a new bill every time a change is processed. Simply pay the amount billed and we will make appropriate adjustments to charge or credit your account on the next monthly bill.
- **Direct Bill for COBRA and/or Retiree Coverage** – Your current group bill will be the default. If you want direct bill for COBRA and/or retiree coverage, please email Walt Norman, walter.norman@dhrm.virginia.gov before April 19th.

Please note that we cannot direct bill if you subsidize any portion of the retiree cost or if you collect and remit premiums from VRS. We must bill the entire premium to every category participant or you should decline direct bill and continue with group billing, as you have it today. If wish to use a third party administrator for COBRA services, direct bill is not an option.

Direct bill members will receive an introductory letter in late April or early May outlining the direct bill process. Group Administrators will get a master copy of the letter in advance. The first direct bill will arrive in June for the July premium.

For questions or clarification, please contact Walt Norman at walter.norman@dhrm.virginia.gov or (804) 786-6460 as soon as possible.

Local Government and Schools Health Benefits Actuarial Study

A letter was sent to you recently from Sara Wilson, Director of the Virginia Department of Human Resource Management (DHRM). The purpose of the letter was to let you know that Governor McDonnell has directed DHRM to conduct an actuarial study to explore the financial impact of possibly including local governments and school division employees and retirees in the state's health benefits program.

For government groups enrolled in the Local Choice (TLC) program, the state already has much of the information required. As such, these groups only need to provide the following information for years in which they were enrolled in TLC (if this does not cover 2 years of data, the group will need to provide data for the "missing" year):

Below are the items that TLC groups need to provide:

- Census information on your population that has waived or opted out of coverage
- Employee identifier
- Employee status (active, COBRA, pre65 retiree, post65 retiree)
- Employee indicator for “teacher” vs. “non-certified employee”
- Employee date of birth
- Employee gender
- Resident zip code
- Premium for the most recent two years, by month (**Anthem can assist with this item**)
 - By benefit option, for medical, dental, vision, and prescription drug
 - Split by active, COBRA, pre65 retiree, and post65 retiree
- Details on employee contributions by employee status, by coverage type, by benefit plan option, by coverage tier. (Rate Sheets)
- Details on how state funds support your health care funding.
- Current carrier/vendor contract end dates

If you would like to participate in the study, please send an email to Pam Hazelgrove at pam.hazelgrove2@aonhewitt.com to authorize Anthem to release the information.

Thank you.