



***Retirement and Insurance Service  
Benefits Administration Letter***

Number: 01-218

Date: September 25, 2001

**Subject: Federal Employees Health Benefits (FEHB) Program: Opportunity for  
Certain Enrollees of Aetna US Healthcare Inc., Enrollment Codes 7J and  
RD to Change Enrollment**

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Effective October 31, 2001, Aetna U. S. Healthcare will not renew certain provider contracts in the Columbus, Ohio area causing a significant reduction to the participating provider network. Some providers will not be available to federal members after October 1, 2001.

We are authorizing an opportunity for certain Aetna (enrollment codes 7J, RD) enrollees to change their enrollment to another participating plan. Only enrollees who live, work, or receive care in the following counties are eligible to change: Coshocton, Madison, Ross or Logan.

The opportunity to change enrollment will begin immediately and continue through October 31, 2001. The effective date of all enrollment changes will be the first day of the pay period following the one in which an enrollee makes the change, but no later than October 31, 2001. **Enrollees who do not change plans must travel to the Plan's remaining service area to obtain benefits under the FEHB Program for the remainder of contract year 2001.**

The Plan will send a letter to enrollees notifying them of this opportunity to change enrollment.

Thank you for your cooperation in this matter.

Abby L. Block,  
Assistant Director  
for Insurance Programs

Attachment



United States  
**Office of  
Personnel Management**

Washington, D.C. 20415

Reply Refer To:

Your Reference:

Date: August 21, 2001

**TO FEDERAL ENROLLEES OF AETNA U.S. HEALTHCARE, INC. WHO LIVE OR WORK OR RECEIVE CARE IN ONE OF THE FOLLOWING OHIO COUNTIES: COSHOCTON, MADISON, ROSS AND LOGAN**

The Office of Personnel Management asked Aetna U.S. Healthcare, Inc. to mail this important notice to you.

Aetna U. S. Healthcare has been unsuccessful in renewing certain provider contracts in the Columbus, Ohio area causing a significant reduction to the participating provider network. We are authorizing an opportunity for enrollees in codes 7J or RD who live or work or receive healthcare services in Coshocton, Madison, Ross or Logan counties to choose another health plan under the Federal Employees Health Benefits (FEHB) Program. **You must change your enrollment to another participating health plan to receive benefits. If you do not change, you must travel to the remaining service area to obtain Aetna benefits under the FEHB Program for the remainder of contract year 2001.**

A special open enrollment period is effective immediately and continues through October 31, 2001. Please contact your personnel office to obtain a 2001 Guide to Federal Employees Health Benefits Plans. You may request brochures directly from the health plans at the phone numbers appearing in the Guide. You may also visit our 2001 FEHB web site ([www.opm.gov/insure](http://www.opm.gov/insure)) to view a plan's brochure or the FEHB Guide to help you choose a health plan and learn about your transitional care rights.

**IF YOU ARE AN EMPLOYEE**

Please take a copy of this letter to your personnel office and complete a new Health Benefits Registration Form (SF 2809). The effective date of all enrollment changes will be the first day of the pay period following the one in which you make the change, but no later than October 31, 2001.

**IF YOU ARE AN ANNUITANT**

Annuitants under the Civil Service Retirement System (CSRS) or Federal Employees Retirement System (FERS), should call **toll free at 1-888-767-6738** between **Monday through Friday from 7:30 am – 7:30 pm E.S.T** to make their enrollment changes. Please have your CSRS or FERS annuity claim number and your social security number when calling our toll-free number. If you do not make a new election, you may remain in your plan through contract year 2001; however, **you must travel to the remaining service area to obtain Aetna benefits under the FEHB Program for the remainder of contract year 2001.** If you are an annuitant of another Federal retirement system, you must contact that system for assistance.

We apologize for the inconvenience, and thank you for your cooperation, in this matter.

U.S. Office of Personnel Management  
Office of Insurance Program