

FONDON RITIRAO NEWSLETTER December 2009 · Volume 10 · Issue 30



May peace and joy be with you, today and always.



MEDICARE REIMBURSEMENT

Participation in GovGuam Insurance Not Required

In accordance with Public Law 30-55, Government of Guam retirees who are domiciled in Guam are eligible to receive a reimbursement of their Medicare Part B premiums. Retirees are not required to participate in the Government of Guam Group Health Insurance Program in order to receive the reimbursement.

Current Participants

Current participants are reminded to submit updated documentation reflecting new premium amounts or payments that have not been reimbursed.

New Participants

New participants must submit 1) a completed Medicare Reimbursement Application, which is available in our office or on our website at www.ggrf.com, and 2) proof of premium payments.

Participants are eligible for reimbursements during the fiscal year for which they have applied, and thereafter.

Appropriations

Appropriations are remitted from the General Fund to the Retirement Fund on a monthly basis. Reimbursements are contingent on the availability of appropriated funds and are processed in the order in which complete documentation is received. As such, participants are highly encouraged to promptly submit their proof of payment.

September 2009 Premiums

Due to the lack of funds appropriated, reimbursements for September 2009 Medicare premiums were not processed. Payment of those premiums and continuation of the Medicare reimbursement program is dependent on legislative appropriation.

REQUIRED DOCUMENTS

Retirees With Automatic Deduction

For retirees whose Medicare premiums are automatically deducted from their social security benefits, Form SSA-1099 will reflect premium amounts for 2009. The "Your New Benefit Amount" statement which you receive at the end of the year will show your premium amount beginning January 2010. You also have the option of obtaining a certification by calling 1-800-772-1213 or from the social security website at www.socialsecurity.gov. According to the website, you can expect a benefit statement in the mail within ten days.

On the social security website:

- Point and click on "Request a Proof of Income Letter".
- Request to receive "All Benefit Information Available".

Retirees Who Self-Pay

For retirees who self-pay their premiums, the following are acceptable forms of proof of payment:

1) Form CMS-500, Notice of Medicare Premium Payment Due, which reflects your payment for the previous bill, 2) cancelled check, or 3)checking or credit card statement.

















457 DEFERRED COMPENSATION



It's never too early to start saving for retirement. If you are interested in saving and investing *additional* money for retirement, the Government of Guam 457 Deferred

Compensation Plan (457 Plan) is an excellent tool. Any member currently contributing to the Defined Benefit Plan or Defined Contribution Retirement System may voluntarily contribute to the 457 Plan.

The 457 Plan is a voluntary plan that allows you to supplement other retirement benefits or savings you may have. Contributions are taken out of your paycheck before taxes are calculated, and divided among the investment options you select. Your contributions and any earnings on contributions are tax deferred until money is withdrawn.

Defined Contribution & 457 Plan Online Statements

Defined Contribution and 457 Plan members can access, view, and print their statements online.

- Log on to www.gwrs.com
- Enter your username and PIN
- Click on the Online File Cabinet
- Review the Online File Cabinet Agreement
- Check the electronic delivery option box
- Provide your email address and click on submit

You will receive an email notification when your statement is ready, and you can link directly from the email to GWRS' secure web site.

For more information about the 457 Plan or Online Statements, call the Great-West Retirement Services at (671) 475-8945, or visit their office located on the second floor of the Retirement Fund building at 424 Route 8, Maite, Guam 96910.



Keep Your Information Current

All DB and DC Plan Members - active, inactive, retirees, and survivors - are highly encouraged to keep the following information current: mailing address, contact numbers, marital status, and dependent information.

To ensure death benefits are paid to the beneficiary you choose, members are also encouraged to update their <u>Designation of Beneficiary form</u>. Visit our office or write to us at:

424 Route 8 Maite, Guam 96910



For Forms and the Latest
Information
Visit our website at www.ggrf.com

DC Plan Orientation



Newly hired, or returning Government of Guam employees, mandated to participate in the Defined Contribution Plan (the "Plan"), have the opportunity to better understand the Plan by attending a mandatory 1-day orientation. The monthly event provides information on investment options and tips on managing individual member accounts. Orientations are scheduled from 9:00 am to 12:00 noon, on the second floor of the Retirement Fund building in Maite.

Register to attend by calling Great West Retirement Services at 475-8945/8957. Work-site group orientations may be arranged with Great West through your department/agency head or human resources personnel.

For more information regarding the Defined Contribution Plan, contact Great West *or* the Retirement Fund's Members Services Division at 475-8902/8925.