

OSSTF Benefits Transition to Direct Billing of Member Contributions for All Remaining Plan Members

To: Presidents and Local Executives

From: Chris Goodsir, General Secretary

For Action

As has been previously communicated in DBU #187/2022-2023, OSSTF Benefits has recently notified Bargaining Unit leaders and eligible plan members about their decision to transition to direct billing of plan member contributions. Currently, most plan members make their member contributions for OSSTF Benefits by pay roll deduction through their employer.

OSSTF Benefits is an Employee Life and Health Trust (ELHT) that operates under provincial and federal regulations independently from employers and OSSTF/FEESO. Information about the OSSTF/FEESO ELHT can be found at <https://www.osstfbenefits.ca/our-governance/>.

The first phase has been completed and, as of September 1, 2023, all eligible OSSTF/FEESO Long Term Occasional Teachers have been transitioned to direct billing (PAD) for members contributions.

Phase 2 - Transition to direct billing of plan member contributions for all eligible OSSTF/FEESO Members

Effective February 1, 2024, direct billing of plan member contributions, rather than payroll deduction for active plan members, will begin for all remaining and newly eligible teacher and education worker members. Information will be communicated by OTIP to plan members on the process to enroll in PAD authorization prior to the February 1, 2024, transition date.

Direct billing of plan member contributions for all plan members will be taken on the 10th of each month, beginning on February 10, 2024. Thereafter, member contributions will be deducted on the 10th of each month.

In the coming months, OTIP, as the third-party administrator of benefits on behalf of the ELHT, will contact members through their employer email or the email that plan members have registered for communication with OTIP. Members must follow the process outlined by OTIP to enroll for Pre-Authorized Debit (PAD) in order to have member-share premiums deducted monthly.

All Bargaining Unit leaders should communicate this change, as all eligible benefits plan members will be required to enroll in PAD through OTIP in order to make their required monthly member contributions.

If you have any questions, please contact John Wells at john.wells@osstf.ca.

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