QUESTIONS RAISED ABOUT INSURANCE BENEFITS
ARE YEARLY REVIEWS OF INSURANCE CONTRACTS REQUIRED?

• No, current Regents and University policies do not require contracts have a one year term limit. The length of the contract is set during the negotiation process.
ISN’T OU/OUHSC REQUIRED TO HAVE THE SAME INSURANCE AS OTHER STATE AGENCIES

• No, OU is carved out under state statute for the Board or Regents to make operational decisions, like insurance, separate from those chosen by the state. This allows the Board of Regents to choose programs that best fit the needs of our Campus staff and faculty employees.
Isn’t the Health Insurance Other State Employees Receive Better?

- There are various plans that are offered to state employees and state agency employees. It is not accurate to stay there is a single set of plans offered.

- It does appear on the surface that some of those plans to have a lower monthly premium but the out of pocket requirements and smaller in-network sizes appear to make the situational cost rise and do not have the same benefits we have in those areas.
WHAT ABOUT THE POSTCARD WE RECEIVED FROM BCBS AND THE EMAIL WE RECEIVED FROM HR ABOUT CHANGES?

- BCBS was notifying employee’s (as BCBS customers) that OUMI is currently negotiating with our third party payor BCBS.
- Since those negotiations may impact OUMI’s BCBS network status our HR notified us to provide additional clarification.
- However, the negotiations are actually between BCBS and OUMI and will not modify our health plan through the University. It is similar to any doctor determining if they are going to be part of Blue Cross/Blue Shield’s network.
As a State Agency, the University of Oklahoma is subject to the Open Records Act. This law is set out in Title 51, Section 24 of the Oklahoma State Statutes.

The Open Records Act has various exceptions that either prohibit or allow particular records to remain confidential. Lots of available information on the OU and OUHSC websites. OU does have an office that manages these requests.

Have questions – contact them openrecords@ou.edu
HOW CAN I LEARN MORE ABOUT EMPLOYEE BENEFITS?

• Talk to your HR representative
• Contact University HR and make an appointment with an employee benefits specialist or send them an email.

WHAT IS STAFF SENATE’S ROLE WITH BENEFITS

• We have a seat at the table. We have 2 staff senate members who serve on the Employee Benefits Committee.
HOW TO REACH THE STAFF SENATE ABOUT QUESTIONS OR IF YOU BELIEVE AN ISSUE NEEDS TO BE ADDRESSED BY THE STAFF SENATE

• You can email:
  - staff-senate@ouhsc.edu
  - any member of the Staff Senate executive committee
  - or the Staff Senate Senator(s) assigned to your group. The senate make up can be found at https://www.ouhsc.edu/staffsenate/About/Current-Members
DON'T FORGET TO FOLLOW US ON SOCIAL MEDIA!

OUHSC - Staff Senate @OUHSCS @ouhscstaffsenate

OUHSC - Staff Senate @OUHSCS @ouhscstaffsenate
STAFF SENATE OPPORTUNITY

• Are you interested in or have experience with marketing, communications, social media or graphic design?
• Send Marty or Joe an email to be part of an upcoming Staff Senate special project
STAFF SENATE OPPORTUNITY

Are you interested in or have experience with marketing, communications, social media or graphic design?

Send Marty or Joe an email to be part of an upcoming Staff Senate special project.
WE ARE LOOKING FOR GOOD RECRUITS!
ANYONE INTERESTED IN SERVING AS A COMMITTEE CHAIR OR POSSIBLE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE POSITION FOR THE FUTURE, PLEASE CONTACT KELLI AND CAROL
Per Staff Senate Operating Procedures:

Three (3) absences from scheduled HSC Staff Senate meetings may be cause for dismissal
UPCOMING CAMPUS EVENTS
UPCOMING HEALTHY SOONERS EVENTS

• On-campus employee health screenings are available this month. Email CHWBiometricScreening@ouhsc.edu your preferred date and time. Healthy Sooners emails will go out throughout the month promoting these. Screenings are available at no out-of-pocket expense to all OUHSC employees with a 0.5 FTE or greater.
  - Schedule available on the Healthy Sooner site: https://hr.ou.edu/Wellness/Healthy-Sooners/On-Campus-Fitness#67801360-appointments

• OUHSC employees on an OUHSC Blue Cross Blue Shield medical plan can save $25 when they enroll in the Fitness Program in February and use the coupon code HSCFEB19.

• A few seats are left for the Mental Health First Aid workshop scheduled for Friday, Feb. 22nd from 8-5 PM. CEUs are available for many licensed credentials. Please register and get more details on the OU Training Calendar or email Healthy-Sooners@ouhsc.edu.
• **Monday, February 18th** in the Bird Library Faculty Atrium from 12:00-1:00pm where Dr. Pamela Allen an OUHSC Associate Professor in Dermatology has been invited to speak at our “Cookies, Culture, and Conversation” event. Dr. Allen will be speaking on a topic related to her expertise and experience in the treatment of skin, hair, and nails. In particular, Dr. Allen will be discussing African American hair history and culture. Refreshments Provided.
• **Thursday, February 28**th in the Bird Library Faculty Atrium from 12:00-1:00pm, Dr. Deidra Terrell an OUHSC Associate Professor in Biostatistics and Epidemiology has been invited to speak at our “Bites of Knowledge” event. Dr. Terrell will be speaking on a topic related to her expertise and experience in the field of health disparities and the relation to the African American community. Refreshments Provided.

• For questions or inquiries, please contact Carrie McClain Carrie-S-McClain@ouhsc.edu or Natasha Mickel Natasha-Mickel@ouhsc.edu
BHS LIBRARY CELEBRATES AMERICAN HEART MONTH!

• Throughout the month of February the BHS Library will have a display set up in front of the 3rd floor Service Desk with important information regarding heart health. Additionally, we have set out healthy snacks for you and our visitors to enjoy.

• This year we have added a Valentine’s Day poster for our Veterans in the cardiac care unit of the VA Hospital. Please stop by and sign the poster with your well wishes! The poster will be delivered to the VA on February 13th- so please don’t delay getting your signature and sentiment on the poster!