



News From:

COMPTROLLER KEVIN LEMBO

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COMPTROLLER LEMBO ANNOUNCES MORE THAN 50,000 EMPLOYEES ENROLLED IN HEALTH ENHANCEMENT PROGRAM

Comptroller Kevin Lembo today announced that more than 50,000 state employees – or 96 percent of those employees on the state health care plan – have enrolled in the new Health Enhancement Program.

The Health Enhancement Program, effective Oct. 1, is projected to provide significant long-term savings and other benefits to the state and its employees.

“The enrollment figures are a strong statement of support for the Health Enhancement Program,” Lembo said. “The program has the potential to provide long-term savings for taxpayers and employees.

“One of the Program’s goals is to reduce costs by focusing on prevention, rather than expensive acute care that often results from lack of coordination of health care, particularly for certain chronic conditions such as diabetes, asthma, heart disease/heart failure, high cholesterol or hypertension.

“It will help our workforce and their families live healthier lives by identifying medical issues early through prevention and better management of chronic conditions, which, left untreated, are costly and compromise quality of life.”

Program participants will pay lower monthly premiums and have no deductible for in-network care for the plan. Those with the specified chronic conditions identified above will also receive a \$100 cash payment and reduced co-pays on certain prescriptions if they comply with Program requirements.

Following adoption of the union concessions agreement, the Office of the State Comptroller, in partnership with state personnel offices, promptly implemented an outreach effort to inform employees about their health care

benefits options and the process for enrolling or opting out of the Health Enhancement Program.

Those efforts included open enrollment fairs at worksites, direct notices to employees, and an informational link on the comptroller's website at www.osc.ct.gov.

Employees were notified that they were required to enroll in the Program no later than September 15 – or to indicate that they did not wish to join the program. Employees were notified that those who chose not to join, or who took no enrollment action, would be responsible for paying \$100 additional per month in premiums and an annual \$350 in-network medical deductible (or up to \$1,400 per family). The next opportunity to switch plans will be during an annual enrollment period in 2012.

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