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Introduction

Service Request 82183
Service Request 82183 requests a change to the text displayed on the COBRA employee documents (IDOCs).

Service Request 82183 provides the following background information:

The Retirement COBRA IDOC contains specific language regarding vision coverage. Effective July 1, 2008, the University of California is offering a vision plan for the first time to retirees and their eligible family members. This new vision plan necessitates a change in the IDOC wording.
In addition, all COBRA IDOCs contain a set of instructions that the employee must follow to elect COBRA continuation coverage. Part of the instructional text needs to be changed.

Overview of PPS Modifications

IDOC Process
The text of the Retirement COBRA IDOC will be updated to reflect that a vision plan will be offered to retirees and their eligible family members.
The text of step #5 in the list of instructions appearing on every COBRA IDOC will be updated to reflect that an employee wishing to elect COBRA continuation coverage no longer needs to send one month’s premium to the health plan carrier.

Programs

Modified Programs

PPDXCOBR
Program PPDXCOBR produces all COBRA Notification IDOCs.
For the Retirement COBRA IDOC, several lines of text will be modified and three lines of text will be removed from Working Storage and the code that prints the removed text will be removed, as shown below:

Current text:

“Note: If you are eligible and have made arrangements to continue your UC-sponsored medical or dental coverage into retirement, and you are not enrolled in the vision plan or do not wish to continue your vision coverage under COBRA, please disregard this mailing. However, if you are enrolled in the vision plan and wish to continue your vision coverage under COBRA, use this form to apply. (Vision coverage through UC is not available to retirees.)”

Revised text:

“Note: If you are eligible and have made arrangements to continue your UC medical, dental, or vision coverage into retirement, you are not eligible for COBRA.”
For all of the COBRA IDOCs, several lines of text will be modified and one line of text will be removed from Working Storage and the code that prints the removed text will be removed, as shown below:

**Current text in Step 5 of the Instruction section:**

“Make photocopies of all pages of this completed Application for COBRA Continuation. Send one copy, along with one month’s premium, to each health plan carrier (medical, dental, and/or vision) with whom you wish to continue coverage.”

**Revised text:**

“Make photocopies of all pages of this completed Application for COBRA Continuation. Send one copy to each health plan carrier (medical, dental, and/or vision) with whom you wish to continue coverage.”