

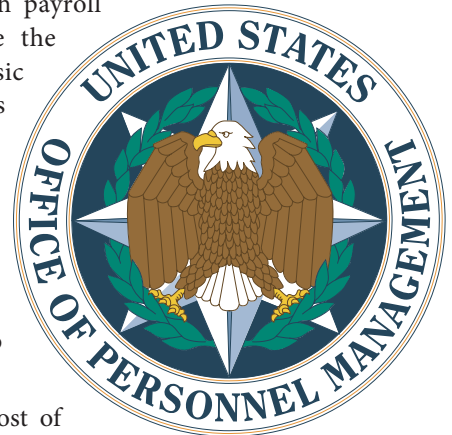


National Postal Mail Handlers Union

# Announces Rare FEGLI Open Season Opportunity

**T**he Office of Personnel Management (OPM) recently announced that an open season for the Federal Employees Group Life Insurance (FEGLI) program will be available to change your coverage starting September 1, 2016 through September 30, 2016. This is the first opportunity in eleven years to sign up for federal group life insurance without having to undergo a physical exam. During open season, career mail handlers and other postal and federal employees may enroll in FEGLI, or increase their coverage, without taking a physical exam or waiting for a Qualifying Life Event (marriage, divorce, death of spouse, or an eligible child joining the family).

Open seasons for FEGLI happen infrequently; the last opportunity was in 2004. FEGLI only provides term life insurance, which does not build up any cash value or paid-up value. Most career postal and federal employees are automatically enrolled in the basic FEGLI coverage and pay the premiums through payroll deduction unless they decline the coverage. In addition to the Basic coverage, there are three forms of Optional insurance each employee may elect. You must have Basic insurance in order to elect any of the options. Unlike Basic, enrollment in Optional insurance is not automatic—you must take action to elect one of the options.



For a postal employee, the cost of basic insurance is covered completely by the Postal Service. The basic insurance amount is equal to the greater of (a) your annual rate of pay (rounded up to the next even \$1,000) plus \$2,000 or (b) \$10,000. Additionally, employees under 45 years of age get the Extra Benefit, which doubles the amount of your basic insurance if you die when you are 35 or younger. The Extra Benefit decreases 10 percent each year until there is no Extra Benefit left. Postal and federal employees pay the full cost of Optional insurance, and the cost depends on your age. More information, including detailed rates, can be obtained through the Postal Service or on the Internet at [www.opm.gov/healthcare-insurance/life-insurance/reference-materials/postalbooklet.pdf](http://www.opm.gov/healthcare-insurance/life-insurance/reference-materials/postalbooklet.pdf).

The Office of Federal Employees' Group Life Insurance (OFEGLI), which is a private entity that has a contract with the Federal Government, processes and pays claims under the FEGLI Program.

Coverage elected during the September 2016 open season will be effective in approximately one year, at the first pay period beginning on or after October 1, 2017. If you are satisfied with your existing FEGLI coverage, no action is required during open season to continue the coverage. However, you may reduce or cancel your FEGLI coverage at any time without waiting for an open season.

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