



**Certificate of Creditable Coverage
Regarding AK Steel's Prescription Drug Coverage
For Participants Who Are Eligible for Medicare
October 10, 2011**

Why You Are Getting This Certificate

The government requires that companies distribute a Certificate of Creditable Coverage to all Medicare-eligible participants of a company-sponsored health care plan. You, your spouse or your dependent(s) may now or in the future be eligible for Medicare.

Effective January 1, 2006, Medicare introduced a new prescription drug benefit to everyone eligible for Medicare called Medicare Part D. Unlike Original Medicare (Parts A and B), the Medicare prescription drug benefit is offered directly through insurance carriers.

All the new Medicare prescription drug plans provide at least a standard level of coverage set by Medicare. Some plans might also offer more coverage for a higher monthly premium.

AK Steel will continue to provide medical and prescription drug coverage for our employees in 2012. AK Steel has determined that the prescription drug coverage under our plans is "Creditable Coverage".

"Creditable Coverage" means that the amount the AK Steel medical plan expects to pay on average for prescription drugs for individuals covered by the plan in 2012 is the same or more than what standard Medicare prescription drug coverage would be expected to pay on average.

Here's why this matters

If in the future you decide to drop your AK Steel coverage and enroll in a Medicare Part D prescription drug plan, you will not have to pay higher Part D premiums as a "late enrollee" because your AK Steel plan is "creditable coverage". The higher Part D premiums would apply only if you had a break in coverage of 63 days or more after dropping your AK Steel plan and before enrolling in a Medicare Part D prescription drug plan.

Should you decide to enroll in a Medicare Part D prescription drug plan, prescription drug coverage under your AK Steel plan will be stopped while you are enrolled in the Medicare Part D prescription drug plan. In the future, you will be permitted to re-enroll into your applicable AK Steel prescription drug plan during AK's annual open enrollment period provided such plan is available to you and you drop coverage under the Medicare Part D prescription drug plan.

Keep This Certificate

If you are currently eligible for Medicare and you enroll in a Medicare Part D prescription drug plan after May 15, 2006, you may need to give a copy of this certificate to the insurance carrier to show that you are not required to pay a higher premium.

If you need another copy of this certificate, simply call your local benefits office and ask for another copy of the "Certificate of Creditable Coverage".

Questions?

If you have questions regarding Medicare prescription drug plans, call 1 800 MEDICARE (1-800-633-4227) or visit www.medicare.gov for personalized help.

For people with limited income and resources, extra help paying for a Medicare prescription drug plan is available. Information about this extra help is available from the Social Security Administration (SSA). For more information about this extra help, visit SSA online at www.socialsecurity.gov, or call them at 1-800-772-1213.

Should you have questions regarding this communication, please contact your local benefits office.

October 10, 2011

Dear AK Steel Employee:

Enclosed please find the "Certificate of Creditable Coverage" with regard to the Prescription Drug Plan provided under the AK Steel Welfare Plan. This certificate is being mailed to you in the event you, or one of your dependents, become eligible for benefits under the Medicare Part D Prescription Drug Plan.

Please read the enclosed certificate. It explains why you are receiving this certificate as well as why it may be important to you in the future. Also, please keep this certificate for future reference. Additional copies may be obtained through your local Benefits Department.



Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Richard S. Ford". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, looping 'F'.

Richard S. Ford
Corporate Manager - Benefits