

Newsflash 13-4

Benefits Information: Oklahoma Tornado

DOD Agencies, the following applies to the benefits of those employees as well as their eligible spouse and dependent(s) directly affected by the Oklahoma tornado.

Federal Employees' Group Life Insurance Program (FEGLI)

The Office of Federal Employees' Group Life Insurance (OFEGLI) has instituted its expedited payment procedures.

If an insured employee and/or insured family member was killed or accidentally dismembered as a result of the tornado, please let OPM know by emailing fegli@opm.gov with whatever details that are available, including the enrollee's name, even if you don't yet have all the information to certify the coverage.

Waiving the requirement for a death certificate in this situation

OFEGLI will accept a written statement from the agency that the insured was in the area affected by the tornado when the death occurred or, to the best of their knowledge, the insured is missing and presumed (or confirmed) dead.

If such a statement is not available, OFEGLI will consider whatever information is available, including newspaper accounts or information from other reliable sources, including reliable sites on the Internet.

Agencies Annotating FEGLI Claim Forms

Indicate on the envelope, any claim forms, and certification forms sent to OFEGLI that such an incident is an Oklahoma Claim. That will let OFEGLI know to follow special expedited procedures.

Where to the FEGLI Claim Forms and Certifications

OFEGLI, 5950 Airport Road, Oriskany, NY 13424-3926 (phone 1-800-633-4542) and **write "Oklahoma Tornado Claim" on the front of the envelope.** Also use this address to send claims via an overnight service or, fax the claims forms, certifications, and all other FEGLI-related documentation to 1-570-558-8659, **ATTN: Oklahoma Tornado Claim.**



Questions?

Contact: benefits@cpms.osd.mil

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Federal Long Term Care Insurance Program (FLTCIP)

FLTCIP enrollees who live in the affected areas and miss premium payments during this time of crisis will not have their coverage cancelled. Long Term Care Partners will work with these enrollees at a later time to bring their accounts up to date.

Federal Flexible Spending Account Program (FSAFEDS)

No further funds will be contributed to an FSA if an FSAFEDS enrollee dies. Claims will be accepted for expenses paid on behalf of any surviving spouse and dependents until all previously allotted funds are reimbursed, per IRS regulations.

Please contact fsa@opm.gov if there are any issues with FSAFEDS allotments or claims that are causing a hardship on affected employees and their families.

Federal Employees Health Benefits Program (FEHB)

FEHB carriers have been asked to demonstrate maximum flexibility under their OPM contract, including the following expectations:

- Fee-for-service carriers to relax certain provisions such as their pre-certification requirement that the plan must be notified within two business days of an emergency admission.
- Fee-for-service and HMOs to relax requirements about notification and levels of benefit payment if members are taken to non-plan and/or non-PPO hospitals or other treatment centers.
- Plans make certain that FEHB members get additional supplies of medications as backup for emergency situations if necessary.
- Though charges for work-related injuries sustained by Federal workers are payable by the Office of Workers' Compensation Programs (OWCP), we are encouraging FEHB plans to provide immediate payment and seek subsequent reimbursement from OWCP.



Questions?

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