6-13-2007

Press release : 2007 : 06 : 13 : New State Budget Includes $1,000 Bonus for University Employees

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New State Budget Includes $1,000 Bonus for University Employees

Filed under eNews Newsletter on Wednesday, June 13, 2007 by Author: Erika LLenza.

On Thursday May 24 Governor Charlie Crist signed the General Appropriations Act for Fiscal Year 2007-2008, which includes a one-time bonus for state and university employees.

Effective Nov. 1, eligible employees (employees who are, at a minimum, meeting their required performance standards) will receive a non-recurring, one-time lump sum bonus payment of $1,000, less applicable taxes and withholding.

To receive the one-time bonus, the employee must be an eligible employee on November 1 and must be continuously employed by the state for the period July 1-Nov. 1. Each eligible part-time employee shall receive a prorated bonus payment based on the full-time equivalency of his or her position.

In a May 25, 2007 letter to all USF faculty and staff, President Judy Genshaft said, "It is unfortunate that a one-time 'bonus' will take the place of pay raises for our hard-working faculty and staff. In this period of fiscal uncertainty, the legislature was reluctant to commit recurring dollars which might not be available next year. While we understand the rationale, we remain disappointed."

In addition to the bonus, a very good piece of news for full time employees came with the budget signing—health care benefits and employee premiums will stay the same. As a result,

- For the period July 1, 2007- June 30, 2008 all benefits as provided in the current State Employees’ PPO Plan Group Health Insurance Plan Booklet and Benefit Document, current Health Maintenance Organization contracts and other health insurance benefits, as approved by the Legislature, will remain in effect.

- The employee’s share of health insurance premiums for the standard plans will continue to be $50 per month for individual coverage and $180 per month for family coverage.

- The employee’s share of the health insurance premiums for the high deductible plans will continue to be $15 per month for individual coverage and $64.30 per month for family coverage.

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