

2011 Health and Life Insurance Premium Rates Determined

Health Insurance

The average premium increase for the 2011 calendar year will be 5.2% for the State Group Health Insurance Program.

The weighted average increase for the 2011 calendar year will be 6.2% for the Wisconsin Public Employers Group Health Insurance Program, which is the local government program. This is a weighted average, but there are wide variations in the rates across the state. Over 380 local government employers participate in the local health insurance program this year.

The Group Insurance Board approved these rates at its August 24, 2010 meeting. The rates, which are a result of negotiations between the Department and participating health plans, are far below the national health insurance inflationary rate and mark the seventh straight year we held premium increases to single digits in the program.

More detailed information will be available in the September edition of *It's Your Benefit* and the 2011 *It's Your Choice* book, both of which will be available on our website in late September.

Life Insurance

The life insurance premium rates for state employees and some local government employees who participate in the Wisconsin Public Employers Group Life Insurance **will go down in 2011**. The premium decreases are the result of several years of favorable claims experience.

- State Life Insurance Plan: Effective April 1, 2011, employee and employer contribution rates for all levels of coverage and age brackets will decrease by 12% overall.
- Local Life Insurance Plan: Effective July 1, 2011, employee and employer contribution rates will decrease 7% for the 45-49 age bracket, 4% for 50-54 age bracket, 5% for 55-59 age bracket and 4% for 60-64 age bracket.
- Active Employees 77 years of age and older will also see a reduction in the premium rates for additional life insurance coverage.

More detailed information will be available on our website soon.