



Important updates about your 2009 health benefits

1. Here's some good news: As a result of meetings with retirees and the Health Benefits Advisory Committee, **the city has revised the health benefits contribution structure for May 2009**. The increases that were in your Open Enrollment communications materials are now lower in most categories in the HMO and PPO plans. Here's what it means for you:

HMO

- Contributions for **active employees** will remain at 5.73% more than May 2008 contributions.
- Contributions for **retirees <65** will increase 15.06% above May 2008 contributions - not the 24% previously announced.
- Contributions for **retirees >65 with Medicare** will increase 6.62% above May 2008 contributions - not the 15% previously announced.

PPO

- Contributions will increase between 2 and 5.4% across all tiers as compared to May 2008.

MEDICARE ADVANTAGE PLANS

- Contributions will not change until Jan. 1, 2010.

The chart on the back of this sheet has the new contribution amounts for May 1, 2009. It replaces the chart on page 8 of the Enrollment Guide and on the back of the medical plans comparison chart.

2. RETIREES: If you want to add eligible dependents to your health or dental plans for May 1, 2009, you may do so according to current plan rules through April 30, 2009. To add eligible dependents, you must provide appropriate relationship documents to the Human Resources benefits division at 611 Walker, 4th floor by April 30, 2009. Relationship documents include a copy of a certified marriage license, birth certificate, birth fact for a newborn, or a Registration and Declaration of an Informal Marriage certificate. Attach the supporting documents to a medical or dental change form, which are in your enrollment packet. Send the forms to:

City of Houston
Human Resources - Benefits Division
P. O. Box 248
Houston, Texas 77001

If you have questions, call the benefits division at 713-837-9400 or 888-205-9266.