

California Public Employees' Retirement System P.O. Box 942709 Sacramento, CA 94229-2709 (888) CalPERS (or 888-225-7377) TTY: (877) 249-7442 www.calpers.ca.gov

#### Reference No.: Circular Letter No.: 200-040-14 Distribution: IV, V, VI, X, XII, XVI Special:

# **Circular Letter**

July 17, 2014

# TO: ALL CALPERS EMPLOYERS

## SUBJECT: LAUNCH OF CALPERS | COMPARE

The purpose of this Circular Letter is to inform you that CalPERS is pleased to announce the launch of CalPERS | Compare. CalPERS | Compare lets your employees in the CalPERS Basic Preferred Provider Organization (PPO) health plans shop for medical services and prescriptions and compare their options. It can be used to track past expenses and estimate the costs of future services. In short, CalPERS | Compare will serve as a one-stop-shop for members' health information needs.

#### CalPERS | Compare's Capabilities

CalPERS | Compare is available through Anthem Blue Cross for all your employees in PERS Select, PERS Choice, and PERSCare Basic plan, and is powered by Castlight Health. This tool is an especially valuable resource for your agency. It will:

 Let your employees actively shop for their medical services and prescription options

From filling a prescription to finding a high-quality physician, CalPERS | Compare helps your employees learn about all the options available to them.

- Empower your employees to understand their benefits Think of CalPERS | Compare as a "one-stop shop" for the medical information that your employees need. It could save them time and money.
- Help your employees and your organization financially When your employees find high-quality, lower-cost care, it could help to control your agency's health care costs.

### <u>Timeline</u>

July 17, 2014

CalPERS | Compare is available through **calperscompare.com**. All your employees who are in PERS Select, PERS Choice, and PERSCare Basic plan can start using the tool by clicking on "Get Started." For detailed instructions go to **www.calperscompare/getstarted**.

Circular Letter No.: 200-040-14 July 17, 2014 Page 2

#### <u>Timeline</u>

July 17 – December 31, 2014

CalPERS will be working with Anthem Blue Cross and Castlight Health over the next few months to promote CalPERS | Compare to all Anthem Blue Cross PERS Select, PERS Choice, and PERSCare Basic plan subscribers. To facilitate this, Castlight Health representatives may reach out to Agencies to help promote CalPERS | Compare.

#### Action Required

Please take the following steps:

- Make sure your IT systems are compatible with CalPERS | Compare. Download IT setup instructions at **www.calperscompare.com/setup**
- Attend a CalPERS | Compare Employer training webinar to learn more about the program and next steps. Webinar RSVP at **www.calperscompare.com/rsvp**
- Are you an Anthem Basic PPO member? You can be the first to use CalPERS | Compare. Get started at www.calperscompare.com/register
- Take the initial steps to let your employees know about CalPERS | Compare. Send the CalPERS | Compare memo to your employees. Download memo at www.calperscompare.com/launchmemo

#### **Questions?**

Read the CalPERS | Compare frequently asked questions (FAQs) at **www.calperscompare.com/faq**. If you have any questions regarding the information provided in this Circular Letter that are not addressed in the FAQs, please email: support@calperscompare.com.

DOUG P. McKEEVER, Chief Health Policy Research Division