



United States Department of the Interior
U. S. GEOLOGICAL SURVEY
12201 Sunrise Valley Drive
Reston, VA 20192

BENEFITS BULLETIN

September 23, 2010

Bulletin No: 10-02
SUBJECT: Same-Sex Domestic Partners Now Eligible for Long Term Care Insurance
TO: All USGS Employees

Effective July 1, 2010, the Federal Long Term Care Insurance Program (FLTCIP) expanded the definition of qualified relative for purposes of enrollment to include same-sex domestic partners of eligible Federal employees. This change does not apply to opposite sex domestic partners and is applicable only to the FLTCIP. It does not change the definition of family member for other insurance programs such as health, life, dental or vision or retirement benefits.

A Declaration of Domestic Partnership form must be submitted to the employee's servicing Human Resources office prior to submitting the full underwriting application to Long Term Care. The application and Declaration form are available on the Long Term Care website, as well as an informative question & answer section, at <http://www.ltcfeds.com/eligibility/ssdp.html>.

The Federal Long Term Care Insurance Program offers coverage not only to eligible employees, but also to eligible family members. The employee does not have to be enrolled in Long Term Care Insurance in order for their domestic partner or other eligible family member to apply, they only have to be eligible to enroll. Enrollment is available at any time to anyone that meets the eligibility requirements. Certain medical conditions, or combinations of conditions, will prevent some people from being approved for coverage.

For further information, contact a Federal Long Term Care Insurance Program Customer Service representative at 1-800-582-3337 (TTY 1-800-843-3557), Monday through Friday, 8 a.m. to 6 p.m., Eastern Time, or access the website at www.ltcfeds.com.

Contact your Human Resources Benefits Specialist if you have any questions regarding the information in this Bulletin.

Kathy Shearman
Bureau Benefits Officer