

Trust Fund Office
OCU Health and Welfare Trust
OCU Pension Trust

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**NEW GUIDANCE ON THE EXTENSION OF DEADLINES RELATED TO CLAIMS
AND APPEALS, SPECIAL ENROLLMENT AND COBRA**

You should be aware that the federal government has issued new guidance regarding the current COVID-19 relief that temporarily gives you extra time to file claims and meet certain deadlines. The relief and new guidance applies to both the Pension and Health Plans and covers claims and appeals procedures, special enrollment periods and COBRA.

The relief provides that any deadlines related to the following items will be temporarily suspended until the end of the applicable time period described below:

- Benefit claims;
- Appeals of adverse benefit determinations;
- Requests for external review;
- Filing information for claims, appeals, and requests for external review;
- Special enrollment periods; and
- COBRA notices, collection periods, and premium payment deadlines.

The applicable time period will run from March 1, 2020 until the earlier of:

- One (1) year from the date of the original deadline; or
- Sixty (60) days after the end of the COVID-19 National Emergency.

The Trust Fund Office staff will automatically apply this temporary extension in assessing whether any of your claims, appeals or other election deadlines have been met. There is no application and nothing special you need to do in order to take advantage of the relief. If you believe you are subject to a Plan deadline described above that has already expired or will expire before May 31, 2021, please contact the Trust Fund Office.

Please note that government guidance regarding COVID-19 relief for pension and health plans is constantly evolving, and there may be changes in the relief described in this notice. If you have concerns with respect to your benefits with the Plans, or with meeting an applicable deadline due to the COVID-19 National Emergency, please contact us at (626) 434-2469 to determine if relief may be available to you.

