

Thinking of Retiring?



When getting ready to retire, most members first inquire as to the amount of pension they will receive. But a close second should be the Medical Benefits you will have in retirement.

Thanks to the TWU Local 100 contract, retirees enjoy coverage almost identical to when active. This is what your retiree medical benefits are:

- ✓ If you retire with 10 or more years of service at age 62 or older, you will retain your medical and prescription benefits until you reach age 65 or become eligible for Medicare for other reasons. Retirees do not receive TA-provided dental benefits. Vision benefits will revert to the pre-5/21/14 benefits. (Retiree dental plans are available via COBRA or the TWU Retiree Association.)
- ✓ If a retiree who dies is survived by a spouse/domestic partner, the spouse/domestic partner will be provided health care coverage at no cost until Medicare eligible. If the retiree is also survived by one or more minor child(ren), the child(ren) will be covered until the earlier of (1.) when the surviving spouse/domestic partner becomes Medicare eligible or (2.) the end of the month of their 26th birthday.
- ✓ If a retiree who dies and is survived only by one or more minor child(ren), they will only be provided COBRA coverage for the 12 months at no cost. The child(ren) may elect COBRA coverage for the remaining 24 months provided that they pay for this coverage.
- ✓ If you are already age 65, you must apply for Medicare Part B three months before you retire. If you retire before age 65, you must apply for Medicare Part B three months before you 65th birthday, or when you become eligible for Medicare for other reasons. Once you are retired and enrolled in Part B you will get your choice among three different medical plans for Medicare-aged retirees. You will also become eligible for improved prescription benefits.

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