



September 2011 Benefits Newsletter



CalSTRS members, "Thinking about retirement"? Call to set appointments for counseling (562) 922-6838.

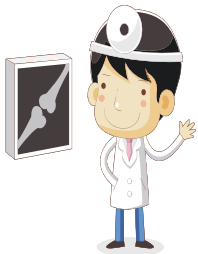
◆ Upcoming Events ◆

- CalPERS System conversion period, September 2-18, 2011

☞ Things you should know ☞

- Benefit rate changes will go into effect October 1, 2011 (Rate increase available on benefits web page)
- Benefit year is October 1st through September 30th
- Benefits are deducted over 10 months for 12 months of coverage
- Dependent children can remain under a parent's benefit plan up to turning age 26
- Eligibility updates must be received within 31 days of a qualifying event. Be sure to notify Human Resources. (List of qualifying events available on benefits web page under Active Employee Eligibility Policy - Overview)

Friendly Reminder: Review/update your employee, payroll and benefit information annually to ensure that beneficiary, address and phone numbers are current.



IMPORTANT!

**September is Health Benefits "Open Enrollment Month"
Union Negotiations, are still in session - Open Enrollment information will be made available as soon as possible, anticipate no later than mid September.**

Open Enrollment allows employees to:

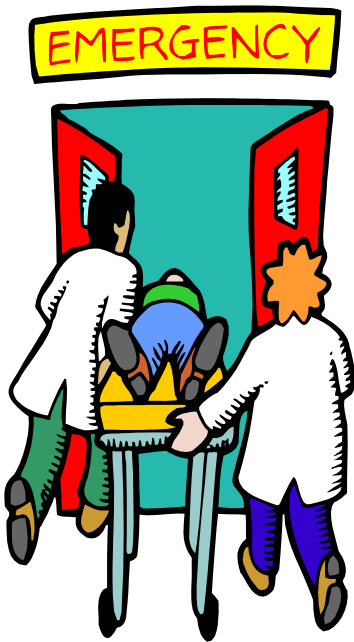
- Change benefit plans
- New enrollments and benefit changes pertaining to the addition of a child dependent (up to age of 26 years) will require a copy of their birth certificate to enroll dependent
- New enrollments and benefit changes pertaining to the addition of a spouse will require a copy of the marriage license to enroll spouse
- New enrollments and benefit changes pertaining to the addition of a same sex domestic partner or an over the age of 62 opposite sex domestic partner will require a copy of the state registration to enroll the domestic partner as a dependent.
- Add/delete Accidental Dismemberment Insurance

Everyone must submit forms indicating change or no change of plan. All Benefit Election Forms must be returned to the Human Resources Office no later than **SEPTEMBER 29, 2011**. Benefit rate increase available on www.avc.edu, Human Resources, Benefit.

Central Valley Trust (CVT)/Kaiser:

New benefits for plan participants effective October 1, 2011 (See August Newsletter for details)

- Anthem's 24/7 Nurse-line
- Valued Options Employee Assistance Program (EAP) 877-397-1032 - PPO & HMO.
- American Imaging Management (AIM) PPO Plan - CVT is replacing One Call imaging services with AIM's.
- Bariatric Centers of Excellence PPO Plan - Requires bariatric surgery to be performed at designated facilities
- Pharmacy Benefit Changes - Maintenance Choice/Mandatory Mail
- CVS-CAREMARK Maintenance Drug List - (*Available on AVC Benefit Website*)
- Pharmacy Benefit Changes - All Rx options will have 30 day retail supply, mail-order @100 day supply.
- PPO(CVT) effective 10/1/11 - ER co-pay increased to \$75 for each visit to the Emergency Room
- Kaiser Plans effective 10/1/2011 - \$10 Co-pay, RX option \$5/\$10, ER \$35



Changes effective October 1, 2011 based on new requirements per CVT/Kaiser PPO Central Valley Trust (CVT):

- Emergency Room (ER) Co-pay: All PPO plans: will have an increase in ER co-pay to \$75 from the current co-pay of \$35 for each visit to ER. *Members can save themselves and the plan money if they choose an urgent care or visit their physician instead of the ER.*

Suggested options instead of ER:

- Kaiser 24 hour advice nurse or to schedule same or next-day appt. 1-888-515-3500, after hours 1-888-576-6225
- PPO Plan members can call Anthem's 24/7 Nurse-line (number on back of medical card) effective 10/1/11
- CVS/Pharmacy Nurse line's toll-free number at **866-827-3992**
- High Desert Medical Urgent Care, 43839 N. 15th St. W., Lancaster, 661-945-5984, Open 24/7.
- Sierra Medical Urgent Care, 39115 Trade Center Drive, Palmdale, 661-273-9550, M-Sun 8 a.m. - 9 p.m. or, 44469 10th St. W., Lancaster, 661-945-9411, M - F 8 a.m. - 8 p.m., Sat-Sun 9 a.m. - 5 p.m.

Kaiser: Emergency Room (ER) Co-pay:

- Plan will now have an ER co-pay of \$35 increase from the current no co-pay for each visit to the ER.

NOTE: You can find the previous newsletter and additional information on benefits on the Human Resources benefits web page. Bookmark this link www.avc.edu