



United States
Office of Personnel Management
Retirement and Insurance Service

Benefits Administration Letter

Number: 98-402

Date: January 14, 1998

Subject: 1997 Federal Employees Health Benefits (FEHB) Program Open Season: Special Belated Open Season Change Opportunity for Certain Enrollees of United HealthCare of Louisiana

United HealthCare of Louisiana (formerly Community Health Network of Louisiana), enrollment code S6, which served the New Orleans area in 1997, is not being offered through the FEHB Program in 1998. Individuals enrolled in Code S6 who did not select a new plan during the 1997 open season do not have health insurance coverage for 1998.

Information about the termination of enrollment code S6 and the need for employees enrolled in that code to choose a new plan for 1998 was brought to the attention of agency headquarters insurance officers in Benefits Administration Letter 97-403. In addition, a notice about it was placed on the front cover of the Plan's 1998 brochure. Unfortunately, it appears that a number of employees were not aware of the need to change plans.

Since some enrollees may not have understood the full impact of the termination of enrollment code S6, we are authorizing a special belated open season change opportunity to allow them to elect new coverage for 1998. Healthcare of Louisiana will send a letter on its stationery to S6 enrollees that failed to elect a new plan during open season advising them that they have 30 days from the date of the letter to do so. The letter also advises enrollees that a change in plans will be retroactive to the first pay period beginning in 1998, and that they must bring a copy of the letter to their personnel office.

We will appreciate your cooperation in this matter.

Abby L. Block, Chief
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