



## *Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)*

Oct. 30, 2009

### **What is the RxOC?**

The Rx Ohio Collaborative (RxOC) is an expanding benefit initiative for Ohio public sector employers to save money on drug costs at both the institutional and consumer level. As the state's flagship land-grant institution, The Ohio State University is leading this effort to help Ohio public entities save money on their pharmacy benefit spending and to help reduce the budgetary requirements for these services, ultimately lessening the burden on the state's budget.

### **How long has the RxOC been around?**

The RxOC was formed in 2007 by an informal collaboration of four of Ohio's largest pharmacy benefit purchasers – The Ohio Public Employees Retirement System (OPERS), The Ohio State University (OSU), School Employees Retirement System of Ohio (SERS) and State Teachers Retirement System of Ohio (STRS Ohio), which collectively serve more than 400,000 Ohioans.

### **How does the RxOC work in controlling costs for its members?**

The RxOC controls costs through bulk purchasing rates while enabling pharmaceutical benefits members to maintain full control over their health plan architecture and administration. The more organizations that become members of the RxOC, the more cost-effective the plan becomes.

### **Who is eligible to be a member of the RxOC?**

Any Ohio public sector employer, such as cities, counties, school districts, colleges or universities or state or government agencies can participate.

### **What other organizations are affiliated with the RxOC?**

Today, more than a dozen organizations and nearly 500,000 lives are affiliated with the collaborative, including the City of Fostoria, Columbus City Schools, Ohio University, Scioto County Schools, the State Highway Patrol Retirement System and Wright State University.

### **Who is the pharmacy benefit manager (PBM) for the RxOC?**

The RxOC has selected Express Scripts, Inc. to provide pharmacy benefits services to RxOC members.

### **How much does it cost to participate in the RxOC?**

There is no cost to join; however, a small portion of the pharmacy benefit manager's administrative fee supports the core RxOC program.

### **If I join the RxOC, will I get the same pricing as OSU, OPERS, STRS Ohio and SERS?**

The RxOC's primary goal is to maximize the number of Ohioans served through its joint pharmaceutical benefits pool. Through the RxOC, public sector employers of any size can obtain the same pricing discounts that the larger entities enjoy.

The RxOC's pharmacy benefit manager, Express Scripts Inc., charges a per-prescription administrative fee based on the organization's size (employees/retirees). This fee has the potential to decrease as the RxOC grows. For example, when the RxOC grows by 35,000 lives, the smaller employers will automatically receive a discounted administrative fee. When the RxOC reaches 125,000 lives, all employers' administrative fee will enjoy a 10 percent discount.

### **How can I get more information about the RxOC or become a member?**

The RxOC has a Website at [rxoc.org](http://rxoc.org) or call (800) 678-6559 for more information.