

HEALTH BENEFITS E-NEWS

**Department of Human Resource Management
Office of Health Benefits**

October 22, 2009

Update on H1N1 Flu Vaccine

The H1N1 flu vaccine is expected to be available for the general public in mid-November. View updated information on the home page of the DHRM Web site at www.dhrm.virginia.gov. Please download and print the flyer on preventing the spread of germs at work and post on bulletin boards, in bathrooms and in other public areas at your agency.

Eligibility of Stepchildren Clarified

There has been confusion among some employees about the eligibility of their stepchild or stepchildren for coverage under the state health plans.

To be eligible a stepchild must:

- live with the employee in a parent-child relationship,
- have the employee's home as their principal place of residence,
- be a member of the employee's household,
- be unmarried, and
- receive over one-half of their support from the employee.

Dependent stepchildren meeting eligibility requirements may be covered to the end of the year in which they turn 23. A court or support order served on the employee or spouse requiring coverage for a stepchild does not make the child eligible to be covered under the state program unless the other eligibility requirements are met.

View the Fall CommonHealth Compass and 2009 About Your Benefits Online

See the latest issue of the CommonHealth Compass on the CommonHealth Web site at www.commonhealth.virginia.gov/documents/CommonHealthCompassNewsFall2009.pdf. The Compass has changed to a quarterly publication and has expanded from two to four pages. The 2009 About Your Benefits publication may be found at www.dhrm.virginia.gov/hbenefits/ohbcommunications/aboutyourbenefitsREV.pdf.