Special Enrollment Rights Related to Medicaid and CHIP

Congress recently enacted the Children’s Health Insurance Program Reauthorization Act of 2009 (the “Act”), effective April 1, 2009. Pursuant to the Act’s new “special enrollment provisions,” the Amherst College’s Group Health and Dental Insurance Plan (the Plan) will comply with the new special enrollment rights created by the Act for individuals who lose eligibility for Medicaid or Children’s Health Insurance Program (CHIP) coverage or who become eligible for premium assistance for such coverage.

The Plan will permit employees (and their dependents) who are eligible, but not enrolled, to enroll in coverage under the terms of the Plan if either of the following conditions are met:

i. **Termination of Medicaid or CHIP coverage.** You (or your dependent) are covered under a Medicaid plan or a CHIP plan, and your (or your dependent’s) coverage under such plan is terminated as a result of loss of eligibility for such coverage and you request coverage under the Plan not later than 60 days after the date of termination of such coverage.

ii. **Eligibility for premium assistance under Medicaid or CHIP.** You (or your dependent) become eligible for premium assistance with respect to coverage under the Plan, by virtue of your coverage under a Medicaid plan or CHIP plan, as long as you request coverage under the Plan not later than 60 days after the date that you (or your dependent) are determined to be eligible for such assistance.

Amherst College is in the process of updating our Plan documents and related disclosures, and will distribute (and/or make available) any and all applicable documents following open enrollment.

If you have any questions, please contact the Office of Human Resources for details about your special enrollment rights.