

The Virgin Islands Consortium

Gov't Employees To See One-Time Deduction From Paychecks For Health Insurance

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Civil workers who are members of the Government's Health Insurance plan should see an extra deduction from their October 30 paychecks, Division of Personnel Director Kenneth L. Hermon, Jr., announced in a statement.

This action was taken to cover the difference between fiscal year 2014 rates and the new rates of 2015, according to the release, and it was necessary due to the late submission of the insurance contract by the GESC/Health Insurance Board of Trustees.

"Cigna began billing at the new rate effective October 1, 2014; however, due to the late approval of the insurance contract, the division was not able to change the rates in time

for the October 2, 2014 pay day," Hermon said. "If we fail to collect the difference in rates on the October 30th, payday, the insurance fund would have under collected by \$126,327 from the members and \$233,181 from the employer for a total of \$359,508 in October."

Hermon revealed that in order to continue making payments to Cigna within the permitted time frame, "both the employer and employee portions of the premium due must be collected."

The following amounts are what government employees should see deducted from their October 30 paychecks:

Coverage	Amount
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Family Medical & Dental	\$13.85
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Family with Medical Only	\$13.42
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Employee Medical Only	\$ 7.79
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The release also confirmed deductions from the checks of retirees to reflect the 2015 rates, however those deductions will come at a later date.

"Once a date has been identified, the division will communicate with the retirees so that they may plan for the deduction," Hermon said.

All questions are to be directed to the Dept. of Human Resources officer in the respective districts, by calling 340-774-8588 or 340-718-8588.