

Hot Off The Press

JUNE BENEFIT ENHANCEMENTS

Retirement & Termination Budget Actions Better Identified in Benefit History Processes

Retirements and Terminations processed via Canopy EPA or BPP screen 051 are now identified as different processes when updating the changes to Benefit History (BH). These new Update IDs more clearly identify the budget actions making the update and replace BEWUP051 and BENUP051.

1. Canopy EPA Terminations – BEWEPATE is used for both Voluntary and Involuntary Terminations.
2. Canopy EPA Retirements – BEWEPARE.
3. Screen 051 Terminations – BEN051TE, both Voluntary and Involuntary Terminations.
4. Screen 051 Retirement – BEN051RE.

Personal Benefits Summary Letters Produced

The Personal Benefits Summary Letter has been produced and a printed copy has been mailed to Retirees, Survivors, and COBRA participants. For better record-keeping, a comment was written to Screen 106 stating 'PBS Letters Printed' on the date B/P/P produced the letters.

Notice of Medicare Eligibility Available Two Months Early

The Notice of Medicare Eligibility, produced every month-end, now identifies two months in advance persons turning 65. Previously, only looking ahead one month created too-small a window for people to contact the Social Security Administration for coordinating Medicare coverage. The notices produced in June month-end processing includes those for both July and August. July month-end begins looking two months ahead, reporting those turning 65 in September. The verbiage on the downloaded letter was also updated to better explain the Medicare enrollment process to the retirees.

Long Term Care (LTC) Postings in Daily Summary E-mail

The LTC postings are now a separate line item in the daily summary e-mail reporting updates to benefit history. The Update ID for the LTC posting process is BEBM8075 - MONPAY52/BP8075N LTC Updates.

Letters for Downloading in HRConnect now Noted in Screen 106 Comments

Production of the letters sent to HRConnect for downloading is now noted in Screen 106 comments for each individual for whom a letter is ready to download. These transactions are not noted in Benefit History. Remember, only the last comment written to the comments is displayed on Screen 106. Pressing the <F2> function key shows the list of all comments written to Screen 106 for the person you're viewing.

Some of the comments are:

1. 'COBRA Termination Acknowledgement record sent to HRC on MM/DD/YYYY', produced when a person who currently has medical, dental, or vision coverage terminates. Comments written daily when the Form 500's process, primarily from the Web EPAs, but also through manual budget changes. This process runs nightly – Monday night through Friday night.
2. 'COBRA Initialization Acknowledgement record sent to HRC on MM/DD/YYYY', created when iBenefits posts a new employee or medical, dental, or vision coverage is newly added on screen 106. This process runs weekly.
3. 'Notice of Future Insurance Eligibility sent to HRC on MM/DD/YYYY', produced when a person terminates and is vested in TRS or ORP. This process runs with Month End processing.
4. 'Notice of Medicare Eligibility record sent to HRC on MM/DD/YYYY', created for retiree or spouse turning age 65. This process runs with Month End processing.
5. 'Notice of Dependent Turning Age 25 record sent to HRC on MM/DD/YYYY', produced prior to the month when dependents turning 25 are dropped. Please note this letter will be changing July month-end for the new medical age 26 rule. This process runs with Month End processing

Audit Verification Items Added to Dependent Data Screen 115

Audit Verify Flag and Date will be added to the dependent data screen 115 at the end of June. Valid values for Audit Verify flag are:

1. V - Verified - has provided documentation
2. I - Ineligible - has not provided required documentation OR documentation shows ineligible
3. Blank - Not included in audit; not proven either eligible or ineligible

Audit Verification Errors on Master Error List and Screen 115

With new items come new errors. Error messages for the new audit verification items appear on both the Master Error List and Screen 115. These are:

1. Error 3633 - Invalid dependent flag Verify - Audit Verify Flag V, I, blank - value in Audit Verify Flag is some value other than V, I, or blank
2. Error 3634 - Invalid dependent flag Verify - Audit Verify Flag V, I - value in Audit Verify Flag has to be V or I since Audit Date is present
3. Error 3635 - Invalid dependent date - Audit Verify Date - date in Audit Date is not a valid date MMDDYYYY
4. Error 3636 - Dep audit/verify flag and date must be there for dependent add as of 7/1/2011 – as of 7/1/2011, dependents must be verified when added to screen 115.
5. Error 3637 - Dependent not verified(I) but has active coverage for <Med/Den/Vis/DL> - after applying an external audit result of I (ineligible), this dependent still has active coverage for Med, Den, Vis and/or DL.

Other Error Messages Added/Modified

Error 3534 - Invalid OL coverage – space out to calculate amount has been added to the Long Error Message screen 320 and will appear on the HRConnect report of BPP Errors and the Master Error List.

Description: May be given when the OL Salary has changed on the 101 screen.

Recommendation: The OL salary is not usually updated during the year except for new employees. For others, the salary is updated annually with the processing of insurance initialization. The optional life salary is used to calculate coverage amounts for optional life and alternate basic life coverage.

Error 8474 - Due Date of 15 at Month End has been updated to report those with due dates a month behind the current expected due date.

For questions relating to these changes, please contact BCSSupport@tamus.edu.