Dear State of Montana Benefit Plan (State Plan) Member,

Effective January 1, 2021, the State of Montana Benefit Plan (State Plan) is implementing a Nicotine Use Surcharge for plan members who use nicotine. The surcharge will add $30 per month to the contribution amount for employees/retirees who use nicotine and/or $30 per month if the employee’s/retiree’s covered spouse/domestic partner uses nicotine.

The nicotine surcharge will not apply to State Plan contributions until January 1, 2021.

The Nicotine Use Surcharge is a separate surcharge and is not the same as the Live Life Well Incentive.

To avoid the Nicotine Use Surcharge, it is imperative for ALL employees/retirees to complete their benefit elections using the State Plan’s online enrollment system during this year’s Open Enrollment period from October 25 – November 7. Members will be asked to self-report nicotine use status as part of the benefits election process.

There is nothing you need to do right now other than be aware of what is coming. Look for additional instructions in early October 2020 included with the State Plan’s Open Enrollment materials and presentations.

For more information about the Nicotine Use Surcharge, click HERE.