



Natural Resources Conservation Service
675 U.S. Courthouse
801 Broadway
Nashville, Tennessee 37203

November 17, 2003

TENNESSEE BULLETIN NO. 360-04-03

SUBJECT: PER - Federal Employees Health Benefits Program

Purpose: To inform employees about FEHB Open Season.

Expiration Date: December 8, 2003.

The open season for **Federal Health Benefits Program (FEHB)** is November 10, 2003 through December 8, 2003.

Employees interested in changing plans can find all the information and forms they need by going to the FEHB web site <http://www.opm.gov/insure/health>. Employees currently enrolled in FEHB will be receiving 2004 information about their current insurance plan from the provider. ***All forms requesting FEHB enrollment or a change to existing enrollment must be received in the State Office Human Resources Section no later than December 8, 2003.***

You can go to the following web site to obtain 2004 FEHB Non-Postal Premium Rates for Tennessee HMO Plans and Fee for Service Plans (e.g. Blue Cross):
<http://www.opm.gov/insure/health/04rates/toc-np.asp>

Supervisors have the responsibility to inform any employee in a leave (sick, annual or LWOP) status of this open season and its deadline.

DID YOU KNOW:

You will be eligible to continue your health insurance coverage into retirement if you:

- Retire on an immediate annuity, and
- Are covered by FEHB Program on the date of retirement, and
- Have been continuously covered for the five years immediately preceding retirement.

Only if you have left a survivor annuity for your spouse will he or she be able to continue the FEHB Program at the time of your death.

If, after checking out the information available on the web sites referenced above, you have questions on any of this feel free to contact a member of the Human Resources Staff (Charlotte Epps at 615/277-2542).

/s/ SUSAN M. HOPKINS
State Administrative Officer

The Natural Resources Conservation Service provides leadership in a partnership effort to help people conserve, maintain, and improve our natural resources and environment.

