



Butte County Management Employees Association

Terry Edwards, President
PO Box 5773 Oroville, CA. 95966
Phone (530) 891-2757

August 17, 2018

Dear BCMEA Members,

The Benefits Committee has been working with the County's health care consultant, Burnham Insurance Services, to vet out market conditions in the vision, dental, and medical health care markets.

With regard to the vision aspect of our health benefits, there appears to be little change on the horizon.

With regard to the current dental plan, we received feedback earlier this year of anticipated increases in dental premiums due to the higher claims received from Butte County employees. Last month the dental plan provider advised the County that the 2019 premiums were to rise approximately 10%. After consultation and negotiation with the provider, the increase was reduced to approximately 8%. **2019 dental premiums will be increasing approximately 8% or between \$2.76 and \$9.72 per month, depending on your plan and family size.**

Regarding PERS health insurance rates, the following changes in rates are expected:

- Blue Shield Access (Family) – 9.2% Increase
- PERS Choice (Family) – 6.5% increase
- **PERS Select (Family) – 26% decrease**
- PERSCare (Family) – 25% Increase

These family plans listed show the trend among the different health care plans. For more details, including Employee Only, Employee +1 dependent, and Employee + 2 or more please see the CALPERS website at:

<https://www.calpers.ca.gov/docs/2019-health-rates-other-northern.pdf>

Please be aware that although the PERS Select is showing a significant decrease, the plan itself is also changing. Deductibles may be increasing and the facilities and/or doctors with whom you normally receive your care from may or may not be covered under the 2019 plans. Increasing deductibles may be offset by volunteering to perform tasks like "getting a flu shot", biometric screening, signing a "non-smoking" affidavit, and others. The detail of these plans will be available on the CALPERS website on or around August 27, 2018.



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Please verify that your provider is still covered under your choice for your personal plan provider. Educate yourself on what is provided within the plan you choose for you and your family.

As we look at alternative health care providers in the future, 2020 and beyond, we encourage feedback from our members as to how you would like to see these plans packaged and what your needs are from your health care provider. Please keep in mind that health insurance providers will not offer us a large quantity of different packages to choose from, rather they will allow us to customize 3 or 4 plans that would meet what the majority of the Butte County employee's need.

Sincerely,

Terry Edwards
BCMEA President