

# MSU Texas Human Resources



June 2020

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## Summer Enrollment June 22 to July 24

Summer Enrollment begins June 22<sup>nd</sup> and ends July 24<sup>th</sup>. The on-line keying phase for MSU Texas to make benefit changes is phase 3, July 6<sup>th</sup> through July 18<sup>th</sup>. The Employees Retirement System of Texas (ERS) is asking all agencies to observe their particular keying phase to alleviate traffic on the website during the Summer Enrollment period.

Changes can also be made in Human Resources by visiting with Liza Villadiego and completing a form beginning June 22<sup>nd</sup>. Contact Liza at ext. 4133 if you have any questions.

Any changes you make to you or your dependent's coverage goes into effect September 1, 2020. Summer Enrollment is your only chance to make benefits changes, unless you have a [qualifying life event](#).

For updates on Summer Enrollment information, please visit [ERS](#) or [Human Resources Summer Enrollment 2020 webpage](#).

ERS will mail your Summer Enrollment packet to your home beginning the week of June 22<sup>nd</sup>.

## Summer Enrollment Webinars

To help ensure the health and safety of all employees, retirees and third-party benefits administrators (TPAs) during the COVID-19 pandemic, ERS is moving its Summer Enrollment 2020 events online.

Beginning the first day of Summer Enrollment, ERS will host morning and afternoon webinars throughout the Summer Enrollment period. You can watch the webinars from the convenience of your computer or other device.

The webinar schedule will be in your Summer Enrollment guide. In addition, ERS will post it on the [Summer Enrollment webpage](#) and have details of each webinar on our [online events calendar](#). We encourage you to check the ERS Summer Enrollment webpage and the calendar regularly.



### **HealthSelect participants: Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Texas to manage mental health benefits starting September 1**

Good mental health plays a big role in your overall health. Your HealthSelect<sup>SM</sup> plan offers mental health benefits to help you stay focused and healthy. To better serve you, BCBSTX will begin managing mental health benefits for HealthSelect of Texas<sup>®</sup> and Consumer Directed HealthSelect<sup>SM</sup> on September 1, 2020.

How will this change affect me? Read more [here](#).

### **HealthSelect Wellness Benefits**

HealthSelect of Texas has numerous wellness benefits available to participants. There are courses on a variety of subjects available through [Well On Target](#). Some courses, like Quitting Tobacco, Weight Management, and Managing Stress are designed to help you improve your health. Others courses are available to help you maintain a healthy lifestyle, like Preventive Health and Sleep Health.

ERS will be hosting two separate webinars in June giving an overview of the [Real Appeal](#) program and the [Naturally Slim](#) program. You can attend these webinars at your computer! Both programs are **free** to participants.

To register for these webinars, visit the ERS events website at [ERS Events webpage](#).

### **Earn Blue Points for Being Healthy**

Earn [Blue Points](#) for participating in healthy activities. Redeem your Blue Points by logging into your [Blue Access for Members](#) account and clicking on the Well on Target link on the “Home” tab. This will give you access to the online shopping mall where many treasures await! Points can be redeemed in small increments or all at once, up to 17,325 each year. Yes, you can buy items with the points you earn for being healthy! What a deal! It’s a win/win...for you!!

### **Tobacco user status will include e-cigarettes and vaping**

Starting September 1, 2020, GBP health plan participants who use electronic cigarettes or vaping products will be considered tobacco users and must certify as such. If you or your covered dependents use these products and are currently certified as tobacco non-users, they will need to change the status to tobacco user and begin paying the tobacco user premium effective September 1.



### **Protection from surprise medical bills**

When doctors, hospitals or other health care providers join an insurance plan network, they agree to charge certain prices for services, known as the allowable amount. When a health care provider isn't part of the health plan's network, there is no set agreement on the allowable amount. A "surprise" bill happens when participants are expected to pay not just the out-of-network deductible and/or coinsurance or copay amount, but also the difference between the plan's allowable amount and what the out-of-network provider charges. Sometimes, the difference can be hundreds or even thousands of dollars. Visit the ERS webpage below to see what you can do to prevent surprise medical bills. <https://ers.texas.gov/Coordinators/Update-Express/Protection-from-surprise-medical-bills-Some-surprises-are-fun-others-are-definitely-not>

### **Is Retirement in your future?**



If you are considering retirement, it is important that you contact Judy Salazar, Assistant Director, Human Resources, **at least four to six months** prior to the expected retirement date to determine your eligibility for retirement benefits.

For TRS members, an estimate of your expected retirement annuity can be requested through your [MYTRS](#) account. TRS will mail the retirement estimate and retirement forms to your home address on file. The request is confidential and does not obligate you to complete the retirement process. Prior to retirement, TRS will require a copy of proof of age documents for you and your beneficiary.

Prospective TRS and ORP retirees should also learn about retirement entitlements such as health and life insurance options. Advanced planning will allow time to make important decisions and choose your options carefully. **Please contact Judy Salazar at ext. 4784 well in advance of your retirement date to schedule an appointment.**

### ***Do you have prior Texas Municipal Retirement Service (TMRS) with the city of Wichita Falls?***

If so this service credit may help you to reach retirement eligibility sooner. If you refunded the TMRS service credit when you left employment, you may want to consider completing the Proportionate Buyback Application form at the link below. The form should be faxed to the number on the back. This form must be received by TMRS while you are a current retirement eligible employee. TMRS will review any previous accounts and if service credit is granted, you will receive a memo of this credit. Please provide a copy of any memo received from TMRS to Human Resources for your personnel file. [Texas Municipal Retirement System](#)

### ***Children at work***



Students, faculty, and staff employees must have a safe study or work environment that is free of unnecessary distractions and interruptions. Therefore, it is the policy of the university that dependent children not be cared for in campus facilities and grounds (i.e., offices, classrooms, library, student center, physical education buildings, south campus, etc.) during normal working hours or scheduled classroom/activity hours. [\(Policy 4.123\)](#)

### ***Midwestern Club Scholarship Deadline Extended***

Applications are being accepted for the 2020-21 Midwestern Club Scholarship. The recipient must be a full-time faculty, staff or administration member at MSU or an immediate family member (husband, wife, son or daughter) of a full-time employee of MSU. The recipient must be enrolled in a minimum of 12 hours. The scholarship is for one year and is equally divided between the fall and spring semesters.

Applications are available on the Donor Services and Scholarships website: [msutexas.edu/scholarships](https://msutexas.edu/scholarships)

The deadline to apply has been extended to June 22.

### ***Staff Education Incentive and Dependent Education Assistance Deadline***

#### **Summer II – July 3, 2020**

Applications can be found on the [Human Resources forms page](#) and emailed to [Courtney.grimes@msutexas.edu](mailto:Courtney.grimes@msutexas.edu)

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