



State of New Jersey
DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY
DIVISION OF PENSIONS AND BENEFITS
www.state.nj.us/treasury/pensions

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**Important Information Regarding the
Health Benefits Dependent Eligibility Verification Audit**

Recently a letter was mailed to many State employees requesting that by February 20, 2009, documents be submitted to verify the eligibility of dependents who are receiving State health care benefits. You may have received or heard of this letter. The letter is part of an eligibility audit program of the State Health Benefits Program (SHBP) that is required by law. The letter states that if you do not provide the information by February 20th your dependents will not be covered.

Please be advised that **no eligible dependent will be removed from the State Health Benefits Program on February 20, 2009.** While we had originally asked that the documents be submitted by February 20, 2009, we recognize this may present a hardship. We are asking those of you who received the letter to get the documentation as soon as possible so that the audit process moves forward. **We will send a reminder to those who received the mailing in the next few weeks establishing a deadline for submission.**

For those of you who did not receive a letter, please be advised you will also be receiving a written notice requiring that you verify the eligibility of dependent coverage. This will be an individual notice sent to your address and it will include a deadline for response and instructions.

Because the letter has generated questions among many recipients, the Division of Pensions and Benefits has prepared and posted a special "Frequently Asked Questions" page on its Web site that provides detailed information and address concerns about the eligibility audit and its requirements. The "Frequently Asked Questions" page can be viewed at:

www.state.nj.us/treasury/pensions/hb-dependent-audit.htm

Audit programs are important and are used by many businesses and governments to ensure that only those eligible are covered and we look forward to implementing the audit in a way that satisfies our legal obligation but is still fair and with adequate notice to our State workforce.

Please do not hesitate to contact the SHBP Dependent Eligibility Verification Audit Service Center at 1-866-641-5651 if you have any additional questions.