

## UNITED STATES OFFICE OF PERSONNEL MANAGEMENT

Washington, DC 20415

April 24, 2017

## Dear Tribal Leader:

In response to a January 20, 2017, White House memorandum directing agencies to temporarily postpone, to a date 60 days from the date of the memorandum, the effective date of certain rules, the Office of Personnel Management (OPM) has delayed the effective date of its final rule entitled Access to Federal Employees Health Benefits (FEHB) for Employees of Certain Indian Tribal Employers, to March 21, 2017. The regulation, which OPM published on December 28, 2016, originally had an effective date of February 27, 2017.

This final regulation includes program rules for tribal employers and tribal employees participating in the Tribal FEHB Program in accordance with chapter 89 of title 5, United States Code. Because the final rule codified existing policies for the Tribal FEHB Program, which has been accepting enrollments since May 1, 2012, OPM does not anticipate any impact on the administration of the Tribal FEHB Program.

The final rule is available at <a href="https://www.federalregister.gov/d/2016-31195">https://www.federalregister.gov/d/2016-31195</a>, and the rule announcing its delay is available at <a href="https://www.federalregister.gov/d/2017-03305">https://www.federalregister.gov/d/2017-03305</a>. If you have any questions about the final program rule or the rule delaying its effective date, or need a paper copy of the final program rule or the rule delaying its effective date sent to you, please contact Padma Shah, Senior Policy Analyst, at 202-606-0004.

If you have any questions about the FEHB Program, please contact OPM's Tribal Desk at 202-606-2530 or <a href="mailto:tribalprograms@opm.gov">tribalprograms@opm.gov</a>. You can find additional information about FEHB for Tribal Employers at www.opm.gov/tribalprograms.

Thank you for your interest in the FEHB Program and for your continued partnership.

Sincerely, Olan P. Syrelman

Alan P. Spielman

Director

Healthcare and Insurance