



2ND BENEFIT CHOICE ELECTION PERIOD

Special
Insurance
Issue

Due to the recent settlement and ratification of the AFSCME contract, a second Benefit Choice Election Period is being held from October 27 through November 14, 2008.

During this time, you have the opportunity to make changes to your existing benefit plans. Requested changes made during this open enrollment period will become effective January 1, 2009.

You should receive a new Benefit Choice Options Booklet in the mail prior to the October 27th enrollment start date. Please read this booklet carefully to ensure you understand the changes coming January 1, 2009. The new Benefit Choice

Options Booklet (Period 2) will also be available on our website: www.state.il.us/srs. A new Benefit Choice Election Form is included in the Booklet. Read this form carefully as documentation is required for some changes.

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 November 14, 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

Choice booklet)

- Specialist office visit co-payments increase from \$15 to \$20.

Quality Care Health Plan (QCHP) Changes

- New prescription deductible of \$50 per individual per plan year (explained on page 18 of the Benefit Choice booklet)
- Prescription co-payments for preferred brand and non-preferred brand increase to \$24/\$48 respectively (generic remains \$11)

- General out-of-pocket maximum (individual) increases to \$1,200
- General out-of-pocket maximum (family) increases to \$3,000
- Coinsurance for out-of-network physicians is reduced from 80% to 70% (in-network coinsurance remains 90%)
- Dependent health contributions have increased (see page 11 of the Benefit Choice booklet)
- Hospital Bill Audit Program – limit on savings has been eliminated (see page 28 of the Benefit Choice booklet for details).

Quality Care Dental Plan (QCDP)

Dental deductible increases to \$125 per plan participant per plan year.

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 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.

Important Changes Effective January 1, 2009:

Managed Care Plan (HMO/OAP)

- New prescription deductible of \$50 per individual per plan year (explained on page 18 of the Benefit Choice booklet).
- Prescription co-payments for preferred brand and non-preferred brand increase to \$22/\$44 respectively (generic remains \$10)
- Dependent health contributions have increased (page 11 of the Benefit

Benefit Choice (continued on page 2)

Benefit Choice (continued from page 1)

- Remember to notify SERS when you have a change of address.

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 January 1, 2009 contact both the current and future health plan administrators as soon as possible.

The 2009 Myths & Realities of Retirement (MRR) workshop schedule is now posted on our website at www.state.il.us/srs.

The MRR is a free one-day workshop that covers a variety of topics: SERS entitlements, financial scams and the effects of inflation. For more information call 217-785-6979.

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.*

Springfield Insurance Section Fax:
217-557-0510

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

TDD: 217-785-7218

Chicago Office: 312-814-5853

Chicago Fax: 312-814-5805

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

If the last two digits of your SSN are 75-99 your GIR is Ray Seymour:
217-785-7093; rseymour@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, telephone number (including area code) and your Social Security Number. Your GIR will respond to your phone call as soon as possible.

