



HIGHWAY PATROL RETIREMENT SYSTEM

July 2023 Newsletter

Contact Us: 614.431.0781



"Our History Is Our Pride"

Pre-Medicare Health Reimbursement Arrangement Project Update

As a reminder, this project pertains only to the Pre-Medicare (under age 65) Health Reimbursement Arrangement (HRA). Any changes that may occur to the Medicare HRA for 2024 will be decided in August, after receiving the actuarial report.

During the month of July, HPRS staff members and trustees provided informational sessions at all District Headquarters, as well as various other locations in Ohio. These events aimed at accomplishing three main objectives: explain the need for the change to an HRA, give an overview of how the change will impact our members, and answer questions related to the change.

A Zoom meeting was conducted on July 6th that provided the same informational presentation, which had 85 logged in at one point. This Zoom session was recorded and posted to our website where it can be viewed at any time. Moreover, the slide presentation that was shown is on the HPRS website.

In late August, the official announcement letter will be mailed out that will have the website information for Via Benefits, and a dedicated phone number for our members to opt-in to the HRA. For those that need to access health care from the marketplace, the 2023 plans can be viewed at this time to price and compare. Note the 2024 plans will not be available until November 1st.

The timeline for the remainder of the HRA process is:

- Sept. 12th and 13th, at 10A and 2P each day, there will be a live webinar to learn more about the HPRS Pre-Medicare HRA, and about Via Benefits and their resources.
- Sept. and Oct - Pre-enrollment Sessions with Via Benefits for those that may want to purchase medical coverage. Members can opt-in to the HRA, so that they have access to the reimbursement allowance starting in January.
- Nov. 1 - Dec. 15 - Enrollment Period.
- December and January - Education on how to get reimbursed from your HRA.
- January 2024 - HPRS Pre-Medicare HRA allowance becomes available.

As always, should you have any questions please contact us at HPRS.

90th Anniversary Commemorative Weapon

The Ohio State Highway Patrol's 90th Anniversary Weapons are the Sig Sauer P365XL and the P320 Carry. Each gun features an engraved 90th Anniversary logo. The weapons are now available through Vance Outdoors, and are only available for purchase by current and retired Patrol personnel and their families. Ordering information is below.

P320 Carry: <https://www.vanceoutdoors.com/products2.cfm/ID/292136>

P365XL: <https://www.vanceoutdoors.com/products2.cfm/ID/292138>

The password for both links is **OSHP90**.

{Orders must be received by August 14, 2023}



Please help us to ensure your information is up to date. Any address, email, phone, marital status, dependent, beneficiary, or job status changes need to be given to HPRS to provide the best service to our members. Some changes can be made by the member through the secure area of our website. Beneficiary Designation and Personal Contact Information Update forms can also be found on the website under the *Forms* tab. Contact our office if you need assistance.



Is a Trust Right for You?

It is not always our favorite subject to discuss, but it is important that all of us take the proper steps to ensure everything is in order in the event of our death. As such, in the past we have recommended that active and retired members consult an attorney for wills and powers of attorney. Several of our members have also created a family trust or some other sort of trust to aid in the estate process. Whether or not a trust is a good idea is an individual decision based on specific circumstances of each active member or retiree. A trust may be named as a beneficiary for certain benefits such as DROP contributions and lump sum death benefits. Even if you decide a trust is not ideal for you, we encourage all active and retired members to periodically review and update their beneficiary forms.

Lower Prescription Drug Costs

Over the last several years, we have reported on the success of our members lowering their prescription drug costs. Ways to save include the use of a discount prescription card (such as Good Rx) or mail-order pharmacies (such as Cost Plus Drugs and Amazon Prime). Keep in mind, if you use a discount Rx program instead of your Medicare coverage, your out of pocket costs will not count towards your Part D TROOP (true out of pocket). Medicare-eligible members with a prescription plan purchased through Via Benefits should consult with their Benefits Advisor to ensure they are making the best decision to achieve the lowest annual expenses.



Some pharmaceutical manufacturers offer discounted or free prescription drugs for qualified individuals. This is most helpful with high-priced and specialty prescriptions. Reach out to the company directly, or search the database at [Medicare.gov](https://www.medicare.gov) to determine drug availability and where to go for savings.

Job Opportunities for Retirees

As a reminder, job opportunities are listed in the secure area of our website (www.ohprs.org). Please check this periodically to ensure you are aware of any new postings.



August 2023 Board/Committee Schedule

The Annual Board Conference is scheduled to be held in Columbus this year at the HPRS office on Thursday, August 17, 2023 at 0900 hours, and Friday, August 18, 2023 at 0830 hours.

Some committee meetings may be canceled from time to time. Please refer to the HPRS website at www.ohprs.org for the most current meeting dates and times.

Save the Date!



- **OSP Districts 90th Anniversary Celebrations***
 - **Cambridge District** - August 5, 2023 - 1000 hours - 1500 hours - Salt Fork State Park, 14755 Cadiz Road, Lore City OH 43755 (Shelter House #2)
 - **Piqua District** - August 12, 2023 - 1100 hours - 1500 hours - Honey Birch Farm, 550 Township Road 30 East, West Liberty, OH 43357
 - **Bucyrus District** - August 27, 2023 - 1200 hours - 1600 hours - Aumiller Park, 500 Aumiller Park Drive, Bucyrus, OH 44820
 - **Jackson District** - September 23, 2023 - TBD
- 2023 Sunbird Reunion, August 19, 2023, All Occasions Banquet Facility, Waldo
- 2023 Association Annual Meeting & Luncheon, October 21, 2023, Embassy Suites
- 2024 Snowbird Reunion, March 15 - 16, 2024, Lake Mary, Florida

*Please visit our website for more details and for RSVP information, <https://www.ohprs.org/ohprs/RetireeEventsCalendar.jsp>.



Retiree Qualification

As a reminder, your qualification under the LEOSA rules is only good for one year from the date of qualification. This can be found in 18 USC 926C: Carrying of concealed firearms by qualified retired law enforcement officers. For example, if you qualified on May 1, 2022, then you must qualify on or prior to May 1, 2023.

The upcoming scheduled retiree qualifications at the Academy are:

- Wednesday, August 9, 2023, at 1300 hours
- Wednesday, October 11, 2023, at 1300 hours

Additionally, all retirees may also reach out to their local District Headquarters for local weapons qualification availability.

You must complete a Weapons Qualifications Record (HP-15C), that includes your personal weapon information, and submit it to Melissa Fellure at mjfellure@dps.ohio.gov no less than 14 days prior to the qualification date. Retirees must bring their Division-issued ID Card with them to the qualification, and the retiree must supply weapon(s) and ammunition. If you have any questions, please contact Lieutenant Brian Nelson of the Academy Range at bwnelson@dps.ohio.gov or 614.644.4325.

Our office will be closed:

~ no closures in August



Important Numbers For You To Have On Hand

HPRS - (614) 431-0781
VIA Benefits* - (833) 431-1358
Medicare - (800) 633-4227
Medical Mutual of Ohio - (877) 520-6729
Express Scripts** - (866) 472-6249

Aetna Vision - (877) 973-3238
Delta Dental of Ohio - (800) 524-0149
Social Security - (800) 772-1213
Ohio Def. Comp. - (877) 644-6457

*VIA Benefits currently services Medicare-eligible beneficiary recipients only, for health care and prescription coverage. For those not yet Medicare-eligible, health care coverage is provided by HPRS through Medical Mutual of Ohio (MMO).

**Express Scripts coverage through HPRS for non-Medicare enrollment.

HPRS Staff Email Directory

Carl Roark, Ph.D., *Executive Director* - c.roark@ohprs.org
Michael Press, *CIO/General Counsel* - mpress@ohprs.org
Brian Fike, *Finance Director/Benefits Administrator* - b.fike@ohprs.org
Anthony Bradshaw, *Operations Manager* - a.bradshaw@ohprs.org
Holly Carr, *Executive Assistant* - hcarr@ohprs.org
Renee Young, *Benefits Specialist* - ryoung@ohprs.org
Charmaine Carter, *System Accountant* - ccarter@ohprs.org
Nicole Thompson, *Administrative Assistant* - n.thompson@ohprs.org

HPRS Board of Trustees

Captain Matthew Them, *Chair*
Major (ret.) Darryl Anderson, *Vice-Chair*
Colonel Charles Jones
Sergeant (ret.) Michael Kasler
Trooper Derek Malone
Lieutenant Christian Niemeyer
Sergeant Brice Nihiser
Trooper Cynthia Wilt
Major (ret.) JP Allen, *Appointed Investment Expert*
Joseph Thomas, *Appointed Investment Expert*
Craig Warnimont, *Appointed Investment Expert*

Ohio Highway Patrol Retirement System

1900 Polaris Parkway, Suite 201
Columbus, Ohio 43240-4037
614.431.0781
www.ohprs.org