

Upcoming Changes for Federal Employees Health Benefits (FEHB) Program Open Season

This notice is to introduce a new enrollment type and plan comparison tools that will be available during the upcoming annual Federal Benefits Open Season, November 9 through December 14, 2015. All states are now required to allow same-sex couples to marry. Beginning with plan-year 2016 and beyond, same-sex couples must be married in order to cover, or continue to cover, stepchildren under their FEHB enrollment.



A New Enrollment Type for the 2016 Plan Year

Self Plus One is a new enrollment type in the FEHB Program that allows enrollees to cover themselves and one eligible family member they designate to be covered. The first opportunity to enroll in Self Plus One will be during the upcoming Open Season. Family member eligibility for a Self Plus One enrollment is the same as for a Self and Family enrollment:

- A family member eligible to be covered under a Self Plus One enrollment includes either a spouse or a child under age 26.
- A child age 26 or over who is deemed incapable of self-support because of a mental or physical disability that existed before age 26 is also an eligible family member.

For additional information, you may refer to the [Office of Personnel Management \(OPM\) Special Initiatives Self Plus One](#) page. You may also locate this page at: <https://www.opm.gov/healthcare-insurance/special-initiatives/self-plus-one/>.

Tools for Choosing an Insurance Plan

To assist you in making an informed decision when selecting benefit options for you and your family, you may access the following two tools:

- The online [OPM Healthcare Plan Information](#) tool. You may access it during Open Season at: <https://www.opm.gov/healthcare-insurance/healthcare/plan-information/compare-plans/>.
- The online [Consumers' Checkbook: Guide to Health Plans for Federal Employee & Annuitants](#) tool. You may access it during Open Season at <https://www.checkbook.org/newhig2/hig.cfm>.

Please note that the PlanSmartChoice™ tool will not be available for this year's Open Season.

Open Season Information

Additional information regarding Open Season will be distributed to all NASA employees prior to November 9, 2015 via Agency-wide employee notices and the Human Resources Messaging System (HRMES).

For questions concerning this notice, contact:

NSSC Customer Contact Center

1-877-677-2123 (1-877-NSSC123) or nssc-contactcenter@nasa.gov

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