



# Open Season

It's that time of year again. Open Season will be from Monday, November 8 through Monday, December 13. (For postal employees, it will end on Tuesday, December 14).

This special edition of *The Postal Record* highlights the NALC Health Benefit Plan benefits for 2011. I hope you will review it and make a decision to stay with your Health Benefit Plan. At the national convention, the NALC Health Benefit Plan booth had a lot of activity and many union members not in the Plan showed a great deal of interest.

**“The staff and employees at the Plan have been working vigorously to bring you a comprehensive health benefit package at an affordable price.”**

With more than 60 years of providing service to NALC members and their families, the Plan is strong and we are looking for the NALC union membership to again increase this year. In the last three years, the increase of membership joining the Plan has been in 2009, 6,596; 2008, 26,080; 2007, 5,534. This has been a fantastic result and we thank you for joining.

The NALC Health Benefit Plan is specifically designed for NALC union members and their families. The staff and employees at the Plan have been working vigorously

to bring you a comprehensive health benefit package at an affordable price. You can see the premiums for this year at the bottom of this page.

You can view all of the changes for 2011 in the Plan brochure and on our website at [nalc.org/depart/hbp](http://nalc.org/depart/hbp). Click on “2011 Plan Brochure.” In addition, you will receive the Plan brochure along with other information in the mail about the Plan in the upcoming weeks.

As you may have heard, I will be leaving the Plan in early December to assume my new duties as NALC executive vice president. The new director of the Plan

will be Brian Hellman. Brian is an excellent choice and has held many positions in his career, including his current post as director of safety and health. He is from New York Branch 36. Under his guidance, you can continue to count on the NALC Health Benefit Plan to provide excellent benefits,

quality service and affordable premiums.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank everyone for their support and help over the last five years while I have been at the Plan. I appreciate the participation of the officers at every level of the union, the shop stewards and health benefit representatives for all their efforts and support. I would also like to recognize all of the staff and employees at the Plan for the outstanding work they perform every day for you and our members. It truly has been a wonderful experience! ☒

### 2011 Health Insurance Premiums

Type of Enrollment	Enrollment Code	Non-Postal Premium				Postal Premium	
		Biweekly		Monthly		Biweekly	
		Govt share	Your share	Govt share	Your share	USPS share	Your share
Self Only	321	\$180.66	\$74.14	\$391.43	\$160.64	\$203.24	\$51.56
Self and Family	322	\$403.98	\$151.07	\$875.29	\$327.32	\$454.48	\$100.57

**Note:** All USPS postal employees are required to pay full local branch dues. Associate dues are not available.

**Note:** Non-postal employees, federal annuitants, non-NALC union annuitants and other postal annuitants must pay the annual \$36 Associate Membership Fee to maintain membership in the NALC Health Benefit Plan. For further explanation, please see the brochure.

**Note:** Call Membership at 202-662-2856 for inquires regarding member-

ship, union dues, fees or information on the NALC union.

**Note:** The Self Only premium for a USPS transitional employee (TE) is \$254.80. The Self and Family premium for a USPS transitional employee (TE) is \$555.05. In accordance with 5 U.S.C. Section 8906a, transitional employees (TE) are required to pay the entire premium, including both the employee share and the government contribution. Please visit our website at [nalc.org/depart/hbp](http://nalc.org/depart/hbp) for more information.