

Dear Tribal Leader Letter FACT SHEET

- In March 2010, as part of the Affordable Care Act, Section 409 was passed which allows eligible Indian tribes, tribal organizations, and urban Indian organizations to purchase Federal Employees Health Benefits (FEHB) and Federal Employees' Group Life Insurance (FEGLI) coverage, rights, and benefits for their employees.
- This letter serves as an update to tribal leaders regarding the implementation of the above provision.
- The Tribal FEHB Program is up and running; the first effective date of coverage was May 1, 2012.
- In December of 2011, OPM released a Dear Tribal Leader letter announcing the first effective date of coverage and providing tribal employers with details about how to purchase FEHB for their employees. Since that time, OPM has made several clarifications to FEHB policy. This letter alerts tribal employers of these changes.
- For the most part, updates on the tribal FEHB Program have been released via email and the OPM website. However, many tribal employers do not have reliable access to the internet. For this reason, OPM is releasing a letter to over 600 tribal employers to ensure that even those in the most rural areas have the most up-to-date information about the FEHB Program and how to purchase coverage for their employees.