**North Dakota Public Employees Retirement System**

NDPERS has made the following determination with regard to complying with the provisions of the U.S. Supreme Court ruling on same-gender marriage as it relates to the NDPERS Group Health Insurance Plans.

**Same-gender marriages that occurred *prior to June 26, 2015*:** NDPERS will have a special enrollment period from July 1, 2015 through September 30, 2015. Coverage will be effective retroactive to July 1, 2015.  If the subscriber does not enroll during this eligibility period, the late enrollee can only enroll during a scheduled Annual Enrollment Period with coverage effective the following January 1st.  This special enrollment period is available only to those members impacted by the Supreme Court ruling.

            In order to facilitate the enrollment process for this group, eligible subscribers must complete and submit a paper health application **and** a copy of the marriage certificate to the NDSU HR/Payroll office.  The application form is available on the NDPERS web site at <http://www.nd.gov/ndpers/forms-and-publications/forms/sfn-60036-health-insurance-application-or-change.pdf>  Completed applications and marriage certificates can be submitted via email to: christine.gauthier@ndsu.edu , faxed to 701-231-9686 or  delivered to the HR/Payroll office.

**Same-gender marriages that occur *on or after June 26, 2015*:** The subscriber must enroll for coverage within the first 31 days of the event using the process outlined above.  If the subscriber does not enroll when initially eligible, the late enrollee can only enroll during a scheduled Annual Enrollment Period with coverage effective the following January 1st.

NDPERS is in the process of assessing the effect of this ruling as it applies to other group insurance benefits and will keep us notified by e-mail as they make these policy determinations.

If you have any questions, please contact the NDPERS office at 701-328-3900 or 800-803-7377.