



Wednesday, November 28, 2001

## Benefits enrollment runs until Nov. 30

By *Jennifer Charney*, OU staff writer

OU employees have until Friday, Nov. 30, to change their benefits package for the following year. New coverage is effective Tuesday, Jan. 1.

Employees were mailed open enrollment materials that they should have received in the U.S. mail on Nov. 14. Employees should review this material to see if they want to make any changes.

This year, Selectcare is no longer a medical insurance option for OU employees, effective January 1, 2002, said Kimberly Crossley, benefits services manager, University Human Resources. Selectcare was purchased by Health Alliance Plan. Faculty members currently covered by Selectcare who don't enroll in a different plan will automatically be covered by Health Alliance Plan, effective January 1, 2002, she said.

This fall, a Health Benefits Council was formed to review proposed new rates from OU's health care providers, said Lynne Schaefer, vice president, Finance and Administration. The council includes members from each OU collective bargaining group, AP/ICs, and the Academic Council. The council began its review on Oct. 1. As a result of this work, some rate reductions have been achieved.

"The Health Benefits Council remains very concerned about our health care rates and has set an ambitious agenda for the next six months to explore ways to reduce our premium costs or the size of future increases," Schaefer said. "Employees will be hearing more from the council in the coming months."

If you have suggestions or questions that you would like to have considered by the Health Benefits Council, please send those to **Crossley**.

For more information about a particular plan, employees may contact the providers:

- **Blue Cross Blue Shield**  
(800) 637-2227
- **Health Alliance Plan**  
(800) 422-4641
- **Delta Dental Plan**  
(800) 482-8915
- **Lafayette Life Insurance**  
(800) 555-6048
- **Great Lakes Strategies**  
(800) 858-4231

For more information about open enrollment, employees may contact the Benefits Services Office, 142 North Foundation Hall, at (248) 370-3483.

### SUMMARY

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