

UNITED STATES OFFICE OF PERSONNEL MANAGEMENT Washington, DC 20415

August 31, 2016

Dear Tribal Leader:

The U.S. Office of Personnel Management (OPM) issued a Notice of Proposed Rulemaking on August 31, 2016. This proposed rule implements §409 of the Indian Health Care Improvement Act (IHCIA), which was enacted as part of the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act, P.L. 111-148 (ACA). This provision authorizes tribes and tribal organizations operating programs under the Indian Self-Determination and Education Assistance Act (ISDEAA) and urban Indian organizations operating a program under Title V of the Indian Health Care Improvement Act (IHCIA) to purchase coverage for their employees under the Federal Employees Health Benefits (FEHB) Program.

This proposed 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. The proposed rule can be accessed by searching for RIN number 3206-AM40 at www.federalregister.gov. If you need a paper copy of the proposed rule sent to you, please contact the Tribal Desk at the contact information provided below.

You may submit comments on this proposed regulation, identified by RIN number 3206-AM40 using any of the following methods:

- Federal eRulemaking Portal: <u>www.regulations.gov</u>. Follow the instructions for submitting comments.
- Mail: Chelsea Ruediger, Senior Policy Analyst, Planning and Policy Analysis, U.S. Office of Personnel Management, 1900 E Street NW, Washington, DC 20415.

Comments are due on or before October 31, 2016. Please note that your comments will be made public.

If you have any questions about submitting comments, please contact Chelsea Ruediger, 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 tribalprograms@opm.gov. 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,

John O'Brien

Director

Healthcare and Insurance