

## **Notice of Creditable Prescription Drug Coverage (NOCC)**

The Medicare prescription drug program, which is known as Medicare Part D, requires OP&F to notify benefit recipients that the drug coverage under the OP&F-sponsored health care plan is “creditable” and that OP&F will continue to offer eligible members and their dependents prescription drug coverage in 2017.

Prescription drug coverage provided by a plan like the OP&F-sponsored plan is “creditable” if, on average for all participants, the plan is expected to pay out at least as much as the standard Medicare Part D coverage would pay. OP&F’s actuarial consultant has verified that the coverage under the OP&F-sponsored plan is creditable.

It is important for individuals to have either Medicare Part D coverage, or plan provided creditable drug coverage such as prescription drug coverage sponsored by OP&F, since a penalty applies to people who enroll late in Medicare Part D or who go without Medicare Part D or creditable coverage for 63 or more days. People who are now in a creditable coverage plan, but who later lose or drop that coverage, also will pay a penalty if they do not enroll in Medicare Part D or another creditable coverage plan within 63 days after their drug coverage ends.

If the penalty applies, your monthly premium under Medicare Part D will go up at least one percent per month for every month you did not have either Medicare Part D or creditable coverage. You also may have to wait until the next open enrollment period, which is October 15-December 7, 2017, to enroll.

If your income is limited, extra help paying for a Medicare part D prescription drug plan is available. For more information about this extra help, contact the Social Security Administration at [www.socialsecurity.gov](http://www.socialsecurity.gov) or call 800-772-1213 (TTY 800-325-0778).

Because the OP&F coverage is creditable you do not need to purchase Medicare Part D coverage. If you do purchase Medicare Part D, you will lose your prescription drug coverage under the OP&F-sponsored plan. You will not be permitted to re-enroll in the OP&F-sponsored prescription drug plan unless you meet one of the eligibility requirements listed on page 9.

You will receive this creditable coverage notice each year. You will receive a new notice if the OP&F coverage is changed so that it is no longer credible.

Please do not discard this notice, as you may need it as proof of creditable coverage.