



***Retirement and Insurance Service
Benefits Administration Letter***

Number: 99-411

Date: September 29, 1999

Subject: 1999 Federal Employees Health Benefits (FEHB) Program: Significant Plan Changes

PURPOSE

This letter transmits lists of significant events affecting certain plans during the upcoming FEHB open season. Please note that some of these events will require action on the part of agencies and enrollees. Also note the plans that are dropping out of the Program at the end of 1999. Since employees in these plans **must** enroll in new plans during open season if they are to continue insurance coverage in 2000, we ask that you distribute this list widely within your agencies.

TERMINATIONS

Attachment 1: Plans Dropping Out of FEHB for 2000

Attachment 2: Plans Terminating its Standard Option

Attachment 3: Plans Reducing Their Service Areas by Terminating an Enrollment Code

1. **What must employees do?** Employees in terminating plans (Attachment 1) or in terminating codes (Attachment 3) **must** choose a new health plan during open season.
2. Transfer members in the Standard Option to High Option of the plan listed in attachment 2.
3. **New coverage.** Coverage under an enrollee's new health plan will be effective the first day of the pay period beginning on or after January 1, 2000: for most employees this will be January 2, 2000. Enrollees will remain covered and receive benefits under the old plan until coverage under the new plan becomes effective.

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4. **Plan Notification.** The plans in Attachments 1 and 3 have been instructed to notify enrollees of the need to select new health plans for 2000. However, some plans' enrollment and address lists may not be up to date.

5. **What must agencies do?** Agencies must notify employees in these terminating plans and enrollment codes to select new plans or lose coverage.

We strongly recommend that you distribute copies of these lists to each employee, along with your agency's notice about open season.

We also recommend that you follow up with employees in these plans to remind them to select new plans.

6. **Belated changes.** Some employees still might not get the word to change plans during open season. We encourage you to be liberal in accepting belated open season changes from employees enrolled in terminating plans/enrollment codes.

SERVICE AREA REDUCTIONS

Attachment 4: Plans Significantly Reducing Their Service Areas Without Terminating an Enrollment Code.

Enrollees in the service areas being terminated must elect new health plans for 2000. Enrollees who do not choose new health plans will have to travel to their plan's remaining service area to receive full benefits.

Attachment 5: Plans Splitting a Service Area

Enrollees in these plans must complete a Standard Form (SF) 2809 to enroll in the new code for their service area or elect another health plan during the open season. Enrollees in the old code will have to travel to their plan's remaining service area to receive full benefits from the plan.

Agency Action Required. We strongly recommend that you distribute a copy of these lists to each employee, along with your agency's notice to employees about open season. If you don't distribute the lists, remind employees to check their new health plan brochures carefully to see if there has been any changes to their plans' service areas that will affect them.

OTHER SERVICE AREA CHANGES

Attachment 6: Service Area Consolidations

These plans are consolidating their service area; i.e., changing from one or more enrollment areas to one. The service areas will remain the same, but they will be included under one enrollment code. Enrollees in the “departing” enrollment code(s) will be transferred automatically to the remaining enrollment code.

Attachment 7: New plans entering the Program for 2000

Attachment 8: Service Area Expansions With a new Enrollment Code

Attachment 9: Significant Service Area Expansions Without new Enrollment Codes

Agency Action Required. Be sure to include these new plans and expanded service areas when you count the number of eligible employees and place your orders for brochures.

MISCELLANEOUS CHANGES

Attachment 10: Plan Mergers

These plans are merging with another plan at the end of 1999. Enrollees in the “old” plans will be transferred automatically to the “new” plans and need take no action. Enrollees in the old plans, must choose different plans during open season if they do not wish to be transferred to the new plans.

Attachment 11: Plan Name Changes

Attachment 12: Enrollment Code Changes

Attachment 13: Plans Adding a Point of Service Product

Attachment 14: Plans Dropping a Point of Service Product

This plan is dropping its Point of Service Product (POS) for 2000. Enrollees who use the POS Option may want to consider change plans during open season.



Abby L. Block, Chief
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ATTACHMENT 1

PLANS DROPPING OUT OF FEHB FOR 2000

Employees in these plans who do not change health plans during open season will not have health benefits for 2000.

State	Plan Name	Code
Alabama	VIVA	4B
Arkansas	QualChoice	8Q
Arkansas	Prudential HealthCare HMO-Arkansas	VY
California	Omni Healthcare	HN
Colorado	QualMed of Colorado	2D
Colorado	Antero Healthplans	9X
Connecticut	Kaiser Foundation Health Plan of Connecticut, Inc.	DM
Connecticut	Prudential HealthCare HMO Connecticut	8C
District of Columbia	United Health Care of the Mid-Atlantic	BL
Florida	Health Options	FR, FN, D7
Florida	PCA Family Health Plan of Florida	FQ
Florida	PCA Health Plans of Florida	PJ
Illinois	John Deere Family Healthplan, Inc.	1J
Illinois	United HealthCare Select	H8
Illinois	BCI HMO	3B
Indiana	United Healthcare of Kentucky	DU
Indiana	BCI HMO	3B
Iowa	United HealthCare of the Midlands	NF
Iowa	Mutual of Omaha Companies Exclusive Healthcare, Inc.	9Y
Iowa	John Deere Family Healthplan, Inc.	1J
Kansas	United HealthCare of the Midwest	4M
Kentucky	United HealthCare of Kentucky	DU
Louisiana	SmartPlan	8D
Louisiana	Gulf South Health Plan	LY
Louisiana	Vantage Health Plan, Inc.	7V
Maryland	United HealthCare of the Mid-Atlantic	BL
Massachusetts	United HealthCare of New England	VF
Missouri	United HealthCare MidWest	4M
Missouri	United HealthCare Select	H8
Minnesota	Altru Health Plan	2R
Montana	Yellowstone Community Health Plan	2Y
Nebraska	United HealthCare of the Midlands	NF
Nebraska	Mutual of Omaha Companies Exclusive Healthcare, Inc.	9Y
Nevada	Hometown Health Plan	4H
New Mexico	HMO New Mexico	5H
New York	Health Source HMO NY	XL
North Carolina	Personal Care Plan	4X

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North Carolina	Kaiser Foundation Health Plan of North Carolina	QT
North Carolina	Wellpath Select	2E
North Dakota	Altru Health Plan	2R
Ohio	HealthAssurance Ohio	5X
Ohio	Prudential HealthCare HMO Midwest	AY
Ohio	HealthFirst	RF
Oregon	Providence Health Plan	SD
Puerto Rico	PCA of Puerto Rico	5P
Rhode Island	United Healthcare of New England	VF
South Carolina	Kaiser Foundation Health Plan of North Carolina	QT
South Carolina	Wellpath Select	2E
Texas	Prudential Healthcare HMO-Austin	UN
Texas	Health First	8E
Texas	Certus HealthCare, L.L.C.	3Y
Texas	Prudential Healthcare HMO-El Paso	6P
Texas	Rio Grande	4Z, 4Y
Texas	Scott and White Health Plan	UF
Texas	HMO Blue	5Q, 5R
Virginia	Priority Health Care	W7
Washington	NYLCare Northwest	8N
Washington	Providence Health Plan	SD
Washington	QualMed Washington Health Plan	TM
West Virginia	PrimeONE	9W

ATTACHMENT 2

PLANS TERMINATING ITS STANDARD OPTION

State	Plan Name	Code
District of Columbia, Maryland, Virginia	George Washington University Health Plan	E5

ATTACHMENT 3

**PLANS REDUCING THEIR SERVICE AREAS
BY TERMINATING AN ENROLLMENT CODE**

Enrollees in these enrollment codes who do not change health plans during open season will not have health benefits for 2000.

State	Plan Name	Code Terminated
Delaware	AmeriHealth HMO, Inc.	SP
Florida	Foundation Health	5C
Florida	Aetna U.S. Healthcare	8A
Massachusetts	Kaiser Permanente	K1
Michigan	Physicians Health Plan	U5
Michigan	Physicians Health Plan	U6
Michigan	Physicians Health Plan	U7
New Hampshire	Kaiser Permanente	K1
New Hampshire	Aetna U.S. Healthcare	UJ
New York	Blue Choice HMO	5K
Vermont	Kaiser Permanente	8M

ATTACHMENT 4

**PLANS SIGNIFICANTLY REDUCING THEIR SERVICE AREAS
WITHOUT TERMINATING AN ENROLLMENT CODE**

Enrollees in the area being dropped who do not change health plans during open season will have to travel to their plan’s remaining service area to obtain medical care in order to receive full benefits from the plan in 2000.

State	Plan Name	Code	Area Dropped
California	Health Net	LB	Calaveras, Shasta, Tuolumne
California	PacifiCare of California	CY	Counties of Sutter, Yuba, Amador, Colusa, Humbolt, Lake, Mendocino, Tehama, Monterey, Glenn, Nevada
Florida	Humana Medical Plan	7F EE JH	Lake County Brevard, Collier, Desoto, Hardee, Highlands, Monroe Citrus, Hernando
Florida	HIP Plan of Florida	K7	Tampa counties of Hernando, Hillsborough, Pasco, Pinellas
Idaho	Group Health Cooperative of Puget Sound	VR	Benewah, Bonner, and Shoshone, counties
Illinois	American HMO, Illinois	AC	Grundy, Hardin, Jackson, Jersey, LaSalle, Madison, Marion, Mercer, Randolph, Saline, St. Clair, and Williamson counties
Illinois	PersonalCare’s HMO	GE	Coles, Clark, Crawford, Cumberland, Edgar, Effingham, and Shelby counties of Illinois
Kansas	Preferred Plus of Kansas	VA	Brown, Jefferson, Pottawatomie, and Shawnee counties
Minnesota	Health Partners Classic	53	Minnesota counties of Crow Wing, Douglas, Kandiyohi, Pope, and Todd

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Minnesota	Health Partners	HQ	Minnesota counties of Becker, Beltrami, Big Stone, Blue Earth, Brown, Cass, Chippewa, Cottonwood, Crow Wing, Dodge, Douglas, Faribault, Fillmore, Freeborn, Hubbard, Jackson, Kandiyohi, Lincoln, Mahnommen, Martin, Mower, Murray, Nicollet, Nobles, Norman, Ottertail, Pipestone, Polk, Pope, Red Lake, Redwood, Renville, Sibley, Stevens, Swift, Todd, Traverse, Wadena, Waseca, Watonwan, Wilkin, Winona, Yellow Medicine
Mississippi	PrimeHealth of Alabama, Inc.	AA	All of Mississippi
New York	Well Care of New York, Inc. (See attachment 11 for plan name change)	X4	Connecticut
North Dakota	Health Partners	HQ	North Dakota
Ohio	PacifiCare of Ohio	R8	Dayton, Ohio
Oklahoma	PacifiCare of Oklahoma	2N	Southwestern Oklahoma counties of Cado, Cotton, Custer, Greer, Harmon, Jefferson, Kiowa, Stephens, Tillman, Washita, and Comanche counties Jackson counties of Blair and Warren City

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Oklahoma	Prudential HealthCare HMO-Oklahoma City	RR	Alfalfa, Atoka, Beaver, Beckham, Bryan, Carter, Choctaw, Cimmaron, Coal, Cotton, Custer, Ellis, Grant, Greer, Harmon, Harper, Hughes, Jackson, Johnston, Kay, Kiowa, Murray, Noble, Pushmataha, Roger Mills, Stephens, Texas, Tillman, Washita, and Woods counties
Oregon	PacifiCare of Oregon	SS	Jackson County of Medford Oregon
South Carolina	Aetna U.S. Healthcare	3G	South Carolina
Texas	Humana Health Plan of Texas	TW	Archer, Baylor, Bell, Brazos, Clay, Coryell, Falls, McLennan, Montague, Wichita, and Wilbarger counties
Texas	FIRSTCARE	CK	Callahan, Coke, Coleman, Comanche, Concho, Crockett, Eastland, Fisher, Haskell, Irion, Jones, Kent, Knox, McCullough, Mitchell, Nolan, Runnels, Schleicher, Shackelford, Stephens, Sterling, Stonewall, Sutton, Taylor, Throckmorton, and Tom Green counties.
Washington	PacifiCare of Washington	WB	Pend Oreille, Stevens, Spokane, Island, and Skagit counties
Washington	Group Health Cooperative of Puget Sound	54	Adams, Chelan, Clallam, Douglas, Ferry, Grant, Klickitat, Lincoln, Okanogan, Pend Oreille, and Stevens counties.

ATTACHMENT 5

PLANS SPLITTING A SERVICE AREA

Enrollees in these plans under the 1999 enrollment codes shown below should check their plan brochures to determine which 2000 code they should be under. Enrollees in these 1999 codes who should change, but do not, will have to travel to the area served by their enrollment code to obtain medical care and to receive full benefits from the plan.

State	Plan Name	Code (1999)	Code (2000)
Florida	HIP Plan of Florida	K7	K7 (Tampa) counties of Hernando, Hillsborough, Pasco, Pinellas 3N South (Florida) counties of Broward, Miami- Dade, Palm Beach

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<p>Pennsylvania</p>	<p>HealthAmerica Pennsylvania</p>	<p>26 - Greater Pittsburgh, Central Pennsylvania, South Central Pennsylvania, Northeast Pennsylvania</p>	<p>26- Greater Pittsburgh area only and surrounding counties of Allegheny, Armstrong, Beaver, Butler, Cambria, Fayette, Greene, Indiana, Lawrence, Mercer, Somerset, Washington, and Westmoreland</p> <p>SW- Central Pennsylvania counties of Blair, Centre, Clinton, Huntingdon, Juniata, Mifflin, Lycoming, Union, Northumberland, and Snyder; South Central Pennsylvania counties of Adams, Berks, Cumberland, Dauphin, Lancaster, Lebanon, Perry, Schuylkill, and York; and Northeast Pennsylvania counties of Columbia, and Luzerne.</p>
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ATTACHMENT 6

**SERVICE AREA CONSOLIDATIONS –
TRANSFERRING TWO OR MORE ENROLLMENT CODES INTO ONE**

Enrollees in an enrollment code being dropped will be transferred automatically to the remaining code unless they choose a different health plan during open season.

State	Plan Name	Code(s) Being Dropped	Remaining Code
Arizona	PacifiCare of Arizona	7R	A3

ATTACHMENT 7

NEW PLANS ENTERING THE PROGRAM FOR 2000

State	Plan Name	Code	General Location
California	Universal Care, Inc. of California	6Q	Southern California
Florida	Total Health Choice	4A	Florida
Ohio	Vantage Health Plan, Inc.	6A	North Central Ohio
Pennsylvania	UPMC	8W	Pennsylvania
Virginia	Piedmont Community Healthcare (VA)	2C	Lynchburg

ATTACHMENT 8

**SERVICE AREA EXPANSIONS
WITH A NEW ENROLLMENT CODE**

State	Plan Name	New Code	General Location
Florida	Humana Medical Plan	9D	Pensacola
Kansas	Aetna U.S. Healthcare	7K	Kansas
Missouri	Aetna U.S. Healthcare	6T	Missouri
New York	MDNY	8U	New York

ATTACHMENT 9

**SIGNIFICANT SERVICE AREA EXPANSIONS
WITHOUT NEW ENROLLMENT CODES**

State	Plan Name	Code	General Location of New Area
Arizona	Premier HealthCare of Arizona	9A, 9B	Cochise, and Santa Cruise Counties, parts of Lapaz and Mohave counties
Florida	Humana Medical Plan	P5	Bradford, Columbia, Dixie, Gilchrist, Levy, Putnam, Union, Baker, Nassau
Kentucky	Bluegrass Family Health	2B	Ballard, Calloway, Carlisle, Hickman, Livingston, Lyon, Marshall, McCracken
Michigan	Health Alliance Plan	52	Monroe, Lapeer, and Livingston counties
Michigan	M-Care	EG	North and Southern MI
New York	Partners Health Plans	7Y	St. Lawrence and Franklin county
Ohio	The Health Plan of the Upper Ohio Valley, Inc.	U4	Wirt, Wood, Ritchie, Pleasants, and Barbour counties
Tennessee	Prudential HealthCare HMO	UA	Coffee, Marshall and Maury counties
Texas	HMO Texas, L.C.	UK, 2T	Full counties of: Collin, Dallas, Denton, Ellis, Hood, Hunt, Johnson, Kaufman, Parker, Rochwall, Tarrant, and Wise

ATTACHMENT 10

PLAN MERGERS

Enrollees in plans that merge will be transferred automatically to the surviving plan unless they choose a different plan during open season.

State	Merging Plans	Codes	Surviving Plans	Codes
District of Columbia	Aetna U. S. Healthcare	V8	Aetna U.S. Healthcare	JN
	NLYCare/Mid-Atlantic	JN		
Guam	Health Maintenance Life (Guam)	28	PacifiCare Asia Pacific (Standard Option)	JK
	PacifiCare Asia Pacific (Guam)	JK		
Illinois	Group Health Plan	MM	Group Health Plan	MM
	Principal Health Care of St. Louis (Principal)	12		
Maryland	Aetna U. S. Healthcare	V8	Aetna U.S. Healthcare	JN
	NLYCare/Mid-Atlantic	JN		
Michigan	Paramount Health Care (OH)	U2	Paramount Health Care	U2
	Medical Value Plan (MI, OH)	EV		
Missouri	Group Health Plan	MM	Group Health Plan	MM
	Principal Health Care of St. Louis (Principal)	12		
Ohio	Paramount Health Care (OH)	U2	Paramount Health Care	U2
	Medical Value Plan (MI, OH)	EV		
Tennessee	Heritage National Healthplan, Inc. (IA, IL)	3J	John Deere Health Plan, Inc. (formerly Heritage National Healthplan, Inc.)	3J
	Heritage National Healthplan, Inc. (TN, VA)	4T		

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Texas	Humana Health Plan of Corpus Christi	TX	Humana Health Plan of Texas	TX, TW, UE, UR
	Humana Health Plan of Texas	TW, UE, UR		
Virginia	Aetna U. S. Healthcare	V8	Aetna U.S. Healthcare	JN
	NLYCare/Mid-Atlantic	JN		
Virginia	Heritage National Healthplan, Inc. (IA, IL)	3J	John Deere Health Plan, Inc. (formerly Heritage National Healthplan, Inc.)	3J
	Heritage National Healthplan, Inc. (TN, VA)	4T		

ATTACHMENT 11

PLAN NAME CHANGES

State	Plan Name (Old)	Code	Plan Name (New)
Arizona	HealthPartners Health Plans, Inc.	2S, TD	United HealthCare of Arizona
Illinois	Heritage National Healthplan, Inc.	3J (Also 4T that has merged with 3J)	John Deere Health Plan, Inc.
Iowa	Heritage National Healthplan, Inc.	3J (Also 4T that has merged with 3J)	John Deere Health Plan, Inc.
New Jersey	First Option Health Plan of New Jersey	2F	Physicians Health Services of New Jersey, Inc.
Texas	HMO Texas, L.C.	UK, 2T	Texas Health Choice, L.C.
Utah	PacifiCare of Utah	9K	Altius
Washington	HealthPlus	8F	Premera HealthPlus

ATTACHMENT 12

ENROLLMENT CODE CHANGES

Enrollees in these plans will be transferred automatically to the new code unless they choose a different plan during open season.

State	Plan Name	Code (Old)	Code (New)
Nationwide	Alliance Health Benefit Plan	YQ	1R
Oregon	PacifiCare of Oregon	SS	7Z
Washington	PacifiCare of Oregon	SS	7Z

ATTACHMENT 13

PLANS ADDING A POINT OF SERVICE PRODUCT

State	Plan Name	Code	General Location
Illinois	Mercy Health Plan	7M	Illinois, Missouri
Missouri	Mercy Health Plan	7M	Illinois, Missouri
Nationwide	APWU	47	Minnesota (Minneapolis/St. Paul)
Nationwide	APWU	47	Texas (Eastern and Central Texas)

ATTACHMENT 14

PLANS DROPPING A POINT OF SERVICE PRODUCT

Individuals who enrolled in these plans primarily to have access to the point of service products they offered in the past may want to consider changing plans.

State	Plan Name	Code
Connecticut	Physicians Health Services	DP
District of Columbia	Prudential HealthCare HMO Mid-Atlantic	JB
Illinois	American HMO Health Plan	AC
Indiana	American HMO Health Plan	AC
Maryland	Prudential HealthCare HMO Mid-Atlantic	JB
Nationwide	Postmasters	36
New York	Physicians Health Services	PD
Texas	HMO Texas, L.C.	2T
Virginia	Prudential HealthCare HMO Mid-Atlantic	JB

ATTACHMENT 15

CONTRACT CONSOLIDATIONS

State	Plan Name (Old)	Code	Plan Name (New)
Ohio	Prudential HealthCare HMO-Midwest (Southwest Ohio)	S3	Prudential HealthCare HMO Midwest (Southwest and Northern Ohio)
Ohio	Prudential HealthCare HMO Midwest (Northern Ohio)	Q9	
Oklahoma	Prudential HealthCare HMO-Oklahoma City	RR	Prudential HealthCare HMO
Oklahoma	Prudential HealthCare HMO-Tulsa	RS	
Tennessee	Prudential HealthCare HMO-Nashville	UA	Prudential HealthCare HMO-Tennessee
Tennessee	Prudential HealthCare HMO-Memphis	UB	
Texas	Prudential HealthCare HMO-Houston	UP	Prudential Healthcare HMO
Texas	Prudential HealthCare HMO-San Antonio	VX	