

We have been getting quite a few calls asking, "What's up with the Alaska Care Health Benefits Plan and Wells Fargo?" We had to make a few calls ourselves to find out.

The State's Health Plan is administered by a third party. Until July First, Premera Blue Cross has had the contract to administer the plan. Prior to them, Aetna had the contract. Wells Fargo has recently been awarded the contract and replaces Premera on July First. The Plan's provisions will change just because the Administrator is changing. The Provisions and coverage remains as described in the Plan Information Booklet available on the Retirements and Benefits webpage. The phone numbers, mailing addresses and contacts do change.

By now, every participating State employee should have received a flyer that was mailed by the State on June 1st, a new Welcome Pack, and new ID Cards. If you have not received these you should immediately contact Retirement and Benefits and advise them at (907) 465-4460 or (800) 821-2251.

More information is available from the State at <http://www.state.ak.us/drb/alaskacare.shtml>

Bargaining Associations and Bargaining Representatives to the Health Benefits Evaluation Committee were not notified of this change until after it was made and were not given an opportunity to participate in the decision. ACOA suggests that you immediately notify Retirement and Benefits if you encounter difficulties you believe are associated with this change. We would suggest you notify them with a "friendly" phone call followed up with an e-mail to provide a documentation trail. Please free to Cc us on your e-mail. Do not hesitate to call ACOA (646-2262) if we can be of further assistance.