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Policies and Benefits

ERS announces Annual Enrollment dates for Plan Year

Annual Enrollment for Plan Year 2013 will begin July 2 and end August 10. This year, enrollment takes place in phases, with all employees of the same agency having two weeks to make enrollment changes. This new phased Annual Enrollment will allow the Employees Retirement System (ERS) to provide better customer service. All employees in the same agency or institution will have the same enrollment period and the Personal Benefits Enrollment Statement you receive in the mail will indicate your two-week enrollment time. Personal Benefits Enrollment Statements will be sent out beginning in late June. ERS will also post an enrollment schedule at www.ers.state.tx.us. You should sign in only during your enrollment phase to make benefit changes for Plan Year 2013.

As always, plan members have several ways to make benefit changes, including logging into their online account at www.ers.state.tx.us, contacting their benefits coordinator, or calling ERS. ERS will host fairs and live webcasts from June 25 to July 13. Employees attending enrollment fairs will be able to compare HealthSelect and HMO benefits and

learn about such benefits as Optional Term Life Insurance, TexFlex, and TexaSaver programs. Registration is not required to attend a fair or to access recorded presentations online.

ERS will also host a series of information sessions exclusively about the new third party administrator for HealthSelect. These sessions, where HealthSelect plan members will have a chance to meet with representatives from the new third party administrator, United-Healthcare, are planned for July 16 through August 10 throughout Texas. HealthSelect information sessions will also provide information about online accounts, the new HealthSelect Nurseline and disease management programs.

During enrollment, employees can also sign up for the Texas Legal Protection Plan (TLPP), a benefit designed to help make legal services available and affordable for state employees. Founded as a nonprofit corporation by the State Bar of Texas in 1972, TLPP offers legal insurance with no deductibles and no co-payments. Participation in the plan is voluntary. ●

