STATE RETIREMENT SYSTEMS
2101 S. Veterans Parkway
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The Informer

The newsletter for annuitants of the State Employees' Retirement System of Illinois
www.state.il.us/srs
MAY 2010

# BENEFIT CHOICE ELECTION PERIOD

Special Insurance Issue

The annual Benefit Choice Period will be held in May, 2010. During this month, you have the opportunity to make changes to your existing benefit plans. Changes submitted in May will become effective July 1, 2010.

NEW THIS YEAR! *Members will not be mailed an individual copy of the Benefit Choice Options Booklet.* Instead, members should access insurance information and a copy of the booklet online at *www.benefitschoice.il.gov OR www.state.il.us/srs.*

Please take the time to ensure that you understand the changes and enhancements effective July 1, 2010. If you decide to make changes, please complete the Benefit Choice Election Form included in this mailing. Read the form carefully as some documentation is required.

*Complete the Benefit Choice Election form only if you are making changes.* If you do decide to make changes, complete, sign and date the election form and mail to our office BEFORE the close of business May 31, 2010. Please include your telephone number on the form. If you make insurance changes, send the enclosed Election Form to the address below:

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

Also included in this mailing is a map showing Managed Care Health Plans that are available throughout Illinois. The map includes the toll-free telephone number for each Health Plan.

## Important Enhancements Effective July 1, 2010

### Quality Care Dental Plan (QCDP)

- Dental annual plan year maximum benefit increases from $2,250 to $2,500.
- Orthodontia lifetime maximum increases from $1,750 to $2,000.

### Vision Plan *(see page 19 of your online Benefit Choice booklet for details)*

- In and out-of-network benefit for contact lenses and standard frames increases.
- Out-of-network benefit for single, bifocal and trifocal lenses increases.

### Life Insurance Plan

- Optional life insurance premiums will decrease for the 55-59 and 60-64 age groups.

### Other Information

- No changes to dependent health rates at this time.
- No changes to member and dependent dental rates at this time.
- Members paying a percentage for health insurance will receive a new rate sheet in June.

Benefit Choice
*(continued on back page)*

## *INFORMATION and REMINDERS*

- The online Benefit Choice booklet has basic Medicare information (page 15).

- The Dental Schedule of Benefits is not included in the Benefit Choice booklet. The schedule can be found on our insurance website at www.state.il.us/srs.

- If you have a change of address, SERS must receive your change in writing. For the protection of our members, we will no longer accept address changes over the telephone.

- 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.

### *Member Responsibilities*

You must notify your SERS Group Insurance Representative (GIR) if:

- You and/or your dependents experience a change of address.

- Your dependent loses eligibility. Dependents that are no longer eligible under the Program (including divorced spouses) must be reported to your GIR. Failure to report an ineligible dependent is considered a fraudulent act.

  Any premium payments you make on behalf of the ineligible dependent which result in an overpayment will not be refunded.

  Additionally, the ineligible dependent may lose any rights to COBRA continuation coverage.

- You experience a change in Medicare status. A copy of the Medicare card must be provided to your GIR when a change in your and/or your dependent's Medicare status occurs.

## *SERS INSURANCE CONTACT INFORMATION*

The SERS Insurance Section assigns all annuitants to a personal Group Insurance Representative (GIR) based on the last two digits of your Social Security number. The telephone numbers, email addresses and fax numbers for your GIR are listed below.

If the last two digits of your SSN are 00-32 your GIR is Sheryll Clark: 217-785-7145; sclark@srs.state.il.us; fax 217-547-9771

If the last two digits of your SSN are33-66 your GIR is Julie Harms: 217-785-7150; jharms@srs.state.il.us; fax: 217-547-9772

If the last two digits of your SSN are 67-99 your GIR is Madonna Palazzolo: 217-785-7138; mpalazzo@srs.state.il.us; fax: 217-547-9768

*Example: John Doe ***-**-5535. His personal GIR would be Julie Harms.*

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