

HEALTH BENEFITS E-NEWS

Department of Human Resource Management Office of Health Benefits

October 1, 2010

Reminder on Effective Dates for Health Reform Provisions

National health care reform legislation became effective on September 23, 2010. For state health plan members, the following two provisions will take effect during **2011**:

- **Jan. 1, 2011** - Employees who participate in Medical Flexible Reimbursement Accounts will **no longer be reimbursed for over-the-counter drug expenses**. Further information will be available later this year.
- **July 1, 2011** – **Dependents up to the age of 26** will be eligible for health coverage. During spring 2011 Open Enrollment, employees and retiree group participants will be able to add eligible natural, adopted and other children. More on this provision, and other health reform-related information, will be included in Open Enrollment materials. We will update you as details become available.

Benefits Administrator Training Scheduled

Training for Benefits Administrators will be held in Blacksburg and Richmond during October and November. An overview of each session is below. You may register on the COVA Knowledge Center at <https://covkc.virginia.gov>. Once you log on, go to the Learning Center and use the keyword "Health."

Health Benefits Administration – Part I

- A two-day course designed for agency human resource professionals, health benefit administrators and payroll employees whose job responsibilities require specific and detailed knowledge of the state's health benefits programs. Provides a review of Active State health and flexible benefits policies and procedures, along with an overview of the benefits eligibility system (BES) and the State Health Plan's HIPAA Privacy Policy.

Dates and Locations:

- October 19 & 20, 2010 -The Inn at Virginia Tech, 901 Prices Fork Rd, Blacksburg, VA 24061
- November 4 & 5, 2010 – Room 133 – DMV, 2300 West Broad Street Richmond, VA 23269

Health Benefits Administration – Part II

- A course designed for the human resource or payroll professional who is responsible for the administration of an agency's health benefits program. Focuses on the Retiree health benefits program and enrollment procedures, and provides an in-depth review of Extended Coverage.

Dates and Locations:

- October 27, 2010 - The Inn at Virginia Tech, 901 Prices Fork Rd, Blacksburg, VA 24061
- November 18, 2010 – Room 133 – DMV, 2300 West Broad Street Richmond, VA 23269

Please Note: Questions about health reform, the training sessions or registration for the sessions should be addressed to the Office of Health Benefits at (804) 225-3642, toll free at (888) 642-4414 or by e-mail at ohb@dhrm.virginia.gov.