



Email Alert
October 20, 2009

General Motors has begun the roll out of the 2010 Salaried Retiree Health Care Program for eligible GM salaried retirees and surviving spouses.

Open enrollment dates are: October 28 - November 18, 2009.

The new "Consumer Driven Health Plan" will be a single-provider plan, available as a nation-wide PPO through Blue Cross Blue Shield, with substantial plan changes and cost increases to participants. This plan meets federal requirements for establishment of Health Savings Accounts, a method of pre-tax saving for qualified health expenses. GM will pay the administrative fees for Health Savings Accounts opened with Bank of America. An overview of plan changes, which includes additional information, is available at the GMRA website: <http://www.gmret.org>.

A detailed package with information and enrollment guidelines will be mailed by GM to the homes of eligible salaried retirees and surviving spouses on October 23, 2009. No information on the new plan will be available at the GM Benefit Center until Open Enrollment commences. During the enrollment period, a video and additional resources will also be available at the General Motors Company retiree website: <http://www.gmretiree.com/benefits.html>.

GMRA is extremely disappointed in the plan, which increases the cost of maintaining retirees' health beyond what many can afford on limited pension income, particularly in view of the greatly diminished value of investment accounts.

The disparity between treatment of active salaried, whose plan costs are lower and who receive a company contribution to their Health Savings Accounts offsetting their deductible, is inexplicable considering the devotion and contributions of salaried retirees over their many years of service. Of course, the disparity is even greater when the UAW retiree benefit and cost structure is considered. The treatment of salaried retirees is draconian in comparison.

These actions clearly illustrate the need to press for legislation designed to protect all retirees from such post-employment treatment. We will do just that and appreciate your continued support.