

Benefits Bulletin

Human Resource Services

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Early Open Enrollment This Fall Do Your FSA Homework Now

Benefits open enrollment will be early this year. The annual event will run from October 6 - 20. The earlier than usual enrollment period is needed to accommodate work on the OnePurdue computer system project that is underway.

How Much Should You Put in Next Year's Health Care FSA?

Plan now so that you can have the information you need to make decisions about how much money to put in your 2007 health care flexible spending account (FSA).

Do you need an evaluation to determine if you're a candidate for that laser eye



surgery you've been considering? Do you need to get your son or daughter to the orthodontist to find out how much braces will cost you? Then now is the time to get busy!

Out of Sync with Your Spouse's Open Enrollment?

This year's earlier enrollment period may mean that you need to turn in your Purdue benefits enrollment before you know what will be offered through your spouse's employer.

Here's the solution: Choose your best Purdue option, based on what you know during the open enrollment period. If you want to change your Purdue coverage after you see what's available through your spouse's enrollment, turn in a change in family status form to alter your selections. You have 31 days from the end of your spouse's open enrollment period to submit your form to Staff Benefits.

VSP Now Uses PUID

To help protect your privacy and guard against identity theft, Vision Service Plan is now using your Purdue University ID (PUID) as your member ID number.

Be ready to provide your PUID to your VSP provider when you go for service. (Local VSP providers in the West Lafayette campus area have been notified of this change.)

When using services on the VSP Web site, follow the link provided in the Sign On box for people who have member ID numbers different from their

Social Security numbers. Or, go directly to the proper sign in page at this address:

https://www.vsp.com/member/htmls/logon_with_expanded_id.jsp

When entering your PUID on the VSP Web site, do not include the dash or hyphen between the first five and last five digits of your PUID. If your PUID has more than 10 digits, enter only the first 10.

For assistance, contact Staff Benefits at 49-42222 or staffbenefits@purdue.edu.

Call 49-42222 Year-Round

Now you can make 49-42222 your first call for Staff Benefits customer service year-round, not just during open enrollment. This number will connect you with a bank of trained and helpful Staff Benefits employees who are ready to take your call.

This new arrangement has allowed us to put the Staff Benefits phone tree to rest. And, more good news, you won't end up with someone's voice mail when calling 49-42222.

PERF Offers Pre-Retirement Workshops at Locations Around Indiana

The Public Employees' Retirement Fund (PERF) is now offering pre-retirement workshops for any participants who are within 6 to 18 months of retirement.

To reduce your travel time, the workshops are being offered at various locations around the state. (See the list at right.) If you're nearing retirement and haven't already attended a PERF pre-retirement session on campus, try to make it to one of the regional workshops before meeting with a Staff Benefits counselor. To register, contact the PERF call center at (888) 526-1687.

At a workshop, you'll receive a personalized benefit estimate, step-by-step guidance on completing your retirement

application, and information on working after retirement. The sessions will also cover your retirement options and offer a question-and-answer opportunity.

PERF advises that the best time to attend a pre-retirement workshop is between six and twelve months before your anticipated retirement date, but you can attend up to 18 months before your planned retirement.

Keep in mind that you must submit your retirement application to PERF at least six months before your last day of work to ensure the shortest possible gap between your last Purdue pay and your first PERF benefit payment. Please see the chart below for information about when you need to submit your application.

If you are within six months of retiring and have not yet submitted your application, contact the PERF call center immediately at (888) 526-1687.

<u>Date:</u>	<u>Location:</u>
September 7, 2006	Seymour
September 12, 2006	Evansville
September 14, 2006	Anderson
September 21, 2006	Peru
October 4, 2006	Mishawaka
October 19, 2006	Westville
November 2, 2006	Gary
November 15, 2006	Sellersburg
November 20, 2006	Merrillville
December 5, 2006	Goshen
December 7, 2006	Crawfordsville
December 13, 2006	Evansville
December 14, 2006	Terre Haute

Careful Planning Avoids Gap When Receiving First Retirement Check

To avoid a gap between your last Purdue paycheck and your first retirement benefit check, Public Employees' Retirement Fund (PERF) participants must submit their retirement application to PERF at least six months before their retirement date.

As a reminder, circle the date below when you plan to retire, along with the deadline for submitting your retirement application to PERF.

<u>If your retirement date is ...</u>	<u>Your retirement application deadline is ...</u>
March 1, 2007	September 1, 2006
April 1, 2007	October 1, 2006
May 1, 2007	November 1, 2006
June 1, 2007	December 1, 2006
July 1, 2007	January 1, 2007
August 1, 2007	February 1, 2007
September 1, 2007	March 1, 2007
October 1, 2007	April 1, 2007
November 1, 2007	May 1, 2007
December 1, 2007	June 1, 2007

Use PERF Interactive to manage your PERF business over the Web.

www.perf.in.gov

Change your address, your beneficiaries, your investment options, and more!

Reminder to Incentive PPO and Purdue 500 Participants

Wausau Benefits is now

FISERV Health