



# The Retirement Systems of Alabama

201 South Union Street, Montgomery, Alabama 36104 • 877.517.0020

STRENGTH. STABILITY. SECURITY.



Teachers' Retirement System

July 2009

## Helpful Information about PEEHIP Open Enrollment Public Education Employees' Health Insurance Plan (PEEHIP)

- Open Enrollment began on July 1, 2009, and will end with the following deadlines:
  - The deadline for submitting **paper** Open Enrollment forms is **August 31, 2009**. Any paper forms postmarked after August 31, 2009, will not be accepted.
  - The deadline for submitting **online** Open Enrollment changes is midnight of **September 10, 2009**. After September 10, 2009, online Open Enrollment changes will not be accepted and the Open Enrollment link will be closed.
  - The deadline for enrollment or re-enrolling in a **Flexible Spending Account** online or on paper is **September 30, 2009**.
  - **Effective Date of Coverage:** All open enrollment elections approved by PEEHIP will have an effective date of October 1, 2009.
- If you wish to continue your current insurance coverage and do not wish to make changes to your PEEHIP Hospital Medical or Optional Coverage Plans, you **do not** need to complete new forms. You will automatically remain in your present insurance coverage.
  - **Exception:** Members must re-enroll each year to renew the Flexible Spending Accounts, Federal Poverty Level Premium discount, or PEEHIP CHIP program because these programs do not automatically renew.
- Members enrolling in new insurance plans should receive their new ID cards no later than the last week in September.
- The new payroll deduction for changes made to your PEEHIP insurance coverage during Open Enrollment will be reflected in your September paycheck.
- All members covered by PEEHIP should review their paycheck stub each month to ensure the proper amount has been deducted for their PEEHIP premiums.
- Active members electing to enroll in the Flexible Spending Accounts will have their first Flex contribution amount deducted from their October paycheck.
- You are not required to complete the Tobacco Certification form every year unless you or your spouse has a change in tobacco usage status. You can certify changes in tobacco usage status to PEEHIP by completing the tobacco usage questions on the [HEALTH INSURANCE AND OPTIONAL STATUS CHANGE](#) form and mailing the form to PEEHIP.
- Waiting periods for pre-existing conditions will be waived for all new coverages effective October 1, 2009.
- Beginning with the upcoming 2009-2010 Open Enrollment, PEEHIP will **not** be mailing an Open Enrollment Packet to its members. Instead, active and retired members can view and/or download a

copy of the [Open Enrollment Packet](#) from our Web site at [www.rsa-al.gov](http://www.rsa-al.gov). For those members who do not have internet access and cannot download the information, you can request a packet be sent to you by contacting a customer service representative in RSA Member Services at 877-517-0020.

- **THIS YEAR, MAKE YOUR OPEN ENROLLMENT CHANGES ONLINE!** Say good-bye to paperwork as PEEHIP's [Member Online Services](#) offers a simple, convenient way to enroll and make changes to your benefits electronically. **Almost one-third of all open enrollments submitted last year were made online and we anticipate and encourage a huge increase in online enrollments this year!**
- The **online system** is fast, free, secure and accurate! The online system operates in real-time. This means that by the time you receive your Confirmation page, your open enrollment elections are already processed and in our system. Your Confirmation page confirms the date and time that your elections were saved and submitted to PEEHIP; gives a recap of your elections; displays your actual PEEHIP coverages; and provides your premium calculation so that you will know what your monthly out-of-pocket premium will be!
- **One-Page Mailer:** In June, PEEHIP mailed a one-page statement to active and retired members indicating the type of PEEHIP coverage(s) they are currently enrolled in and inform them about the Open Enrollment period.
- Please visit our Web site for all information pertaining to PEEHIP Open Enrollment including online enrollment/changes, Frequently Asked Questions, forms, newsletters, and handbooks.

***Note:** Actively employed members of 4-year universities are **not** PEEHIP eligible, except employees of Athens State University and Jacksonville State University.*

Prepared by the Communications staff of the Retirement Systems of Alabama. To have your questions answered in "Preparing for Retirement", please address them to **Michael Pegues, Communications, Retirement Systems of Alabama, P.O. Box 302150, Montgomery, Alabama 36130-2150**. Please visit our Web site at [www.rsa-al.gov](http://www.rsa-al.gov).