

UAW Benefits Information November 2009

VEBA

There will be no immediate changes in the levels of benefits when the Health Care VEBA takes over payment and administration of retiree benefits effective January 1, 2010. You will, however, start to receive new ID cards by the first part of December. These should be used starting Jan. 1, 2010.

Counseling Benefits

In the stressful circumstances of today, remember that professional guidance is available to active and retired members and their families. If you are considering seeing any type of mental health provider (counselor, psychologist, psychiatrist, social worker, etc.), the first step is to find out about your insurance coverage. We still have an excellent mental health and substance abuse benefit that makes many services free to us. However, services will only be covered if the rules of the insurance plan are followed, and if the provider is selected from the insurance company's panel. Your EAP Rep, Angie VanArnam, can help you understand how this works and make a personalized referral to meet your family's needs while staying within the plan's rules. Please call her at 616-246-3151 before you seek services.

Dental

The deadline has been extended to 12-1-09 for retirees to purchase their own dental insurance coverage from Delta Dental. More details can be found at www.mysmilecoverage.com or by calling 888-607-7001.

There are also dental clinics in every county offering low-cost services. Retirees can call the Michigan Dental Association at 800-589-2632 for a list.

Prescription Changes

As of July 2009, coverage for Proton Pump Inhibitor drugs (Nexium, Achiphex, Prilosec, Prevacid, Protonix, etc.) was eliminated. The only way to get an exception is if you have Barrett's Esophagitis or Zollinger-Ellison Syndrome. Calling around to your local pharmacies can help you find the best price for these non-covered medications or their generic versions.

Legal Services

Retirees and active members still have legal services available to them through UAW-GM Legal Services Plan, accessible at www.uawlsp.com or 616-531-7722.

Benefits Office

Please email lauri.veneman@gm.com or angie.vanarnam@gm.com or call 616-246-3450 or 800-730-8292 and leave a brief message. The office is closed Fridays. If you feel you need an appointment, please call ahead.