

or works outside the area, moves further from this area.

(7) Transfer from a post of duty within the United States to a post of duty outside the United States, or the reverse.

(8) Separation from Federal employment when the employee or employee's spouse is pregnant.

(9) An employee becomes entitled to Medicare. (For change to self only, cancellation, or change in premium conversion status see § 892.101 (11)).

(10) An employee or eligible family member loses coverage under FEHB or another group insurance coverage including the following:

(i) Loss of coverage due to termination of membership in an employee organization sponsoring the FEHB plan;

(ii) Loss of coverage of employee or eligible family member due to discontinuance in whole or part of FEHB plan;

(iii) Loss of coverage under another Federally-sponsored health benefits program, including, TRICARE, Medicare, or Indian Health Service;

(iv) Loss of coverage under Medicaid or similar State-sponsored program of medical assistance for the needy; and

(v) Loss of coverage under a non-Federal health plan, including foreign, State or local government, or private sector group health plan as described in § 890.301 (i)(6).

(11) An employee or eligible family member gains coverage under FEHB or another group insurance plan, including the following:

(i) Another Federally-sponsored health benefits program, including, TRICARE, Medicare, or Indian Health Service;

(ii) Medicaid or similar State-sponsored program of medical assistance for the needy; and

(iii) A non-Federal health plan, including foreign, State or local government, or private sector group plan.

(12) A change in an employee's spouse or dependent's coverage options, for example:

(i) Employer starts offering a different type of coverage;

(ii) Employer stops offering the type of coverage that the employee's spouse or dependent has (if no other coverage is available);

(iii) A health maintenance organization (HMO) adds a geographic service area that now makes the employee's spouse eligible to enroll in that HMO;

(iv) Employee's spouse is enrolled in an HMO that removes a geographic area that makes the spouse ineligible for coverage under that HMO, but other health plans or options are available (if

no other coverage is available see § 892.101 (10); and

(v) Change in the cost of coverage.

Subpart B—Eligibility and Participation

■ 3. Section 892.203 is revised to read as follows:

§ 892.203 When will my premium conversion begin?

If you are newly employed or newly eligible for FEHB in a covered Executive Branch agency (as described in § 892.201(a)), your salary reduction (through a Federal allotment) and pre-tax benefit will be effective on the 1st day of the first pay period beginning on or after your employing agency receives your enrollment.

■ 4. Section 892.207 is revised to read as follows:

§ 892.207 Can I make changes to my FEHB enrollment while I am participating in premium conversion?

(a) Subject to the exceptions described in paragraphs (b) and (c) of this section, you can make changes to your FEHB enrollment for the same reasons and with the same effective dates listed in § 890.301 of this chapter.

(b) However, if you are participating in premium conversion there are two exceptions: you must have a qualifying life event to change from self and family enrollment to self only enrollment or to drop FEHB coverage entirely. (See § 892.209 and § 892.210). Your change in enrollment must be consistent with and correspond to your qualifying life event as described in § 892.101. These limitations apply only to changes you may wish to make outside open season.

■ 5. Section 892.208 is revised to read as follows:

§ 892.208 Can I change my enrollment from self and family to self only at any time?

If you are participating in premium conversion you may change your FEHB enrollment from self and family to self only under either of the following circumstances:

(a) During the annual open season. A change to self only made during the annual open season takes effect on the 1st day of the first pay period that begins in the next year.

(b) Within 60 days after you have a qualifying life event. A change to self only made because of a qualifying life event takes effect on the first day of the first pay period that begins after the date your employing office receives your appropriate request. Your change in enrollment must be consistent with and correspond to your qualifying life event. For example, if you get divorced and

have no dependent children, changing to self only would be consistent with that qualifying life event. If both you and your spouse are Federal employees, and your youngest dependent turns age 22, changing from a self and family to two self only enrollments would be consistent and appropriate for that event.

■ 6. Section 892.209 is amended by revising paragraphs (a) and (b) as follows:

§ 892.209 Can I cancel FEHB coverage at any time?

If you are participating in premium conversion you may cancel your FEHB coverage:

(a) During the annual open season. A cancellation made during the annual open season is effective at midnight of the day before the first day of the first pay period that begins in the next year.

(b) Within 60 days after you have a qualifying life event. A cancellation made because of a qualifying life event takes effect at midnight of the last day of the pay period in which your employing office receives your appropriate request to cancel your enrollment. Your cancellation of coverage must be consistent with and correspond to your qualifying life event. For example, if you get married and you gain other insurance coverage because your spouse's employer provides health insurance for your spouse and you, then canceling FEHB coverage would be consistent with that qualifying life event. If you add an eligible family member, canceling coverage would generally not be consistent with that qualifying life event.

7. Section 892.211 is revised to read as follows:

§ 892.211 What options are available to me if I go on a period of leave without pay (LWOP) or other types of non-pay status?

(a) Your commencement of a period of LWOP is a qualifying life event as described in § 892.101. You may change your premium conversion election (waive if you now participate, or participate if you now waive). (b)(1) You may continue your FEHB coverage by agreeing in advance of LWOP to one of the payment options described in paragraph (b)(2), (b)(3), or (b)(4) of this section.

(2) Pre-pay. Prior to commencement of your LWOP you may allot through payroll deduction the amount that will be due for your share of your FEHB premium during your LWOP period, if your employing agency, at its discretion, allows you to do so. Contributions under the pre-pay option may be made through premium conversion on a pre-