



Natural Resources Conservation Service
6013 Lakeside Boulevard
Indianapolis, IN 46278

November 6, 2006

INDIANA BULLETIN NO. 360-7-2

SUBJECT: PER – 2006 FEDERAL EMPLOYEE HEALTH BENEFITS (FEHB) OPEN SEASON

Purpose: This bulletin transmits information for the FEHB open season.

Expiration date: September 30, 2007

The Federal Employees Health Benefits (FEHB) open season will be held from November 13, through December 11, 2006. Under open season regulations, any eligible employee who is not currently registered may enroll; and any eligible enrollee may change from one plan or option to another, from self only to self and family, cancel enrollment or make a combination of these changes. **Enrollees who wish to continue their current enrollment do not need to take any action during this open season.** However, enrollees whose plans will not be participating in the FEHB Program after December 31, 2006 or whose plans dropped an enrollment code **must** enroll in a different plan to continue FEHB coverage in 2007. The following plan has dropped out of the FEHB Program in Indiana for 2007: Humana Coverage First (CDHP).

You are encouraged to review the open season material to see if your current plan meets your medical needs. Attached is a copy of the FEHB Guide for your information. New brochures for individual plans along with additional information about the Federal Employees Health Benefit Program can be accessed through the Office of Personnel Management's (OPM) website www.opm.gov/insure/health. Employees who want to make an open season change are urged to do so as soon as they have reviewed the brochures. Supervisors have a responsibility to ensure that employees on leave receive their open season information.

New enrollees and employees making changes in plans will be sent a booklet when their enrollment has been processed by the new plan. Most plans have already supplied their participants with booklets, or will be doing so within the next few weeks.

The completed registration form SF-2809 (revised October 2004, previous editions are not usable) must be received in the Human Resources Section by no later than December 11, 2006. Employees may enter their own FEHB open season changes through the NFC, Employee Personal Page (My EPP) using the Self Service option at www.nfc.usda.gov. The effective date for all changes made during open season will be January 7, 2007. This change will be reflected on your pay statement of January 29.

Please note that information you provide by enrolling in the Federal Employees Health Benefits Program may also be used for computer matching with Federal, state or local agencies' files to determine whether you qualify for benefits, payments or eligibility in the Federal Employees Health Benefits Program, Medicare, or other Government benefits programs.

For further information regarding cost and coverage or if you have any questions about the FEHBP contact the Human Resources Section.

REMINDER: An employee must have been covered under the FEHB Program continuously for the five years of service immediately before retirement (or, if less than five years, for all periods of service during which you were eligible for FEHB coverage and for participation in a retirement system) in order to continue health benefits coverage after retirement. Dual coverage which occurs when a federal employee is covered under his or her own enrollment and the enrollment of his or her family member who also is a federal employee is illegal.

/s/

JANE E. HARDISTY
State Conservationist

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