



# **Your Health & Welfare Benefits After Retirement**



# OVERVIEW

- How do I apply for retirement?
- What benefit options do I have at retirement?
- How do I continue my current benefits after retirement?
- General Guidelines for Retirement
- Opt-Out\Opt-in Guidelines
- Medicare Eligibility and City-Sponsored Medicare Plans
- Contact Information



# How do I apply for retirement?

- **Step 1:** Contact your Pension System to determine your eligibility status for retirement or deferred retirement
  - **Houston Municipal Employee Pension System**  
1200 Louisiana, Suite 900, Houston TX 77002  
713.595.0100 / [www.hmeps.org](http://www.hmeps.org)
  - **Houston Firefighters' Relief and Retirement Fund**  
4225 Interwood North Parkway, Houston TX 77023  
281.372.5100 / [www.hfrf.org](http://www.hfrf.org)
  - **Houston Police Officers' Pension System**  
602 Sawyer, Suite 300, Houston TX 77007  
713.869.8734 / [www.hpops.org](http://www.hpops.org)
- **Step 2:** Contact the HR Client Relations Manager that services your department to complete any other information that is needed to begin the retirement process.



# What benefit options do I have at retirement?

As a new retiree you have the option to continue with your current Medical, Dental, Vision, and Life Insurance or opt out of coverage completely.

OPTION 1	OPTION 2
Keep existing coverage and pay retiree rates	Opt-Out of coverage <i>(eligible to return at later date)</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Medical</li><li>• Dental</li><li>• Vision</li><li>• Life Insurance</li><li>• Supplemental Plans</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Medical</li><li>• Dental</li><li>• Vision</li><li>• Life Insurance</li></ul>





# How do I continue or opt out of my current benefits?

## Opt-In/Opt-out Medical/Dental/Vision form

**CITY OF HOUSTON**  
**RETIREE/SURVIVOR Medical/Dental/Vision Form**  
 BENEFITS DIVISION, P.O. BOX 248, Houston, TX 77001-0248

PRINT OR TYPE WITH BLUE OR BLACK INK ONLY

Employee I.D. Number	Pension System	Social Security No.	Sex
<input type="checkbox"/> Municipal <input type="checkbox"/> Fire <input type="checkbox"/> Police			<input type="checkbox"/> Male <input type="checkbox"/> Female
Last Name	First Name	M.I.	Area Code Phone
Address (Check box if address changed) <input type="checkbox"/>			
Apt. No.		City	State Zip Code

**2. Single Beneficiary Choice**

Note: The City's six (6) Medicare plans are available to retirees/dependents who are Medicare eligible and covered under Medicare Plans A & B. The CIGNA plans are not available to Medicare-eligible retirees and their Medicare-eligible dependents.

<b>Medical Plan (select one):</b> <input type="checkbox"/> Cigna United Network Plan <input type="checkbox"/> Cigna Network Plan <input type="checkbox"/> Renaissance <input type="checkbox"/> Memorial Hermann Health Network <input type="checkbox"/> Cigna Open Access <input type="checkbox"/> Consumer Driven Health Plan <input type="checkbox"/> Retirees of Texas Option Plus	<b>Dental Plan (select one):</b> <input type="checkbox"/> DHMO Plan <input type="checkbox"/> DPPO Plan	<b>Vision Coverage Type:</b> <input type="checkbox"/> Retiree/Survivor Only <input type="checkbox"/> Retiree + Spouse <input type="checkbox"/> Retiree/Survivor + Child(ren) <input type="checkbox"/> Retiree + Spouse and Child(ren)
<b>Medical Coverage Type:</b> <input type="checkbox"/> Retiree/Survivor Only <input type="checkbox"/> Retiree + Spouse <input type="checkbox"/> Retiree/Survivor + Child(ren) <input type="checkbox"/> Retiree + Spouse and Child(ren)	<b>Dental Coverage Type:</b> <input type="checkbox"/> Retiree/Survivor Only <input type="checkbox"/> Retiree/Survivor + 1 Dependent <input type="checkbox"/> Retiree/Survivor + 2 or More Dependents	<b>OPT OUT:</b> <input type="checkbox"/> I understand that I may re-enroll in the future. <input type="checkbox"/> Medical <input type="checkbox"/> Vision <input type="checkbox"/> Dental

**3. Dependents (Print One)**

Person	Male	Female	Medical	Vision	Dental	Last Name, First, M.I.	Social Security Number	Date of Birth
Retiree/Survivor								
Husband/Wife								
Child/Stepchild/Grandchild								
Child/Stepchild/Grandchild								
Child/Stepchild/Grandchild								

**NOTE:**  
 Eligible Dependents eligible dependents means your legal spouse and any child (natural, adopted, foster, grandchild, stepchild, and a child for whom you are legal guardian who has legal support obligation to you) dependent for federal income tax purposes, resides with you, and is under age 26.  
 Overage Dependents A dependent child who is 26 or older, primarily supported by you, and incapable of self-sustaining employment by reason of mental incapacity, physical disability or handicap which arose while the child was covered as a dependent under these Plans, or while covered as a dependent under your City Plans without a break in coverage. Upon applying and receiving final party medical administration approval, proof of the child's condition and dependence must be submitted within 31 days or the child must be qualified for benefits.  
 Relationship documents, certified marriage certificate, Registration and Declaration of an Informal Marriage certificate (common law), legal and court order documents, and official birth certificates or birth facts.  
 I authorize any medical, vision or dental provider of facility to disclose to the plan administrator medical, vision or dental information relating to individuals specified on this application.

**4. Election Notice**

☐ Check this box if you and/or your dependents use balance products. You are not eligible for the monthly voluntary disease prevention discount of \$25.00. If all covered persons stop using balance products for 10 consecutive days, you may apply for the voluntary disease prevention discount during the following 31 days. When you apply for the discount, you must not have any covered balance product used.  
☐ Check this box if you and/or your dependents do not use balance products. You qualify for the voluntary disease prevention discount of \$25.00 monthly.

**5. Authorization of Disclosure from Pension Check**

I am a retiree or survivor of the City of Houston, eligible to participate in the medical, vision, and dental programs. I apply to make the above coverage election and understand that information I have provided is part of my application. An statement made by me may be used by the City of Houston to determine if I have provided a false or misleading statement. If my coverage may be denied. Once the enrollment deadline has passed, my plan elections are binding until the next open enrollment period, however, I may opt out of the plan at any time. Completed enrollment forms and documentation of qualifying the events will be required within 31 days of the event. Supporting documents for newly added dependents are required within the 31-day time period of the life-changing event. If documents are not received within the 31 days of the life-changing event, coverage will not be active for any dependents. Therefore, dependents must be added within 31 days of the life-changing event.  
 I agree that if I acquire other coverage outside of the City of Houston medical, dental and vision plans or if I have lost eligible dependents, I may incur a monetary penalty under my medical, vision, and dental coverage and will be required to pay the penalty. I authorize the person to be added to the plan to check my portion of the contribution as I become due. I understand that I must notify the City of Houston when I acquire other coverage outside of the City of Houston's medical, dental and vision plans and when I have an eligible dependent. Medical, dental, and vision plan contributions are paid one month in advance. If you do not or make a plan or fee change at the end of the month, you may be eligible for a refund for contributions already paid.

Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Contact Phone No. \_\_\_\_\_ Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Department: \_\_\_\_\_ Retirement Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Effective Date: \_\_\_\_\_

WRITE - Benefits • GOLD - Retiree 2017\_PensionSurvivor\_MedDental\_Vision - rev 02/17

## Retiree Basic Life Insurance form

**CITY OF HOUSTON**  
**Retiree Basic Life Insurance Form**

FOR BENEFITS OFFICE USE ONLY

Retirement Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Last Day Paid: \_\_\_\_\_ Effective Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Premium Amount: \_\_\_\_\_

**PLEASE PRINT**

Employee I.D. Number: \_\_\_\_\_ Pension Office: \_\_\_\_\_ Social Security No.: \_\_\_\_\_ Sex: \_\_\_\_\_

☐ Municipal ☐ Fire ☐ Police ☐ Male ☐ Female

Last Name: \_\_\_\_\_ First Name: \_\_\_\_\_ M.I.: \_\_\_\_\_ Home Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_ Apt. No.: \_\_\_\_\_ City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code: \_\_\_\_\_

☐ I elect to retain \$10,000 basic life insurance coverage for myself. I authorize my Pension System to deduct the monthly premium for the coverage from my pension check. Conversion of the balance of my active coverage is available at my retirement.  
☐ I decline Basic Life Insurance Coverage. Conversion of my active coverage is available at retirement.

**NAMING THE BENEFICIARY** - It is important that you name a primary and contingent beneficiary that are clearly designated so that there will be no question as to your meaning. When naming your beneficiary(ies), please indicate their full name, address, date of birth, relationship, and percentage to each. If you need assistance, contact the Human Resources Department, Benefits Division - Customer Service Unit at 832-393-6000.

**PRIMARY BENEFICIARY**

Name	Address	Date of Birth	Relationship	% to Each

**CONTINGENT BENEFICIARY**

Name	Address	Date of Birth	Relationship	% to Each

Retiree Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Your signature must be attested if this form is not signed in the presence of a City of Houston Human Resources representative, payroll representative or pension representative.

THE STATE OF TEXAS: \_\_\_\_\_  
 COUNTY OF: \_\_\_\_\_

BEFORE ME, the undersigned authority, on this day personally appeared \_\_\_\_\_ known to me to be the person whose name is subscribed to the foregoing instrument, and acknowledged to me that he/she executed the same for the purposes and consideration therein expressed.

GIVEN UNDER MY HAND and seal of office this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 20\_\_\_\_ A.D.

(SEAL) \_\_\_\_\_ Notary Public - Signature \_\_\_\_\_

WHITE - Benefits • YELLOW - Pension Office • PINK - Retiree KEY 05/2014/ys

# General Guidelines for Retirement

- You must be enrolled in a Medical, Dental, or Vision plan at the time of your retirement to continue or opt-out of your plan. If you waived any coverage as an active employee you can't obtain the coverage as a retiree.
- Upon retirement you can choose to remain in your current benefit plan. You can only change plans if you are enrolled in the Cigna Limited Plan and/or the DHMO dental plan, and you reside or plan to move outside of the coverage area.
- As a retiree you can add dependents due to qualifying events such as (marriage, birth, loss of coverage) and you can drop dependents at anytime.

# Opt-In/Opt-Out Guidelines

- You can choose to opt-out of any plan you currently have at the time of your retirement or after your retirement at anytime. **You must complete form to opt-out.**
- You can opt-in during the Open Enrollment period that occurs in March and be effective May 1 of that same plan year.
- You can also opt-in if you obtained other insurance coverage while you were opted-out of the City of Houston's plan and you are losing that coverage.

# Are you Medicare eligible?

- You must be enrolled in Medicare Parts A & B through the Social Security Administration to enroll in a City of Houston-sponsored Medicare plan.
- Failure to enroll in a City of Houston-sponsored Medicare plan will result in termination of coverage under the Cigna plan at the end of the month you become Medicare eligible
- If you are already Medicare eligible, **contact the Benefits Division at least two months before you retire:**
  - Call: 832-393-6000
  - Email: [retireebenefits@houstontx.gov](mailto:retireebenefits@houstontx.gov)
  - Visit: 611 Walker, 4<sup>th</sup> Floor, Houston, TX 77002



# City of Houston Sponsored Medicare Plans *(rates effective 1/1/2020)*

PLAN	Monthly contribution per person
Aetna Steerage PPO	\$64
KelseyCare Advantage HMO	\$49
Medicare Supplement Plan F/G	\$116
Cigna HealthSpring HMO	\$29
WellCare TexanPlus HMO	\$23



# For assistance, contact:

Phone: 832-393-6000

Fax: 832-395-9409

[retireebenefits@houstontx.gov](mailto:retireebenefits@houstontx.gov)

611 Walker, 4<sup>th</sup> Floor  
Houston, TX 77002