ATTENTION   TSSU Members
(Sessional Instructors, Teaching Assistants & Tutor Markers)

FROM Allyson Dallas, Human Resources

RE Benefit Plans, Article XXV

DATE December 20, 2019

All members of the Teaching Support Staff Union and their eligible dependents are eligible to enroll in the following benefits:

NOTE: BENEFIT COVERAGE IS NOT AUTOMATIC - YOU MUST APPLY TO ENROLL IN BENEFITS.

Please email completed application information and direct benefit inquiries to: benefits@sfu.ca

Medical Services Plan (MSP) of British Columbia: BC MSP covers the cost of the following services (subject to the terms and conditions of the plan):

- general practitioner and specialist services where medically required;
- hospital care at ward level;
- qualifying hospital expenses such as those for laboratory examinations, operating rooms, and drugs administered while in hospital;
- surgical procedures medically required

For further details on these benefits and eligibility, please refer to the Medical Services Plan of British Columbia website at http://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/health/health-drug-coverage/msp.

NOTE: BC residents will no longer be charged monthly MSP premiums as of January 1, 2020. Enrolment in MSP remains mandatory for all residents.

PREVIOUS TSSU APPOINTMENT: If you had an active TSSU appointment last semester and are already enrolled in the SFU group MSP, you do not need to re-apply this semester.

NEW TSSU APPOINTMENT:
Current BC resident: If you are a current BC resident with a BC Services Card, you would be enrolled on a self-administered MSP account. Any changes to your account (ie. address change, add/remove dependent) are made directly with Health Insurance BC.

NOTE: Enrolment in the SFU group MSP is not necessary as the health coverage received whether you are on a self-administered account or a group administered account is the same.

New BC resident on work permit: Information on eligibility, enrolment and managing your MSP account is available at the following link: https://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/health/health-drug-coverage/msp/bc-residents

Application is made directly to Health Insurance BC and you will be enrolled on a self-administered account. Any changes to your account (ie. address change, add/remove dependent) are made directly with Health Insurance BC.

New BC resident on study permit: As soon as you receive your TSSU appointment, you may start the application process for coverage by emailing the completed MSP Application for Group Enrolment form (http://www2.gov.bc.ca/assets/gov/health/forms/167fil.pdf) to Human Resources at benefits@sfu.ca. Please ensure a copy of applicable residency documents for yourself and any eligible dependents is included (ie. study permit, work permit).

Private Medical Insurance (Guard Me): If you are a new resident of Canada, there is a three month waiting period before MSP coverage can begin (the balance of the month of arrival in BC plus two full calendar months). SFU is offering a 4-month mandatory medical insurance plan (Guard.me StudentGuard) to international students. This plan provides coverage during the waiting period for MSP. For detailed information, please refer to: www.sfu.ca/medical-insurance and
www.guard.me/sfu. Coverage is automatic for international students. Dependent family members (i.e. spouse and/or dependent children) can be added by applying online.

- A TSSU member who is covered by Guard Me should notify HR of this fact when emailing the completed MSP Application for Group Enrolment form and applicable residency documents **(include full name and SFU Employee ID number). HR will email the TSSU member a confirmation of coverage memo and the on-line link to the Guard Me opt out process (https://www.guard.me/sfu).

Please note, although Guard Me will be copied on the email, the TSSU member is still required to complete the Guard Me online opt out process.

- If the TSSU member is covered by Guard Me, HR will reimburse the TSSU member 85% of the Guard Me fee paid to the maximum of the cost for two persons. The reimbursement will be processed at the end of the month during which his/her MSP coverage takes effect.

** Note:
- A copy of renewed Study or Work permits must be forwarded to Human Resources to ensure continuation of MSP coverage. MSP will cancel coverage if a copy of renewed documents is not provided. See the following link for information regarding renewal of Study or Work permits: http://www.sfu.ca/content/dam/sfu/human-resources/forms-documents/benefits/renewal_of_work_permits.pdf
- A copy of any documents pertaining to a change in residency status must also be provided to Human Resources (i.e. permanent resident status, permanent social insurance number).

** Extended Health Benefit (Pacific Blue Cross):** The University pays 75% of the monthly premium for eligible employees upon their written application. This plan will pay 80%, less a yearly deductible, of many of the services not covered by MSP (subject to the terms and conditions of the carrier). These include, with limitations:

- prescription drugs;
- semi-private or private room charges;
- ambulance services;
- out-of-province emergency hospital and physician services;
- physiotherapy, speech therapist and acupuncturist.

All TSSU members who are enrolled in a basic provincial medical plan (i.e. MSP or other provincial plan) or Guard Me (proof of coverage is required) are eligible for the Extended Health Care Benefit. Further details on this plan and application forms can be obtained at http://www.sfu.ca/human-resources/tssu.html.

** Dental Plan:** A personal dental plan is offered to all TSSU members by Pacific Blue Cross (PBC). To apply for the Plan you must contact Pacific Blue Cross directly at (604) 419-2200 or toll free at 1-888-275-4672. You may also obtain further information about the Dental Plan at the TSSU office. Human Resources does not provide advice or information regarding the dental plan.

At the end of the semester in which you have had a TSSU appointment and have paid premiums into the Pacific Blue Cross Personal Dental Plan, upon proof of premium payment the University will reimburse:

- $11.35 per month for single coverage
- $22.70 per month for couple coverage
- $34.50 per month for family coverage

for each month in the semester for which you were enrolled in the dental plan. Application for reimbursement must be received by Human Resources no later than the end of week 12 of the semester to which the reimbursement applies. Dental Reimbursement application forms are available at http://www.sfu.ca/human-resources/tssu.html.

** Coverage Continuation:** You may maintain coverage under the SFU Extended Health group plan for the next one or two semesters following your termination by completing and forwarding the Continuation of Coverage form (available at http://www.sfu.ca/human-resources/tssu.html) and proof of payment to Payroll. Prepayment by cheque or cash of 100% of the premiums must be made at the Bookstore; proof of payment for the first semester must then be remitted to Payroll along with the form by the last day of the semester in which you had an active appointment. For a second semester of coverage, prepayment of the premiums for that semester must be made prior to the end of the first semester's coverage. If
you do not pre-pay to maintain your coverage, you are required to re-apply for coverage at the beginning of the next semester in which you have an appointment.

Please Note:

**You will have an opportunity to obtain information on the TSSU benefit plan at the upcoming TA/TM Day:**

| January 10, 2020 (Fri) | TA/TM DAY  
| Medical Benefit Session: 9:20 am – 10:00 am |