



# Statewide Schools Retiree Guide

The Idaho Statewide Schools Program allows retirees under age 65 to keep the same benefits they had before they retired. However, retirees over age 65 must be enrolled in Medicare Parts A and B. In addition, Blue Cross of Idaho offers a wide choice of Medicare Advantage, Medicare Supplement, and Medicare-compatible plans with Part D creditable prescription coverage to help meet their benefit and budget needs.

## How You Can Help Your Retirees

New retirees over age 65 can enroll in supplemental Medicare benefits within 60 days of retiring and losing benefits through their school. Changes to benefits can occur each year during open enrollment, October 15 to December 7. School district health plan administrators can help over age 65 retirees with both standard enrollment procedures and the annual renewal process with this quick guide.



### IF A NEW RETIREE IS ENROLLING: OVER 65 APPLICATION PROCESS

First, the retiree must complete the required retirement documentation with their school.

- Ensure that Part A and B of Medicare are in place prior to retirement and dropping active school policy
- Call Blue Cross of Idaho at 888-492-2583 or 208-286-3671 to speak with a representative who can assist with the entire process



Then, ensure the applicable forms are completed and returned:

- Statewide Schools Retiree Application Form (Form 4-150)

- If deferring the use of PERSI Funds at this time due to other insurance coverage, the member completes the form and signs the deferment section (also Form 4-150)
- Complete Medicare Supplement (Prime 65 – 5 plans available) Application (Form 3-334) or Medicare Advantage (True Blue HMO or Secure Blue PPO) Election Form (Form 16-522)
- The Retiree PERSI Authorization Form allows for direct billing to the member’s retirement account if they are enrolling in a Medicare Supplement (Form 4-161)
- Please note that different forms may have different Blue Cross return addresses

### IF AN EXISTING RETIREE IS RENEWING: OVER 65 RENEWAL PROCESS



**Option 1:** The retiree does nothing. No changes results in an automatic renewal in the existing plan.



**Option 2:** If not previously enrolled in a supplemental Medicare plan, a retiree can join during the open enrollment period. If the retiree wishes to review their available options, they can call 888-492-2583 or 208-286-3671 for help from Blue Cross of Idaho.