



# I ♥ MY PANTHER BENEFITS

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## Benefits Updates | July 17, 2023

### Retirement Scam Alert

**Please exercise caution.** The Benefits Department has been notified of recent fraudulent/scam attempts via telephone calls and emails from unauthorized retirement vendors. We highly encourage all employees to use the resources available on our [HR.FIU.EDU](http://HR.FIU.EDU) website to validate authorized vendors/providers and contact Benefits Administration at [benefits@fiu.edu](mailto:benefits@fiu.edu) for further guidance.

If you have not requested a call from the Division of Retirement or any of the authorized investment provider companies, you should not expect solicitation calls. For all your retirement related questions, contact the Benefits Administration team at [benefits@fiu.edu](mailto:benefits@fiu.edu).

**FRS Plan Members:** For retirement plan questions and free financial guidance, FRS members should contact the [MyFRS Financial Guidance Line](#) at 1-866-446-9377. The FRS has a contract with EY to provide **free, unbiased financial planning and counseling services** to FRS members. EY does not sell any investment or insurance products. No other financial planners or financial institutions or firms are affiliated with nor endorsed by the Florida Retirement System. See more regarding [Financial Planners Not Endorsed by FRS](#).

**SUSORP Plan Members:** For retirement plan questions and free financial guidance, SUSORP plan members should contact their investment company to learn more about how to stay on track with their retirement goal. Review the most updated [SUSORP Provider List](#) of FIU Representatives.

### Wellness Bite Webinar: The Curative Power of Solitude

Register for our upcoming [Wellness Bite webinar](#) taking place on **Wednesday, July 26, 2023, at 12:00pm**. Join us for this great session presented by [Dr. Oscar Gonzalez, DSW, LCSW-S](#), Joe DiMaggio Children's Hospital Social Work expert, on the current [epidemic of loneliness](#) and exploring ways of meaningful connection. Stay tuned for more [upcoming events](#)!

### 9-Month Faculty: Deferred Earning Program (DEP) Enrollment Period: April – August

The [9 over 12 Deferred Earning Program \(DEP\)](#) provides 9-month faculty an alternative option to receive payment of their salary over a 12-month period. This method of payment is available on an *optional basis* only and authorization is required from the faculty member. All 9-month faculty members will have the opportunity to select this payment option, or to dis-enroll, during the 9 over 12 Deferred Earning Program (DEP) enrollment period available through **August 25, 2023**, for the **2023-2024 Academic Year**.

For further details, review the [Enrollment and Cancellation Announcement](#).

**Questions? Contact Benefits Administration at 305-348-2181 or email [benefits@fiu.edu](mailto:benefits@fiu.edu).**