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News Letter

OFFICE OF INFORMATIONAL SERVICES • NEWS BUREAU • MARSHALL UNIVERSITY • HUNTINGTON, WEST VIRGINIA 25701

October 25, 1972

INSURANCE MEETINGS FRIDAY

Representatives of the West Virginia Public Employees Insurance Board will be on the Marshall University Campus this Friday to explain the new group insurance plan for Marshall employees.

Joseph C. Peters, Marshall vice president for business, said meetings will be held in Old Main Auditorium from 11 a.m. to noon and from noon to 1 p.m. to outline the new insurance program and its benefits. He urged that all full-time employees of the university attend one of the meetings.

The new group insurance plan for employees of the state, the Board of Regents and county boards of education will go into effect Wednesday, Nov. 1. The program, which includes basic hospitalization, major medical, accidental death and dismemberment, and life insurance coverage, is being made available to all full-time employees of Marshall University who wish to participate.

All current group medical insurance held by Marshall employees will automatically terminate at midnight, Oct. 31. Appropriate refunds will be made by the companies affected.

All full-time employees of the university must fill out two enrollment cards called "West Virginia Public Employees Insurance Board Acceptance and Payroll Deduction Authority." These cards must be completed by employees who wish to enroll in the plan as well as those who do not wish to enroll.

The state insurance plan must be accepted or rejected in total by the individual. An employee cannot take one portion of the insurance plan while rejecting another portion of the plan.

The insurance plan can be discontinued by the employee at any time he wishes. However, the pro-rated portion of his premium will not be refunded, but applied to extended coverage until all premiums are exhausted.

Those having a medical claim before certificates are issued under the new group insurance plan may use the Blue Cross-Blue Shield group number of 2222, interplan number 441, or have the hospital contact the Marshall University Personnel Office, 696-6457, for verification of insurance.

The blue and green enrollment cards must be completed and submitted to supervisor, program director or dean prior to October 30. The information should be typed on the forms and they should be signed in ink. Do not complete the blanks for Account Number, Department, and Coverage Code.

The exact amount of life and accidental death insurance is determined by the employee's annual salary. This is covered fully in the insurance handbook to be distributed to each full-time employee.

The initial insurance coverage period is from Nov. 1, 1972, through Aug. 31, 1973. (In the future, it will be from Sept. 1 through Aug. 31 of the following year.) The premiums for the initial 10-month period will be deducted over a seven-month period. For example, an employee earning \$9,500 or more annually with family coverage will have a monthly premium of \$14.96. For this year only, the premium would be collected during seven months for 10 months coverage. This would mean a monthly premium payment of \$21.37 for the initial period.

Employees who do not enroll in the plan immediately, but who decide to do so at a later date, must satisfy all insurance companies involved--at their own expense--of proof of insurability.

Special provisions are made for instances in which both a man and wife are employed full time by the state and these are covered in the handbook.

Under the plan, the state pays 70 per cent of the cost of the premium and the employee pays 30 per cent. This will hold true for employees on sabbatical leave. However, employees on leave of absence without pay must pay the entire cost of the premium.

The insurance carrier for the medical insurance is Blue Cross-Blue Shield. The carrier for the life and the accidental death and dismemberment insurance is The Equitable Life Assurance Society of the United States.

The new program was authorized by the West Virginia Legislature and the West Virginia Public Employees Insurance Board was established to implement and administer the program.

This special edition of the Marshall University News Letter is being published in order that employees of the university may be notified of Friday's meetings on the new insurance program. The regular edition of the News Letter will appear Friday, Oct. 27, as scheduled.