



BENEFIT CHOICE ELECTION PERIOD

Special Insurance Issue

Due to the ongoing State of Illinois contract negotiations, there will be two Benefit Choice Election Periods this year. The second election period will be announced at a later date.

During the first Benefit Choice Election Period, choices made during May 1 - 31, 2008 will be effective July 1, 2008. The current health insurance rates, deductibles, co-payments and benefit plans for members and dependents will remain the same until negotiations are complete. If rates or other benefits change, you will be notified during the second Benefit Choice Election Period.

The Department of Central Management Services is mailing information about the first Benefit Choice

Election Period to all members during the last week in April. The Benefit Choice Options Booklet and other information will be available on our website: www.state.il.us/srs. A new Benefit Choice Election Form is included in the Booklet. Please read it carefully, as some documentation is required.

You should only complete the Benefit Choice Election Form if you are **making changes**. If you decide to make changes, complete, sign and date the Benefit Choice Election Form and mail to the address below BEFORE the close of business May 31, 2008. Please include your telephone number on the form.

State Employees Retirement System
2101 South Veterans Parkway
P. O. Box 19255
Springfield, IL 62794-9255

Medco Pharmacy card, please contact Medco at 1-800-899-2587.

- If you are experiencing problems with the payment of claims, please contact your health/dental/vision or pharmacy administrator/provider before contacting your SERS Insurance Rep or CMS Group Insurance Division.
- Remember to notify SERS when you have a change of address.

Opt-Out Financial Incentive

This benefit is for SERS Retirees only. If you are non-Medicare, enrolled in a comprehensive health plan other than the State of Illinois and wish to Opt Out of the Group Insurance Program through the State of Illinois, you can receive \$150.00 per month less withholding.

To enter into this program, you must contact your SERS Group Insurance Representative for a financial incentive packet or visit our website at www.state.il.us/srs and download the forms.

When you reach Medicare primacy at age 65, the benefit will end and you will be given the opportunity to re-enroll or remain in opt-out status with no financial incentive. This option can be requested during the upcoming Benefit Choice Election Periods.

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Important Changes Effective July 1, 2008:

Spouse Term Life Insurance Rates

- Reduces from \$7.14 per month to \$6.94 per month for \$10,000 coverage (applies to members under the age of 60).
- Reduces from \$3.57 per month to \$3.47 per month for \$5,000 coverage (applies to members age 60 and above).

Child Term Life Insurance Rates

- Reduces from \$.56 per month to \$.52 per month for \$10,000 coverage.

Helpful Reminders

- If you need a new medical card, contact your health plan carrier.
- If you need a new dental card, contact CompBenefits.
- If your pharmacy administrator is Medco and you need a new

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Transition of Services

If you choose a new health plan during the Benefit Choice Period, members or dependents involved in an ongoing course of treatment should contact the new plan to coordinate the transition of services and providers.

If you or your dependents are hospitalized before July 1, contact both the current and future health plan administrators as soon as possible.

SERS INSURANCE CONTACT INFORMATION

In an effort to provide more efficient and personal service, the SERS Insurance Section has assigned all annuitants a personal Group Insurance Representative (GIR) based on the last two digits of your Social Security number. The telephone numbers, e-mail addresses and fax numbers for your GIR are listed below.

If the last two digits of your SSN are 00-24 your GIR is Sheryll Clark:
217-785-7145; sclark@srs.state.il.us;
fax 217-547-9771

Example: John Doe ***-**-5525.
His personal GIR would be Julie Harms.

If the last two digits of your SSN are 25-49 your GIR is Julie Harms:
217-785-7150; jharms@srs.state.il.us;
fax: 217-547-9772

Springfield Insurance Section Fax:
217-557-0510

TDD: 217-785-7218

Chicago Office: 312-814-5853

If the last two digits of your SSN are 50-74 your GIR is Madonna Palazzolo:
217-785-7138; mpalazzo@srs.state.il.us; fax: 217-547-9768

Chicago Fax: 312-814-5805

If the last two digits of your SSN are 75-99 your GIR is Beth Maney:
217-785-7093; bmaney@srs.state.il.us;
fax: 217-547-9770

Due to the high volume of calls to the Insurance Section, you may be asked to leave your name, phone number (including area code) and your Social Security Number.

Your GIR will respond to your phone call as soon as possible.

