

Employee Pharmacy Changes

Effective July 1, 2011

Take advantage of the new Mail Order Pharmacy services provided by the University of Alaska system.



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CVS Caremark Pharmacy Plan Changes

Effective July 1, 2011, University of Alaska health plan members can save money on maintenance prescription drugs by taking advantage of CVS Caremark's mail order program.

The University of Alaska has contracted with CVS Caremark to provide the prescription drug portion of our benefit plan. CVS Caremark offers both retail and mail order as options to obtain your medications. However, as of July 1, 2011, the mail order option became much more attractive. You can still purchase maintenance prescription drugs at your local pharmacy, but copays will be higher. If it makes sense for you, the university encourages you to consider the mail-order option for maintenance drugs.

Maintenance Drugs

Maintenance drugs are prescriptions used to treat conditions that are considered chronic or long term. These conditions usually require regular, daily use of medication(s). Examples of maintenance drugs are those used to treat high blood pressure, heart disease, asthma and diabetes. To find out if a drug you take regularly is on the maintenance list, simply visit the benefits section of the University of Alaska website at www.alaska.edu/benefits/pharmacy-benefits. You'll also find a list of drugs excluded from this program because they might be damaged by freezing temperatures.



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Making the Switch

While this new policy took effect July 1, 2011, we want to remind you to make the switch. After July 1, you could refill any maintenance medications two more times at a retail location before the higher copays become effective at local pharmacies. We believe mail order is the most convenient way to order medications and that this change will actually save you time long term, because you'll avoid extra trips to your local pharmacy. The benefits of mail order include having your medications delivered right to your door and getting a 90-day supply at once at a reduced cost to both you and the health plan.

Making the switch is easy! Just choose one of the following options:

- Internet—Visit www.caremark.com, register and click on "Start a New Prescription";
- Phone—Call CVS Caremark at 1-800-875-0867, give your plan ID information and request that a representative call your physician to get your prescription drug information; or
- Physician—Call your doctor's office and give them CVS Caremark's physician-only number, 1-800-378-5697, and ask him/her to call in a 90-day supply on your behalf.

We appreciate your patience as we make this transition. In addition to this communication, you will likely receive a letter from CVS Caremark outlining this change.

As always, if you have any questions about your prescription drug benefit or any other benefits-related inquiries, please contact your regional human resources office at the numbers below:

UAA Human Resource Services	907-786-4608
UAF Human Resources	907-474-7700
GI Human Resources	907-474-6010
UAS Human Resources	907-796-6473
Statewide Human Resources	907-450-8200