TexFlex health care limit changing

The ERS TexFlex program currently allows participants to contribute up to $5,000 a year into a health and dependent care accounts. As of September 1, 2012, changes to federal law will lower the health care maximum annual contribution from $5,000 to $2,500. This change does not affect day care accounts, which will still have a maximum of $5,000 a year.

On September 1 of each year, participants are automatically re-enrolled in TexFlex accounts at their same annual contribution level unless they make a change during Annual Enrollment. This year, if a member’s Plan Year 2012 annual contribution was more than $2,500, ERS will automatically reduce the annual contribution to $2,500 for the upcoming plan year.

ERS will communicate the new health care account limits in Annual Enrollment communications.

There is no change to the administrative fee or the optional TexFlex debit card fee. The administrative fee is $12 a year for each account. The optional debit card fee is $15, even if you have both health care and day care accounts.

Employees will see a new look and new features on the TexFlex website at https://texas.payflex.com/CustomLandingPage.aspx after June 1. There are new savings and tax calculators, and a dashboard that shows everything employees need to know about their account status.

HealthSelect Important News

Third party administrator update

As part of our monthly updates to HealthSelectSM of Texas participants about the third party administrator (TPA) transition to UnitedHealthcare, ERS has updated their TPA Transition FAQ.

With the TPA change, please verify that your current primary care physician (PCP) is in the UnitedHealthcare network. You may use the provider search tool at www.healthselectoftexas.com. If your PCP is in the UnitedHealthcare network, you do not need to take action. However, if your PCP has not joined the UnitedHealthCare network by June, UnitedHealthcare will send you a letter with a toll-free number for designating a network PCP.

Microsoft no longer supports IE6
Update your web browser.

Remember that on April 28, you won’t be able to sign in to ERS OnLine if you are using Internet Explorer 6 (IE6). Microsoft no longer supports IE6. If you haven’t already, you should update to one of the following browsers:

- Internet Explorer – 7.0+
- Firefox – 10.0+
- Safari – 5.0+

To see what version of Internet Explorer you have, go to "Help" and select “About Internet Explorer.” If you have IE6, contact your IT administrator to request an update.

Blue Points℠ expire August 31

HealthSelect℠ of Texas members who have Blue Points℠ must use them by August 31, 2012. ERS and Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Texas cannot guarantee that points earned this summer will be available for redemption, due to a processing delay that may occur between the time you earn Blue Points and when they appear in your account. You cannot redeem Blue Points after August 31, 2012.

Visit www.bcbstx.com/hs/ or call BCBSTX toll-free at (800) 252-8039 for more information on how to redeem your Blue Points.

Employee Health & Fitness Month

Being active helps you stay alert and focused on tasks. How can you be more active at work?

- Take a walk at lunch. Wear a pedometer to track your steps.
- Walk and talk — have a walking meeting with a colleague.
- Take the stairs, not the elevator. It may be hard at first, but you will soon get used to it.
- Park a few blocks away or get off the bus early and walk to your office.
- Take an activity break every now and then; it will help revive you.

Employee Health & Fitness Month, sponsored by the National Association for Health and Fitness and ACTIVE Life, is an international observance of health and fitness in the workplace.

Benefits Fair 2012

The Human Resources department would like to invite you to join us for our 5th annual Benefits Fair. The Benefits Fair is a great opportunity for faculty and staff to meet with our health and
wellness providers, learn about community partnerships, explore on-campus resources to understand their offerings and learn more about the benefits available to UH employees. By attending, you will have the opportunity to enter a drawing to win one of many wonderful giveaways. Additionally, T-shirts will be given away while quantities last.

Theme: Wellness…..Benefits of a Lifestyle

Date: Wednesday, July 25, 2012

Time: 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

Location: Campus Recreation and Wellness Center

The 2012 Benefits Fair will also be host to a non-perishable food items drive. These donations will be sent to our neighboring Star of Hope.