

RETIREMENT PORTABILITY QUESTIONS

Q: If I transfer to a retirement-covered civil service position, can I continue my MC NAF retirement coverage?

A: Section 1131 of PL107-107 permits employees moving between NAF and APF positions on or after December 28, 2001, to continue coverage in the retirement plan that covered them immediately before the move, even if they are not vested in that retirement plan. Employees must move between retirement-covered positions with a break of not more than one year.

Q: If I transfer to a retirement-covered civil service position and elected to continue my MC NAF retirement coverage, can I participate in the Thrift Savings Plan (TSP).

A: No, you cannot participate in the Thrift Savings Plan. Employees who remain in a NAF retirement system are subject to the defined contributions plan (401k) associated with that system.

Q: When I transferred to a retirement-covered civil service position, I exercised retirement portability and elected to retain my MC NAF retirement coverage. I have accepted a civil service position with another agency; however I have a break in service of more than one year. What will happen to my MC NAF retirement?

A: Because of your retirement portability election, by law, you are locked into the MC NAF retirement system for life. The new civil service agency will be required to continue your MC NAF coverage regardless of the break in service.

RETIREE HEALTH INSURANCE QUESTIONS

Q: Is there a premium change when transferring from Aetna Open Choice PPO to Aetna Traditional Choice (Indemnity Plan)?

A: No, the premium rates are the same for both Aetna Open Choice PPO and Aetna Traditional Choice (Indemnity Plan).

Q: When a retiree turns 65, does their medical coverage automatically transfer to Aetna Traditional Choice (Indemnity Plan)?

A: No, the transfer is not automatic. The retiree must complete an MCCA 499 Form electing to continue medical coverage. S/he should receive a packet in the mail before their birthday with the options. Failure to make an election to change coverage could jeopardize coverage.

Q: Can a retiree later enroll in the dental plan if s/he did not elect to continue it when s/he retired?

A: No, if the retiree was not enrolled in the dental plan during the time of retirement, she may not enroll later.

Q: Do I have to enroll in Medicare Part A & B?

A: Yes. If you are at least age 65 – or eligible for Medicare for other reasons you must enroll in Medicare Part A & B.

Q: Do I have to enroll in Medicare Part D (Rx)?

A: No. The Aetna plan is deemed to be “credible” and there is no coordination with Medicare for Rx – so you are not penalized or required to join Medicare Part D.

Q: Does my employer contribute to retiree medical/dental premium costs?

A: Yes. The MCNAF activity continues to pay 70% of eligible medical and dental premiums for eligible retirees.

RETIREMENT PLAN REFUNDS

Q: How long does it take for me to receive my refund check from the Retirement Plan?

A: It generally takes up to 6 weeks in most cases, depending upon when the application was received and whether the applicant was vested in the Plan prior to termination.

Q: Why does it take so long?

A: The refunds are processed as a batch once per month, and only those received by the first of each month will be included in each batch.

Q: Will my refund be sent by Direct Deposit or paper check?

A: The refunds are always paid by check at this time.

Q: Do I get all of my contributions back?

A: Yes

Q: If I get a refund and then get another position with MCCA can I buy back my previous contributions?

A: Yes- Provided you are hired into an eligible position and re-enroll into the plan. This would need to be done immediately upon re-employment and provided you do not waive participation. Failure to request a buy back during the eligibility period will result in no future opportunity to elect a buy back.