



Monthly Message FROM THE CEO



February 2018

YOU'RE INVITED!

2018 Annual Meeting



Friday, March 2, 2018
10:30am-12:30pm EST

Location:
1620 L Street NW, Suite 800
Washington, DC 20036

[Click here to RSVP!](#)

Quick Links

www.afspa.org

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[2018 FSBP Federal Brochure](#)

[Ancillary Insurance Programs \(AIP\)](#)

Dear AFSPA Member,

Greetings and Welcome to February 2018!

First, I would like to start by telling you how much I appreciate each member. Thank you for your patronage and your loyalty to AFSPA's plans and services.

News on Migration



NEW COMPUTER PLATFORM



NEW ID CARD



NEW EOB LOOK

We just completed our first month of the Aetna migration. As predicted, it was a difficult time as members navigated through the new format, received new ID cards, etc. As much as we planned for disruption and questions, with all hands on the phone deck, we received over 700 calls on January 2 alone and the hold times were long. Understandably, many members were frustrated. We appreciate your patience and understanding for then and as we go into the second month.

Following quality reviews which have added a bit to processing time, 2018 claims are being released. You will receive Explanation of Benefits (EOB's) that look different from last year. Please refer to the [migration brochure](#) for directions on how to read the new format. **Also, please be sure to begin using your new FSBP ID Card and DESTROY any old ones as they are not valid after January 1.**

News on migration will continue to develop throughout the year. We will keep you updated

IRS Forms



On another note, **Foreign Service Benefit Plan (FSBP)** members will receive the IRS Form 1095-B by March 2, 2018, due to an extension from the original January 31 date granted by the IRS. This form confirms that you had minimal essential coverage while you were enrolled in **FSBP** in 2017. If you have questions about the IRS Form 1095-B, or about lost or incorrect forms, please contact us at 202-833-4910 or at enrollment@afspa.org. Please note, the 1095-B form is not needed to file your tax return, but it should be kept in your tax file for the year 2017.

In addition, Federal employees will receive the IRS Form 1095-C from their employing agency. It documents that your agency offered you health coverage in 2017. If you have questions about the IRS Form 1095-C, or about lost or incorrect forms, you should call your agency using the phone number on Line 10 of the IRS form.

OPM provided great information for both employees and annuitants in their [FastFacts sheet](#). Please take the time to review this pertinent document.

Is it a Cold or the Flu?



Lastly, influenza is really bad this year with outbreaks reported in 48 states. And this year's vaccine is only 30% effective; however, it might help lessen the symptoms. But, is it a cold or is it the flu? [Click here](#) for some useful information from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

We hope your family stays safe, warm, and healthy this winter. As always, thank you for your trust and for giving AFSPA the opportunity to serve you.

To Your Health,

Paula S. Jakub, RHU
CEO, AFSPA
Executive Director, Senior Living Foundation

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