Graduate Student Assistants Benefits Enrollment Guide

As a Graduate Student Assistant new to the University of Michigan or newly eligible for U-M benefits, this document is designed to help you find the information you need to make your benefits choices and to guide you through the online enrollment process. Please be aware that enrollment for most benefits is not automatic and you will need to enroll in benefits within **30 days** or as specified by your collective bargaining agreement if you are in a union.

**Key Points:**

1) You must enroll for most benefits (particularly those health-related) within **30 days** of your date of hire, the date you became newly eligible, the date you received notification of eligibility, or whichever is later or as specified by your collective bargaining agreement if you are a union member. See the Benefits Enrollment Deadlines and Defaults document at hr.umich.edu/sites/default/files/benefits-enrollment-deadlines.pdf.

   **Enrollment for most benefits is NOT automatic**

2) Visit the University Human Resources website at hr.umich.edu/benefits-wellness for details on eligibility for you and your dependents and information on the available benefits plans, options, and rates.

3) Please set aside time to review your Benefits Enrollment and Eligibility at hr.umich.edu/benefits-eligibility.

4) Once enrolled online, your health benefits are retroactive to the date of hire or date of eligibility and remain in effect until December 31 (as long as you remain eligible). Compare options carefully; the next opportunity to choose differently will be during the next Open Enrollment event unless you experience a qualified family status change. See hr.umich.edu/changing-your-benefits for details.
Quick Guide to U-M Benefits Plans

Following is the benefits plan U-M currently offers to benefits-eligible Graduate Student Assistants and the enrollment steps. Your eligibility for benefits is based on your job/career family or benefit group, your appointment percentage, and the duration of your appointment. To see the plans for which you and your dependents are eligible and your monthly rates, see the University Human Resources website at hr.umich.edu/benefits-wellness. Enrollment for most benefits is NOT automatic. Benefits are subject to change.

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<td>Health Plan</td>
<td>GradCare.</td>
<td>Enroll online through Wolverine Access/Self Service within 30 days of hire or benefits eligibility.*</td>
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<td>Includes Prescription Drug Plan</td>
<td>Three plan options available. Choose Option 1, Option 2, or Option 3.</td>
<td>Enroll online through Wolverine Access Benefits Self-Service to change option for self and/or enroll dependents within 30 days of hire or benefits eligibility.*</td>
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<td>Dental Delta Dental Plan</td>
<td>Exam, eyeglasses and/or contact lens coverage.</td>
<td>Enroll online through Wolverine Access Benefits Self-Service within 30 days of hire or benefits eligibility.*</td>
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<td>Vision Davis Vision by MetLife Plan</td>
<td>General legal services for you and your family.</td>
<td>Enroll online through Wolverine Access Benefits Self-Service within 30 days of hire or benefits eligibility.*</td>
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<td>Flexible Spending Accounts (FSA)</td>
<td>Set aside pretax dollars for Health Care and/or Dependent Care eligible expenses.</td>
<td>Mail/Fax the FSA enrollment form to SSC Benefits Transactions within 30 days of hire or benefits eligibility.*</td>
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<td>Optional Group Term Life Insurance</td>
<td>Amounts available: $5,000, $50,000, or 1 to 8 times salary.</td>
<td>Enroll online through Wolverine Access Benefits Self-Service within 30 days of hire or benefits eligibility.* No proof of insurability is required as a new hire only.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Retirement Savings Plans • Supplemental Retirement Account (SRA)</td>
<td>You may enroll with TIAA-CREF and/or Fidelity Investments. Individuals hired or newly eligible on or after January 1, 2010 must complete a 12-month waiting period to become eligible to receive U-M contributions to the Basic Retirement Plan.</td>
<td>Enroll any time online through Wolverine Access Benefits Self-Service.</td>
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* You must enroll for most benefits (particularly those health-related) within 30 days of your date of hire, the date you became newly eligible, the date you received notification of eligibility, or whichever is later or as specified by your collective bargaining agreement if you are a union member.
STEP-BY-STEP Online Enrollment Instructions

1. **To identify the benefits plans** and options that best meet your needs and those of your eligible dependents, review options online at hr.umich.edu/benefits-wellness.

2. **To enroll in benefits plans**, go to Wolverine Access at wolverineaccess.umich.edu, or click the Wolverine Access link located under “quick links” on the U-M gateway, umich.edu.

3. Enter **Benefits** in the search bar, and then select **Benefits Self-Service**. Enter your uniqname Login ID and UMICH password. (If you don’t have a uniqname or UMICH password, contact your supervisor.)

4. Click **Log In**, which displays the **Benefits Self Service** page.

5. Follow the online instructions to make your benefits selections. Choose each benefit for you and your eligible dependent(s).

6. After making an online election, you can view or print your submitted confirmation statement immediately after your elections are submitted. If you are unable to enroll online, call the SSC Contact Center immediately.

**NOTES**

- **DEADLINES**: To obtain coverage for you and your eligible dependents, you must enroll for most benefits within 30 days of your date of hire, the date you became newly eligible, the date you received notification of eligibility, or whichever is later or as specified by your collective bargaining agreement if you are a union member.

- **LIMITATIONS**: Once you have submitted your benefits elections, or after your enrollment deadline has passed, you will not be able to change health, dental, legal or vision plans, or your FSA, until the next Open Enrollment period, unless you experience a qualified family status change that impacts eligibility for benefits. Open Enrollment is usually in October and new benefits elections go into effect January 1.

- **DUAL U-M FAMILIES**: If two members of a household work at U-M and/or have U-M benefits as a retiree, special conditions may apply. You cannot cover under your U-M benefit plans: (1) Anyone who works for U-M and has his or her own coverage as an employee of U-M; (2) Any eligible dependents who are already covered by another employee of U-M, unless you are court-ordered to provide such coverage; (3) Anyone who is not your legal spouse or eligible dependent; (4) Yourself if you are covered by another U-M employee as a dependent on their benefit plan.

- **WAIVE BENEFITS**: You may elect to waive your U-M benefits. When you waive health coverage you also waive prescription drug coverage. Before you waive your U-M coverage, be sure to read and understand the conditions that may allow you to enroll in a U-M health plan if you should lose your coverage through another employer or group health plan.

- **EFFECTIVE DATE**: All health benefits are retroactive to your date of hire or date of eligibility. Flexible Spending Account enrollments begin the first of the month after the appropriate forms are received by SSC Benefits Transactions. Retirement Savings Plan enrollments generally become effective with the next available paycheck after your enrollment is completed.