

REACTA HOT TOPICS

2/16/24

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One-Time Affidavit Due March 1, 2024

The March 1st deadline to return the one-time affidavit to continue to receive quarterly Medicare Premium B reimbursement is fast approaching. It is critically important that you complete this task for you and your qualified dependent if applicable. The affidavit information is posted on www.REACTA.org and REACTA's Facebook Page. It is also important that you reach out and personally contact retirees that you know who may need a nudge. I have been doing that over the past few weeks and am glad I did. In addition to having great conversations with former colleagues, I learned that forwarding addresses are often not reported to the Trusts. If you have recently moved and have not notified the Trusts, you will not receive important information and communications. Their contact information is:

CTA Employee's Health Trust Administrators: Zenith American Solutions
CTA number Toll Free: 888-243-2325

Pension/Retirement
BeneSys Administrators
833-265-2277

Are You a New Medicare Recipient?

If you or your eligible dependent is a new Medicare recipient, have received your Medicare card, and eligible to receive the amount of the standard monthly premium for Medicare B coverage, you can also begin receiving the quarterly Part B Premium reimbursement from the Trust. According to the policy, within 12 months of enrolling in Medicare Part B you must provide a copy of your Medicare Card issued by Social Security to Zenith. You also must sign a one-time affidavit and complete a Medicare Part B Reimbursement Direct Deposit Authorization. You can find these forms at www.REACTA.org.

Life Insurance Premiums

For those who continued with your Life Insurance Policy with CTA when you retired and have been paying \$54.00 per quarter, there has been confusion regarding the recent quarterly bill you received from Zenith. The new quarterly rate negotiated by CTA has been reduced to \$45.90 beginning this current quarter. If you received a billing invoice that reflects a credit of \$8.10, that is **INCORRECT**. Everyone should be paying **\$45.90** this quarter. Zenith will be sending out a corrected statement to those affected. If you have already made a payment, it should be reconciled in your next quarterly statement. If you have not made a payment yet, the amount owed is **\$45.90**. Even though the due date is February 23, 2024, keep in mind that CTA is the administrator for this policy, and we have been assured that no one would be cancelled for non-payment without CTA making every effort to contact you first (be sure to provide your current contact information). If you paid \$54.00 this quarter before you learned of the reduction in the rate, it should also be reconciled on your next statement. I know this has been another thorn in our side with Zenith and I appreciate CTA helping to resolve the issue with us.

Election Date March 5, 2024

The 2024 elections are upon us and Californians will be voting in the primary March 5, 2024, and again on November 5, 2024. There is a lot at stake in this election and we need every REACTA member engaged in the process. On the March primary ballot CTA is urging a YES vote on Proposition 1 "The Mental Health Service Act." This \$6.35 billion bond will build badly needed Behavioral Health Centers for Californians with the deepest mental health needs.

The ballot will also include several federal races including President, U.S. Senator, and Congressional seats across the state. We urge you to do your homework and vote for pro-labor candidates who will protect pensions and access to high quality healthcare. If you would like to know who CTA is recommending on races in your area, you can contact Arleigh Kidd at (805)428-3564 or arleighk@prodigy.net or Gene Huguenin at 916/716-4469 or aehuguenin@aol.com.

Scholarship Applications are Due April 1, 2024

Copies of the application may be obtained on the REACTA website at www.REACTA.org or upon request from the REACTA Scholarship Committee at REACTAscholarships@gmail.com. The applicant must be a child, grandchild, great-grandchild, niece, or nephew of an active REACTA member. If you have questions about the application, please contact REACTA Scholarship Chair, Anita Benitas, Gardella, at (916)202-5903. REACTA is awarding one or more scholarships up to the total amount of \$3400.00, as determined by the Scholarship Committee, to students currently attending or registered to attend an accredited degree granting institution or college.