

OCTOBER 2023

HUMAN RESOURCE SERVICES

Monthly Newsletter



IMPORTANT DATES

| | |
|--------------------|---|
| Sunday, October 1 | Pay Period Starts |
| Monday, October 2 | Time Card Approval Deadline, 12:00 P.M. |
| Friday, October 13 | Pay Day |
| Sunday, October 15 | Pay Period Starts |
| Monday, October 16 | Time Card Approval Deadline, 12:00 P.M. |
| Friday, October 27 | Pay Day |
| Sunday, October 29 | Pay Period Starts |
| Monday, October 30 | Time Card Approval Deadline, 12:00 P.M. |

STATE HOLIDAYS

You can view a list of the 2023 Holiday Schedules on our [website here](#).

➤ Open Enrollment is HERE!

The State Employee Health Plan (SEHP) is hosting the annual Open Enrollment period for Active State and Non-State Group employees from **October 1-31, 2023**.

This is an Active Enrollment Year. All covered members must enroll for Plan Year 2024!

Members who have waived coverage will remain waived unless an enrollment is completed.

All Open Enrollment materials, including the Open Enrollment Guide, videos, and informational flyers are posted on the [SEHP's website](#).

[Click here to enroll now!](#)

MEET ALEX! ALEX is an online resource SEHP provides to help you walk through all of your available benefits and explain how they work. ALEX can also help you compare health plan options and break down cost differences.

[Take me to ALEX](#)

➤ Open Enrollment Materials

Open Enrollment books, videos and vendor materials are now available online.

- If you request a printed copy of the Enrollment Guide, you should have received it.
- If you did not request a copy, you can [view and print a copy here](#).

➤ 2024 Holiday Schedule

Below is the list of the 2024 Holidays and Discretionary Day information.

| | |
|--------------------------------------|------------------------------|
| New Year's Day | Monday, January 1, 2024 |
| Martin Luther King, Jr. Day | Monday, January 15, 2024 |
| Memorial Day | Monday, May 27, 2024 |
| Juneteenth National Independence Day | Wednesday, June 19, 2024 |
| Independence Day | Thursday, July 4, 2024 |
| Labor Day | Monday, September 2, 2024 |
| Veteran's Day | Monday, November 11, 2024 |
| Thanksgiving Day | Thursday, November 28, 2024 |
| | Friday, November 29, 2024 |
| Christmas | Wednesday, December 25, 2024 |
| Discretionary Day* | |

*2024 Discretionary Day may be used starting 12/24/23 through 12/21/24.

The remaining holidays for 2023, the 2024 holiday schedule, and more information regarding holidays/Discretionary Day can be viewed on the HRS webpage > Employee Benefits > Holidays or [at this link!](#)

Greetings From Russ Hall!

Welcome to our new HR newsletter article, Greetings From Russ Hall! Each month we will introduce you to one employee who works in Russ Hall.

This month's article stars Executive Associate Senior for the Provost and Academic Affairs office, **Stephanie Swezey!**

How long have you worked for Pitt State?

"I have worked for Pitt State for 16 years. Through my time here I have worked in Student Financial Assistance, Alumni and Constituent Relations, Student Life, and am currently in the Office of the Provost."

What is your favorite part of working on campus?

"We have so many employees in a wide variety of jobs but we're all working toward the same goal. Every time I've moved into a new division, I've gained a new understanding and appreciation of what other departments do for the University."



What are three words you would use to describe PSU?

"Formative, opportunity and educational. My path in life would be very different if I hadn't attended PSU and worked as a student employee in the Financial Aid office. I learned so many things in and out of the classroom during those four years and it all led me to where I am today."

What is something we might not know about you?

"I haven't done it in years, but I learned how to weld in high school and enjoyed it. Jon Jones (Technology and Workforce Learning) taught my welding class in high school!"

HRS Reminders

OCTOBER WORK ANNIVERSARIES

Holly Viets - 41 Years

Debbie Amershek - 40 Years

Susan Johns-Smith - 36 Years

Kevin Vanlanduit - 27 Years

Eric Springer - 26 Years

Marty White - 24 Years

Dana Blubaugh - 23 Years

Kathleen Flannery - 21 Years

David Nance and Sandy Brown - 20 Years

Colby Watchinski - 17 Years

Kimberly Harries - 13 Years

Rob Hunt and Cindy Johnson - 12 Years

Colton Montgomery - 11 Years

Kelley Manley, Tianne Westervelt, Mark Swartz, Kayla Laderer, Tony Jameson, and Winona Hyder - 9 Years

Tim Pierce - 8 Years

Abigail Fern - 5 Years

Felipe De Souza, Anna Farrow, Sarah Rexwinkle, Gina Henry Matter, Shannah Farmer, and Libby Graham - 2 Years

Ryan Ridings, Daniel Macias, Blaise Jacks, David Perricone, Jamie Thayer, and Edward Wagoner - 1 Year



HRS Reminders

NEW EMPLOYEES AND NEW POSITIONS

| Name | Title | Department |
|------------------------|--|--------------------------|
| Fred Fletcher-Fierro | Interim General Manager | KRPS FM Radio Station |
| Jennifer Hall | Director of Development for the College of Business | Development |
| Christopher Pennington | Technology Innovation / Business Advisor | EnterprisePSU |
| Colin Coronado | Regional Recruiter | Admission |
| Jeffrey Peterzell | Custodian Supervisor | Facility Operations |
| Amber Zachary | Police Communications Specialist | Police and Public Safety |
| Corin Cooper | Library Assistant | Library Services |
| Sydney Anslemi | Program Coordinator for Campus Activities | Student Center |



HealthQuest Resources

[October HealthQuest Newsletter](#)

TIAA and KBOR Q3 Updates

[KBOR Q4 Newsletter](#)

[IRS Contribution Limits for 2023](#)

[KBOR Voluntary Plan](#)

[KBOR Retirement Program Guide](#)

[How to Enroll - KBOR Retirement Plan](#)

State of Kansas Updates

[New Voluntary Benefit: Long-Term Care](#)

HealthQuest - Women's Health Webinar!

October 12 @ 1:00 P.M. - Earn 1 HealthQuest Credit for watching!

While everyone's health is important, this session will focus on women's health. In this session, they will review guidelines for preventative screenings and routine exams and the basics for women of all ages.

No registration is required! Simple [follow these instruction](#) on how to access this webinar directly on the HealthQuest Portal.

WEBINARS

| | | |
|-------------------------|--|-------------|
| October 10 @ 2:00 P.M. | Advanced Investing | KPERS 457 |
| October 11 @ 9:00 A.M. | Healthcare Costs in Retirement | KPERS 457 |
| October 12 @ 1:00 P.M. | Women's Health | HealthQuest |
| October 16 @ 1:00 P.M. | Retirement Planning for Women | KPERS 457 |
| October 19 @ 12:00 P.M. | Nearing Retirement | KPERS 457 |
| October 24 @ 10:00 A.M. | Benefits of Enrolling & ROTH | KPERS 457 |



Update from HRS - *Lori Scott Dreiling, Director*

State Employee Health Plan (SEHP) Open Enrollment: SEHP Open Enrollment is right NOW - October 1-31. WATCH for emails from the State Employee Health Plan for updates and timing on open enrollment for your health, dental, vision, etc. for 2024. As in years' past, this is an active enrollment meaning you HAVE TO ENTER THE MAP PORTAL and re-enroll every year. For the nearly 200 of you that attended this years' Benefits Fair - thank you! It was a very nice day and a great turnout.

Reminder: Contact payroll@pittstate.edu if you need assistance with open enrollment. We'd be happy to sit with you and get that done before the October 31 deadline. Probably best to email us so we can set up an appointment with you.

Get your HealthQuest points before it is too late! Over 500 PSU employees have not yet completed your HealthQuest points for 2023. Many of you are close but not yet to 40.

Remember, you receive a health insurance premium reduction of \$480/year for 2024 if you complete the 40 points. If you have the High Deductible Health Plan - Plan C or N (HDHP) along with the Health Savings Account (HSA), then you receive \$12.50 per point into your HSA - for another \$500 per year! Easy money.

Rachel Schenker - Promotion Congratulations to Rachel for recently receiving a promotion to Senior HR Specialist in our office. We are very happy to have her remain with us and taking on a new role. We love her happy face and her willingness to take on new and challenging duties. We are currently searching for a GUS HR Coordinator (to replace Rachel) and an HR Specialist (to replace Madisyn Hite who has taken on a role with University Development. Madisyn did great things while on the HR team this past year and we are glad she is staying on campus).

You will see multiple organizational changes in the HR group soon - more news to follow.

As always, if you need to reach HR, please contact us at payroll@pittstate.edu or drop by the office during normal business hours at 204 Russ Hall. If you need to visit with a specific HR team member, the best way is to schedule an appointment.

Happy Fall Y'all! LSD



[Contact Us](#)

[Benefits](#)

[Newsletter Archives](#)

The Human Resource Services (HRS) newsletter will be housed on the HRS web page on the pittstate.edu website. If you have questions or need assistance with any of the information in the newsletter, the easiest way to reach us is to send an email to payroll@pittstate.edu.

