Benefits for Housestaff

July 2017

The University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences offers a variety of benefits to eligible Housestaff (Physician Residents) and their families. The following information is intended to be a brief summary of these benefits and is not a guarantee of benefits. All Housestaff members should seek information from the Housestaff Office of the College of Medicine regarding eligibility costs and benefit plan options. Please refer to the Summary Plan Description (SPD) for a full description of each Insurance or Group Benefit Plan. SPDs are posted on Human Resources’ web site, along with insurance rates and our Notice of Privacy Practices. Printed copies are available by request from Human Resources.

UAMS Office of Human Resources
(501) 686-5650
www.hr.uams.edu (click on Benefits tab)

Rules about enrollment deadlines and effective dates

1. All new Residents are required to complete an Acknowledgement of Benefit Policies form at the time of Registration with the College of Medicine Housestaff Office. This form outlines benefits eligibility criteria, insurance enrollment deadlines and retirement participation information. The original will be maintained by Human Resources.

2. Medical Insurance takes effect the first day of the training program, provided the Resident submits the required enrollment forms to Human Resources within their first 30 days of initial appointment to the training program.

3. All other benefits are generally effective the first of the month following the date the Resident submits the required enrollment forms to Human Resources. In order to be eligible for benefits to take effect the earliest possible date, the Resident must complete and remit the required forms before the first day of beginning the training program.

4. There are no late enrollments for Medical Insurance or Dental Insurance, nor does the University guarantee an annual open enrollment. Unless a Resident elects to make a change on account of and consistent with a “qualified event” (e.g. marriage, birth, divorce), the first 30 days of their benefits-eligible training may be their only opportunity to enroll.

Information about responsibilities for the cost of coverage

1. Medical, Dental, Basic Life Insurance: Coverage includes the following, provided the Resident enrolls within 30 days of the initial appointment to the training program.
   
a. Medical Insurance for the Resident: UAMS will pay the premiums for the Resident’s Classic Plan coverage only, provided the Resident makes positive election for coverage.
   
b. Medical Insurance for Family Members: UAMS will pay a portion of the premium in accordance with the University of Arkansas benefit plan document, provided the Resident makes positive election for coverage.
   
c. Dental Insurance: UAMS will pay a portion of the premium for the Resident and his/her family members in accordance with the University of Arkansas benefit plan document, provided the Resident makes positive election for coverage.
d. **Basic Life Insurance for the Resident**: UAMS will pay the premiums for the Resident’s coverage.

2. **Basic Housestaff Long Term Disability for the Resident**: UAMS will pay the premiums for the Resident’s coverage. All housestaff members must participate and must enroll at the time of Registration through the College of Medicine’s Housestaff Office.

3. **Other insurance plans**, including Vision, Optional Life, Dependent Life, and Accidental Death & Dismemberment: the Resident is responsible for the cost of coverage, upon making positive election through Human Resources.

For information about the following descriptions, contact the UAMS Office of Human Resources by phone at (501) 686-5650, by email at AskHR@uams.edu, or visit our web site, www.hr.uams.edu.

**Medical Plan**

You have two medical plans to choose from: **Point of Service** or **Classic**. Both plans pay benefits on a wide range of traditional expenses such as doctor visits, surgical services, pregnancy, emergency room services, hospital stays, and diagnostic testing. Towards the goal of assisting you in being healthy, most in-network preventive services are covered in full, at no cost to you. Both plans are administered by UMR but are self-insured by the University of Arkansas. Prescription drug benefits are the same for either plan and are administered by MedImpact.

If you select the Point of Service plan, your out-of-pocket costs are determined by whether you seek care from an in-network provider or an out-of-network provider. Seeing your Primary Care Physician (PCP) or another provider in the network has the least out-of-pocket expense, plus better preventive benefits. Seeing a doctor or other provider who is out-of-network means you would pay a higher share of the bill.

If you select the Classic Plan you will enjoy a lower premium cost than the Point of Service Plan; your cost will be zero if you enroll in “employee only” Classic coverage. However, benefits are only provided if you access care through in-network providers, similar to an HMO. There are no benefits for out-of-network providers other than true emergencies.

SPDs and a side-by-side comparison of the Point of Service and Classic plans, “UA Health Plan At a Glance,” are posted on our web site. You’ll also find a link to view the University of Arkansas System Provider Network, which is nationwide.

Enjoy cost savings by choosing to come to UAMS for your care. The UAMS SmartCare benefit option is available under both the Classic and Point of Service plans. You’ll enjoy lower copays, deductibles and coinsurance costs, as well as a dedicated employee concierge to help you make appointments. To select a UAMS physician, visit www.uamshealth.com.

Free health coaching for chronic conditions such as diabetes, asthma, hypertension, high cholesterol, obesity and tobacco use is available through UMR and our wellness vendor, Onlife. Visit our web site for additional programs such as the Maternity Management program where you can save $300 on hospital delivery costs.

Those who participate in the annual wellness program (specifics announced each summer) are eligible to receive enhanced medical benefits the following year.

**You may enroll in Medical Insurance at these times:**
1) within your first 30 days of employment (coverage takes effect the first day of your training program); or 2) within 30 days of a qualified event such as marriage, birth of a child, divorce, death or spouse’s loss of coverage. Coverage takes effect the first day of the month following the date your written election is received by Human Resources. **We do not have a guaranteed annual open enrollment period. However,**
you may elect to change plans (from Point of Service to Classic, or vice versa) each November, to be effective January 1 of the following year. Refer to the SPD for further information.

**Dental Plan**

The dental plan is designed to assist you in maintaining good oral health. The plan helps you pay for basic dental exams, restorative care, cleaning services and preventive services. It also covers more intensive and specialty dental needs including extractions, oral surgery, crowns, bridges, spacers and implants. The dental plan is administered by Delta Dental of Arkansas but is self-insured by the University of Arkansas.

A schedule of benefits and the SPD are posted on our web site.

**You may enroll in Dental Insurance at these times:**
1) within your first 30 days of employment; or 2) within 30 days of a qualified event such as marriage, birth of a child, divorce, death or spouse’s loss of coverage. Coverage takes effect the first day of the month following the date your written election is received by Human Resources. We do not have a guaranteed annual open enrollment period. Refer to the SPD for further information.

**Vision Plan**

The vision plan, insured through Superior Vision, benefits those who have vision impairments and wear corrective eye wear. The plan helps to lower your out-of-pocket costs when you get an eye exam and purchase frames, lenses or contacts. There are also discounts for refractive surgery.

You may enroll in the vision plan within your first 30 days of employment. Newly eligible family members (e.g. new spouse) may also be added within 30 days. Open enrollment periods will be offered at the discretion of the carrier and are not guaranteed to be held annually.

Visit our web site for a detailed description of the two visions plans, Basic and Enhanced.

**Life Insurance**

Life insurance provides a payment to family or other beneficiaries in the event of your death. UAMS provides **Basic Life Insurance** to you at no cost. Coverage is equal to one times your salary, up to a maximum of $50,000.

You may purchase an additional one, two, three, or four times your salary (up to a maximum of $500,000) by enrolling in **Optional Life Insurance**. Again, the benefit is payable to your beneficiary in the event of your death.

You may purchase life insurance on your spouse and eligible children by enrolling in **Dependent Life Insurance**. The benefit is payable to you in the event of their death. You may choose $10,000, $15,000, or $20,000 coverage for your spouse. Children are automatically covered at one-half of the elected spouse’s coverage.

These plans are described in detail in the SPD’s which are posted on our web site. You may enroll in the Optional and/or Dependent Life Insurances within your first 30 days of employment. After this period you can apply for coverage through Evidence of Insurability, but the carrier reserves the right to deny coverage based on health condition.
Accidental Death and Dismemberment

You may purchase AD&D insurance to provide coverage for yourself, your spouse and your eligible children in the event of accidental death (full benefit) or dismemberment (partial benefit). Coverage amounts are available in $25,000 increments up to a maximum of $300,000. If you elect family coverage, you would first elect your coverage amount; then your spouse is covered at 60% of that amount and children are covered at 20% of that amount.

You may enroll in AD&D insurance at any time. This plan is described in detail in the SPD posted on our web site.

Disability

Disability coverage assists in replacing earnings in the event of a long-term injury or illness which prevents you from working. UAMS provides Basic Long Term Disability to eligible Housestaff at no cost. The monthly benefit amount is $1,000. Coverage is effective as of your date of eligibility with completed application to the College of Medicine Housestaff Office.

You may purchase Optional Long Term Disability which provides up to an additional $5,000 per month benefit. You may also add the following benefits to coverage: Cost of Living Adjustment (COLA) rider for inflation protection and Future Insurance Option (FIO) rider guaranteeing future insurability.

This disability program is structured to benefit you while at UAMS and throughout your working career. All inquiries should be made to James D. Foss & Associates at 221-3700, or by email to FossBenefits@uams.edu.

Section 125 Flexible Benefit Plan

Section 125 of the United States Tax Code allows you to reduce your taxable income by the amount you pay for medical, dental and vision insurance. Therefore, you may elect the Premium Conversion plan to pay these premiums on a pre-tax basis and reduce the amount withheld from your paycheck for Federal, State and FICA (Social Security/Medicare) taxes. Individual savings will vary based on your income, number of exemptions, and your tax bracket.

While our insurance plans do cover many health care expenses, there are co-payments, deductibles and services which may not be covered. With our Health Care Flexible Spending Account, you may set aside up to $2,550 annually through payroll deductions to be used for such out-of-pocket medical expenses, and thereby pay for these expenses with pre-taxed dollars. This increases your take-home pay by reducing your taxes. Many employees choose to establish an account to pay their medical insurance co-pays and deductible, orthodontia costs, and prescription eyewear (if not covered under our vision plan).

With a Dependent Care Flexible Spending Account, you may set aside up to $5,000 annually through pre-tax payroll deductions to be used for dependent care expenses. The account may be used to help pay for daycare or care of other immediate family members. If you elect to participate, you may not take the childcare credit for the same expenses when you file your income tax returns.

You may elect to participate in any of these three Section 125 Flexible Benefit Plan benefits within your first 30 days. The next opportunity to renew or change your election will be the Section 125 open enrollment period held each November, to be effective January 1 of the following year. You may also make changes within 30 days of a qualified event (as defined by the IRS; includes marriage, birth of a child, divorce and death).

For more information, visit our web site.
**Voluntary Benefits**

The University of Arkansas offers the convenience of payroll deduction and the advantage of group discounted rates for the following benefit plans. You would contact the carrier to apply for coverage.

**Group Home/Auto Insurance** is provided through Liberty Mutual. You can apply for coverage at any time. For more information, visit [www.libertymutual.com/lm/arkempl](http://www.libertymutual.com/lm/arkempl).

**Critical Illness Insurance** is provided through MetLife. You may enroll within your first 60 days of employment or during announced open enrollment periods. Coverage is available for you and your family (spouse & children). For more information, visit [www.metlife.com/mybenefits](http://www.metlife.com/mybenefits).

**Retirement Plan**

You are eligible to make personal, tax-deferred contributions to Tax Deferred Annuities, or TDAs. You may choose either or both of the two available fund sponsors: Teachers Insurance and Annuity Association (TIAA) and [Fidelity Investments](http://www.fidelity.com). You may elect to make contributions at any time during your employment at UAMS. Forms are available in Human Resources. For more information, visit our web site.

**College Tuition Discount**

Eligible Housestaff and their families receive a tuition waiver benefit at all of the University of Arkansas campuses.

Employees may take up to 132 undergraduate semester credit hours at 50% of the cost of tuition. Spouses and dependent children may take up to 132 undergraduate semester credit hours and receive a 50% tuition discount at the employee’s campus or 40% tuition discount at any other campus within the University of Arkansas. Waiver benefits are applicable to web based or distance education courses offered through any campus unit of the University of Arkansas or through eVersity.

Visit our web site to apply online for a tuition discount.

**Miscellaneous Benefits**

- Bus passes discount
- Business travel insurance
- Cafeteria discount
- Credit Union
- Discounts at area merchants & restaurants
- Employee Assistance Program
- Fitness Center on-site
- Gift shops
- GreenRide (carpooling)
- Library privileges
- Onlife wellness
- Ophthalmology & dental services on campus
- Prescription discount
- Vacation/theme park discounts
- Workers’ Compensation

*The University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences does not discriminate in employment or in any of its services on the basis of race, color, religion, national origin, creed, service in the uniformed services, status as a protected veteran, sex, age, marital or family status, pregnancy, physical or mental disability, genetic information, gender identity, gender expression, or sexual orientation.*

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