

# BENEFIT UPDATES MADE IN 2017

*To the extent that this newsletter describes any benefit provided by this Fund, which is already described in the Fund's comprehensive Benefits Reference Guide, or as amended in subsequent writings issued by the Fund, or a policy of insurance (e.g., life insurance), the language of the Benefits Reference Guide, as amended, and/or the group insurance contract, which specify the exact benefits provided, will govern in the event of inconsistency between it and the language of this newsletter. Here are the benefits and eligibility updates to the Fund's plan effective in 2017.*

Suffolk County Municipal  
Employees Benefit Fund



*Adopted on February 10, 2017*

## **New Application – Annual Renewal for all Domestic Partnerships**

The Fund will perform an annual re-enrollment and eligibility verification for domestic partners, with newly revised application forms, beginning July 15, 2017 and thereafter, annually each July.

*Adopted on May 12, 2017*

## **Pre-Paid Legal Services Plan**

Effective August 1, 2017, the SCME Benefit Fund replaced the Legal Voucher program with a pre-paid legal services plan.

*Adopted on June 28, 2017*

## **Extension of “Pre-Paid” Legal Services Plan**

Effective with the enrollee's current plan or renewal of their “Self-Pay” Enhanced Retiree Plan (SPERP), Retirees may add, at their option, the “Pre-Paid” Legal Services Plan to their SPERP plan for \$108/year for a minimum of 2 years.

All “Self-Pay” Enhanced Retirees plan enrollees will be given the option of purchasing the Legal Services Benefit, at an annual cost of \$108 provided they agree to remain enrolled in the “Pre-Paid” Legal Services Plan for two (2) years.

All members with pending legal services matters that commenced while the voucher program was in place and prior to the effective date of the “Pre-Paid” Legal Services Plan, August 1, 2017, can complete their legal matters with their retained attorney and will be eligible for reimbursement under the voucher plan, subject to plan guidelines including eligibility at the time the claim is filed.

For all other legal matters commenced on or after August 1, 2017 outside of the Legal Services Benefits will not be eligible for reimbursement under the voucher plan, other than for Platinum Plan “Self-Pay” Enhanced Retirees who elect to remain in that plan prior to December 31, 2017 and for the remainder of their 2-year obligation.

“No-Cost” Basic Retiree Plan Enrollees **are not** eligible to participate in the “Pre-Paid” Legal Services Plan. Effective January 1, 2018, the voucher plan will no longer be available to any “Self-Pay” Enhanced Retiree Plan new enrollees.

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**Note:** A Notarized SPERP application is required to be submitted upon EVERY 2 years renewal and when a member concludes their 2-year obligation and requests to “drop-back” to the “No-Cost” Basic Retiree Plan.

*Adopted on October 5 2017*

**Revised “Self-Pay” Enhanced Retiree Plans:** The Platinum Plan and the Premium Plus Plan were replaced with the Premium Plus Plan-T (includes Dental, Optical, Hearing Aid Co-Pay Reimbursement, the Rx Co-Pay Reimbursement and the Tax Preparation Reimbursement.) An enrollee in either the Premium or Premium Plus-T plans can purchase the pre-paid legal plan at the current rate of \$108.

*Adopted on June 28, 2017*

## **Dental Plan Fee Revisions;**

Increase allowance for D2161 by \$10.

Added to procedure D2393 the aggregate limit of \$90 per tooth in a twelve month period and added procedure D2940 as a covered service for palliative (emergency) treatment of dental pain – minor procedure-with an allowance of up to \$25.

*Adopted December 8, 2017*

## **OLD/NEW ADA Code Changes – effective January, 1 2018**

1206	n/a	\$ 14.00	2 in a calendar year
2160	n/a	\$ 60.00	1/ 12 months
2161	n/a	\$ 70.00	each surface once per a 12 month period
2393	n/a	\$ 85.00	each surface once per a 12 month period
2394	n/a	\$ 90.00	each surface once per a 12 month period
2940	n/a	\$ 25.00	no frequency
5500	5511	\$ 65.00	once per 12 months
5500	5512	\$ 65.00	once per 12 months
5610	5611	\$ 65.00	once per 12 months
5610	5612	\$ 65.00	once per 12 months
5620	5621	\$100.00	once per 12 months
5620	5622	\$100.00	once per 12 months
9223	9222	\$ 60.00	one per session/1st 15 min.
9243	9239	\$ 60.00	one per session/1st 15 min