



VOTE NOW ON THE TENTATIVE BARGAINING AGREEMENT FOR 2022-2024

[As reported last week](#), MCO and the Office of the State Employer (OSE) have reached a tentative agreement on a three-year contract. It includes a 7% pay raise over the first two years of the contract, a \$3,250 retention incentive, guaranteed overtime pay on worked holidays, an additional state

holiday, healthcare enhancements and state paid funeral leave. Read the [summary of changes](#) on our website.

The proposed contract is subject to a ratification vote by the membership. On Oct. 16, invitations to vote were emailed to the .gov email address of all eligible voters. If you do not see it,

please check your junk folder. If it's not there, call us at (517)485-3310. We will verify your eligibility to vote and send you an invitation.

The deadline to vote is 8 a.m. Tuesday, Oct. 26. The count will be Oct. 28. Results will be announced the day of the count.

SIGN UP NOW FOR HEALTH INSURANCE AND OTHER BENEFITS IN 2022

Benefits Open Enrollment is going on now through Nov. 9. The effective date for elections and changes is Jan. 1, 2022, and when deductibles and out-of-pocket maximums reset.

No new plans are being introduced during BOE this year.

Starting Jan. 1, 2022, the State Dental Plan annual benefit maximum for Diagnostic & Preventive Services, Basic Services, and Major Services will

increase to \$2,000, up from the current \$1,500 maximum.

The BOE website, www.mi.gov/BOE, remains the one-stop-shop for enrollment information, and www.mi.gov/FSA is still the home for FSA resources as well.

You do not need to re-enroll each year to retain your existing insurance elections, but you are strongly encouraged to review your elections each year

to ensure that your benefits will meet your needs for the coming year. FSA elections do not automatically renew. You must re-enroll each year if you wish to participate in the FSA benefit.

This story was edited for space. [Read complete details on the Civil Service Commission website.](#)

- Story from the Michigan Civil Service Commission

APPLICATIONS BEING ACCEPTED NOW FOR THE CLOSER TO HOME TRANSFER LIST

Closer to Home Transfer applications are being accepted now through Oct. 31.

To be eligible to apply for a Closer to Home Transfer, employees must:

- Have status.

- Have not voluntarily transferred during the 12-month period prior to the application date.

- Have no record of disciplinary action or unsatisfactory service rating during the two years preceding the date

of the filling of position.

If you qualify, [go to our website for more information and to learn how to apply](#). If you have questions, contact [Stephanie Short](#) at (517)485-3310 ext. 115.

FSA ASSAULTED BY PATIENT

A Forensic Security Assistant (FSA) at the Center for Forensic Psychiatry was pinned and punched in the head by a patient Oct. 7 as she was assisting him with his laundry. Staff immediately responded.

The FSA has shoulder and neck injuries.

This story illustrates that, like COs, FSAs have dangerous jobs. Thank you to all FSAs for their dedication.

BRIEFLY: CRISIS FUND AND 12-HOUR SHIFT UPDATE

Thank you to everyone who supported the MCO Crisis Fund by buying tickets for the 2021 raffle. The drawing was Wednesday at the MCO central conference. A list of winners is on our website.

The MCO Crisis Fund supports members facing a catastrophe. To those who support the fund, thank you.

Twelve-hour shift votes were held last week at Woodland and Thumb.

WCC members voted in favor of 12s and TCF members voted against.

WCC is scheduled to start 12-hour shifts in January. More info will be shared at the chapter level.