EDS Finalizes Unpaid Claim Information

HealthChoice has updated their website to inform all members that the claims administer—EDS—has finished entering all unpaid claim information into their system.

To check on the status of an unpaid claim, members may call toll free 1-800-782-5218 with the date of service and member number (located on front of ID card). Once you registrar online, claim status and other information is available 24 hours a day, seven days a week at www.sib.ok.gov.

Health/Pharmacy Card Information

New HealthChoice ID cards have been mailed and all members should have received a new card with the same 8-digit ID# but with new claims information on the reverse side.

Please check your card to make sure it is the current card. Also, please keep the Pharmacy ID Card issued by Medco Health for prescription ID information.

Each HealthChoice member should have two cards, one for doctor/hospital claims and one for prescriptions. If you have not received the new HealthChoice card, or need additional cards, call 1-800-782-5218 to request a card. Be ready to give the ID# and verify mailing address. Allow 2-3 days for mailings.

Lincoln Financial Group – SWOSU New 403-B Vendor

The group meetings and one-on-one sessions with the new 403-b vendor—Lincoln Financial—have concluded on the SWOSU campuses. Sessions were very well attended.

If you were unable to attend or are interested in signing up for a 403-b deduction, please contact Debra Purdum in the Human Resources Office, ADM 101. You may visit the Lincoln website at: http://www.swosu.edu/administration/hr/403b/RUSO-fund-lineup.xls

The Big Effects of Little Changes

It doesn’t seem like much of a change for the cafeteria to eliminate the use of food trays, like the SWOSU cafeteria did last semester. However, according to a recent study that involved 25 institutions, it is a great way to help the university become more environmentally friendly.

The study recently released by ARAMARK indicated that eliminating the use of food trays decreases food waste by 25% to 30%. The University of Maine at Farmington with an enrollment of 2,000 full-time students reported the following savings and benefits:

• Reduced food waste by 46 pounds per person per year
• Conserved nearly 300,000 gallons of hot water
• Reduced dish detergent and sanitizer usage
• Improved the image of the dining experience
• And an estimated annual economic benefit of $57,000

Vice President Tom Fagan said hopefully SWOSU will experience similar benefits and this will help us keep our food service prices at competitive levels. Fagan thanks Duncan Taylor and his staff for this little, but important, change.
Suggestion Box

**Suggestion:** Since we have a freshman orientation as a way of introducing incoming students to SWOSU, why not, have a Senior Exit course such as you have in business when an employee is leaving (i.e. exit interviews). But make it a formal class, where it meets 2 or 3 times prior to graduation. This way, any information that needs to be offered is not lost during those frantic times at graduation ceremonies.

**Answer:** From Senior Vice President/Provost Dr. Blake Sonobe: Thank you very much for the suggestion. Valuable information and data can be collected through a class like this that will help us improve the educational experience at SWOSU. Please submit to your Department Chair, Faculty Senate representative or the Provost a detailed syllabus for the course and an implementation plan for proper consideration.

**Suggestion:** Have a computer lab or the library open all night. There are many off campus and on campus students that have no where to go after the library closes and Stafford closes on the weekends to do online homework and projects.

**Answer:** Sonobe said we’ll ask the Student Government Association to run a survey of students to see what the need is at this time. If there is sufficient response, we could consider it.

**Suggestion:** That we get a men’s track and field team, which would benefit the campus by bringing in more students. This would also give us another sports option at SWOSU.

**Answer:** Budgets are tight, so this option is not available at this time.

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New SWOSU Employees

- Teri Allen...Accounting & Finance
- Dan Cocannouer...Athletics/Kinesiology coach
- Daniel Persson...Athletics
- Toby Trotter...Athletics/Parks & Recreation
- Justin Brown...Cedar Canyon Adv. Program
- James Gichuki...Cedar Canyon Adv. Program
- Amy Smalley...Cedar Canyon Adv. Program
- Teri Williams...Cedar Canyon Adv. Program
- James Scruggs...College of Pharmacy
- Justin Noll...Foss Lake Adv. Program
- Joshua Price...Foss Lake Adv. Program
- Jase Meget...Foss Lake Adv. Program
- Nicole Boyles...Institutional Advancement
- Christopher Bradley...Library
- Albert Essandoh...Management & Marketing
- Kyle Mickley...Physical Plant
- Michelle Roberts...Resident Life
- Janice Akers...Salt Fork Adv. Program
- Daniel Bastas...Salt Fork Adv. Program
- Daniel Cerny...Salt Fork Adv. Program
- Stacey Dickens...Salt Fork Adv. Program
- Joseph Marty...Salt Fork Adv. Program
- Diana White...Salt Fork Adv. Program
- Kathy Hollister...Student Center
- Andrew Cain...Tenkiller Adv. Program
- Jorie Edwards...Psychology
- Randy Barnett...Psychology

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SWOSU Dates to Remember...

**February**
- 21 OSSAA Instrumental/Ensemble Contest
- 25 Allegiance Credit Union Visit

**March**
- 6-10 SWOSU Theatre Production “Cabaret”
- 12 New Student Orientation
- 16-20 Spring Break
- 25 Education Career Fair
- 26 SWIM Southwestern Interscholastic Meet
- 28 2nd Annual Tough Enough to 5K Run/Walk
- 31 Westview Writer’s Festival

**April**
- 3 New Student Orientation
- 6-7 SWOSU Blood Drive
- 9-10 SWOSU University Rodeo
- 15 Panorama Event - The Fab Four
- 16 SWOSUpalooza
- 18 Blue/White Football Game
- 21 New Student Orientation
- 22-24 SWOSU Theater Production “Directions”
- 30 Finals Begin

**May**
- 1, 4-6 Finals
- 9 SWOSU Convocation

www.swosu.edu