

FIU Human Resources

I ♥ MY PANTHERBENEFITS

Phone: (305) 348-2181 • Email: benefits@fiu.edu • Website: hr.fiu.edu/benefits

Benefits Updates | September 14, 2026

Spot the New Icon! Your Sick Leave Pool Information Is Just a Click Away

We are excited to introduce a new and convenient way to manage your **Sick Leave Pool** participation through PantherSoft.

How to Access the Sick Leave Pool Tile:

1. **Log in** to **PantherSoft**
2. Select **HR Employee Self Service**
3. Navigate to **Benefits Details**
4. Click the **Sick Leave Pool** tile

⇒ **Current Participants:** use the **Sick Leave Pool** tile to view and verify your current Sick Leave Pool participation status, review your enrollment information, and submit a request to cancel your participation with just one click.
⇒ **Newly Eligible Employees**: once eligible, you will receive an email invitation to participate in the **Sick Leave Pool Program**, you can enroll directly through **PantherSoft** using the **Sick Leave Pool** tile.

Don't Let Your Student Loan Repayment Plan Be Chosen for You – Get Support Through SAVI

According to information provided by Savi, a student loan assistance and financial wellness provider; millions of federal student loan borrowers currently enrolled in the SAVE Plan forbearance are expected to receive a 90-day notice requiring them to select a new repayment plan. Borrowers who do not take action may be automatically enrolled in a standard repayment plan, which is based on loan balance rather than income and could result in higher monthly payments.

Savi also advises that, even if borrowers have not yet received notice, interest has been accruing on eligible loans since August 2025. Additionally, time spent in the SAVE Plan forbearance does not count toward Public Service Loan Forgiveness (PSLF) or income-driven repayment (IDR) forgiveness programs.

As part of FIU's employee benefits and financial wellness resources, employees have access to Savi's student loan assistance platform, which provides tools and personalized guidance to help borrowers evaluate repayment options. **Employees can create an account at fiu.bysavi.com to explore available repayment plans and contact a Savi student loan expert.**

Offboarding and Retirement Resources

Employees considering separation or retirement are encouraged to review the resources available on the HR website, including Preparing for Retirement, Benefits Upon Separation, and the FIU Separation process. Separating from FIU is different from retiring under a State of Florida-administered retirement plan.

To support retirement planning, FIU and its authorized plan providers offer a variety of **financial education webinars** covering retirement planning, investing, and financial wellness. **Review the schedule and register at go.fiu.edu/retirementwebinars**.

Additional retirement education resources are also available online. Recordings of recent FRS workshops, including *Investment Planning*, *Taking Control of Your Finances*, and *Understanding the FRS Investment Plan*, can be accessed anytime at MyFRS.com/Workshop.

Approaching the End of DROP Participation?
DROP participants who are within six months of their DROP end date will receive information from **FRS@alight.com** regarding ***complimentary*** retirement planning assistance through the ***MyFRS Financial Guidance Line***.

Participants are encouraged to contact the Guidance Line directly at **(866) 446-9377** or ***schedule an appointment*** *online with an* ***FRS-authorized*** *financial planner* to discuss DROP distribution options, retirement income planning, Social Security, Medicare, and other retirement-related topics. These advisors are specially trained to provide personalized guidance based on each participant's individual retirement goals and circumstances.

Questions? Contact Benefits Administration at benefits@fiu.edu.