

P3A BULLETIN

SDE • BESB • BRS • DDS

March 8, 2010

New Contract Books

I was notified this week that contract books incorporating provisions ratified by the membership in May 2009 are expected to be mailed to members this month. The pay schedules printed as part of the contract do NOT include the retiree health care contribution for new hires after July 1, 2009 or the retiree health care contribution going into effect on July 1, 2010 (see below).

Contract Provisions Update

Our current contract spans the three-year period beginning July 1, 2009 through June 30, 2012. Provisions implemented for the first fiscal year of the contract, July 1, 2009 to June 30, 2010, include: pay reduction for furlough days, no general wage increase, and no annual increments (i.e. "AI"/"step increase"). The \$500,000 pool for merit pay and \$40,000 pool for tuition reimbursement have been retained for all three years of the contract.

UPCOMING PROVISIONS:

Contract Provision	Amount	When
Merit pay	\$500,000 pool	June 18, 2010 check
Unit coordinator stipend	\$1,500 (full-year appointment)	June 18, 2010 check
General wage increase	2.5%	Effective July 1, 2010
Revised furlough adjustment	Recalculation based upon wage increase	Effective July 1, 2010; furlough day pay reductions continue to be spread over pay periods through June 2, 2011
Retiree health care contributions for employees with fewer than 5 years of service on July 1, 2010	3.0%	Effective July 1, 2010; continues until employee reaches 10 years of service
Next furlough day		July 2, 2010 (Friday)

SEBAC Update

The P3A bargaining unit has been represented by SEIU-CSEA Local 2001 leadership in discussions with the state regarding ideas for cost savings. The meetings are *not* contract negotiation sessions. Press releases and news articles are posted at: <http://inthistogetherct.org/category/campaign-news/>. The next meeting is scheduled for March 17, 2010.

Member Meetings

Member meetings to take place in March have been scheduled as follows:
Hartford Tuesday, March 30, 2010 12 - 1 SOB, Room 307A
Middletown Wednesday, March 31, 2010 12 - 1 Fishbowl

McCusker Fundraiser

The McCusker Scholarship Fund is sponsoring another fundraiser for this year's scholarships. Frozen butter braid pastries can be ordered through March 12 for delivery on April 1st. Please contact Michelle Dixon, McCusker Trustee, in Room 258 (michelle.dixon@ct.gov) to order.

Picnic

Planning has begun for this year's picnic which is being coordinated by Agnes Quinones. Sign-ups for volunteers to help with planning, food and activities will be circulated at the member meetings. Volunteers can also email Agnes directly (agnes.quinones@ct.gov).

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SDE Seniority List

A number of members have forwarded inquiries regarding their status or service time reflected on the seniority list to HR. HR has notified me that they are in the midst of working on two other bargaining unit seniority lists and will research P3A member inquiries later this month.

Tuition

The \$40,000 pool available for tuition reimbursements this fiscal year have been exhausted. Consistent with the last few years, members who have signed up for spring 2010 courses will not be reimbursed.

Prescriptions - Coverage Exception Request

A copy of the CVS Caremark "Coverage Exception Request" form has been included at the end of this Bulletin. This form is to be completed by the prescribing doctor in those cases where you are requesting that your doctor prescribe a specific drug which neither the generic drug nor Caremark's preferred brand name. A link to the form has also been set up at the Comptroller's website: <http://www.osc.state.ct.us/empret/indxhlth.htm>.

Paige Farnham
P3A President



Coverage Exception Request

NOTE: This form must be completed by the prescribing physician. Because of the protected health information (PHI) contained, this form will be used only for purposes related to provision of treatment, payment and health care operations (TPO). This form and its contents are permissible under HIPAA. HIPAA does not restrict the communication of PHI to providers for TPO-related purposes.

Patient Information	Prescriber Information
Patient Name:	Prescriber Name:
Date of Birth:	Prescriber Phone Number:
Plan Participant ID Number:	Prescriber Fax Number:

Exceptions may be allowed if considered medically necessary and meet one of the following circumstances:

1. There is a medical contraindication to the use of formulary/generic medications
2. The member would likely experience significant adverse effects from the used of formulary/generic medications.
3. The use of formulary/generic medications represents an unacceptable clinical risk to the member.
4. There are no formulary alternative medications available.

A. Medication and Dose requested: _____

B. Diagnosis: _____ ICD-9 Code: _____

C. State the clinical rationale for the brand penalty or tiering exception request (see above criteria):

D. Additional information pertinent to the patient's condition and request: _____

As the prescriber, I certify that the information provided is accurate and complete.

Prescriber Signature _____ Date _____

**Fax completed form to
1-866-309-2734**