



# I MY PANTHERBENEFITS

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## Benefits Updates – March 13, 2023

### Reminder Flexible Spending Accounts for Plan Year 2022

- **Deadline to Use Funds:** The grace period to use or incur eligible expenses for **Dependent Care Flexible Spending Accounts** is **Wednesday, March 15**.
- **Filing Deadline (use it or lose it!):** All claims must be submitted to Chard Snyder by the filing deadline of **Saturday, April 15**.

For more information, check out the State's website for [Spending Accounts](#) or contact Chard Snyder's Customer Service representatives at 1-855-824-9284 or [email](#) them.

### Stay On Track with Your Retirement Planning

If you are considering retirement in the near future, take the time to review the [How to Retire Employee Guides](#) intended to get you *retirement-ready!* In addition, make sure to [register for our upcoming live webinars](#) for all your pre-retirement questions:

- [Social Security Benefits](#) – **Tuesday, March 14, at 1:30 p.m.**
- [Investment Planning](#) – **Tuesday, March 21, at 11:30 a.m.**
- [Estate and Insurance Planning](#) – **Thursday, April 6, at 11:30 a.m.**

For all your retirement-related questions, contact the **Benefits Administration** team at [benefits@fiu.edu](mailto:benefits@fiu.edu).

### Florida Prepaid Open Enrollment: Wednesday, February 1 – Sunday, April 30

[Florida Prepaid](#) offers college savings with tax advantages. Since 1988, the Florida Prepaid College Board has been offering Florida families a secure and tax-free method to financially prepare for a child's higher education through two 529 plans: The *Florida Prepaid College Plan*, a prepaid plan to cover the cost of tuition, required fees and dormitory housing at a Florida College or a state university; and the *Florida College Investment Plan*.

### State Employee Adoption Benefit Program

State employees who adopt a child from Florida's child welfare system may receive a one-time lump sum of \$10,000 for a special-needs child and \$5,000 for a non-special needs child. The funding for this program varies each year and the amount of the annual appropriation affects how many applications will receive the benefit. The Office of Child Welfare will accept applications during the annual [open enrollment period](#), **beginning the first business day of January and concluding on the last business day of March**. To be considered for benefits, applicants must submit a completed application for adoption benefits. For more information, please [email](#) the Adoption Information Center at or call 800-96-ADOPT.

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