

***NEW* HRM Staff**



Madriana Montes, Retirement Manager

Madriana joins our team with over 10 years of human resources experience in both K-12 education and Louisiana State Civil Service. She brings extensive expertise in retirement and benefits management, particularly within the Louisiana systems.



Kema Batiste, Benefits Consultant

Kema comes to us with 15+ years of HR Generalist experience. She's spent years supporting teams across healthcare, hospitality, and corporate settings. She has a genuine passion for helping employees make the most of their benefits and is dedicated to efficiency and process improvement. Kema is a certified Senior Professional in Human Resources and has a Bachelor's in Psychology from the University of Houston.

Food Assistance Resources for Employees and Students

As the holiday season approaches, we are aware that many in our community are facing food insecurities.

CAP and Human Resources Management have put together **this comprehensive list of resources**, including local pantries, campus food pantries in several of our schools, food distribution centers, mobile delivery services, and restaurant discounts.



Senior Recruiter Meet and Greet

Talent Acquisition will be hosting a Sr. Recruiter Meet & Greet event Tuesday, November 18th, 11:30am - 12:30pm in the Allied Health/Nursing Building 2nd Floor Atrium. Learn more about how we can support your unclassified hiring initiatives!

Connect with us!



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(504) 568-4834

Crisis Leave – Support a Colleague in Need

The new Crisis Leave Program helps employees who experience a catastrophic illness or injury to themselves or an eligible family member, or who are welcoming a new child without sufficient paid leave. You can help by donating annual or sick leave to the Crisis Leave Pool. Just 4 hours can make a real difference for a coworker in need. Learn more or download the donation form [here](#).

2026 Benefits Premium Updates

There are health plan premium increases for the 2026 plan year. These increases, along with any benefit changes you made during Annual Enrollment, will be reflected on your December paycheck(s), as premiums are collected one month in advance.

For the 2026 plan year:

- LSU First Health Plan: 7.1% premium increase
- OGB Pelican & Magnolia Plans: 7.75% premium increase

View the full rate details here: [2026 Health Plan Rate Sheet](#)

New Prescription Cards for OGB Members

All OGB plan enrollees (Pelican and Magnolia Plans) will receive new member ID cards for 2026 due to a change in the pharmacy benefits manager (PBM).

Please review your mailing address and, if needed, update it in [PeopleSoft Self-Service](#) to ensure you receive your new card.

Need it sooner? If you need to fill a prescription after January 1, 2026 but haven't yet received your new card, create a BCBS Online Account [here](#) to access a digital ID card while waiting for your physical one to arrive.

2026 Start Date Calendar

The 2026 New Employee Start Date calendar can be found on the HR website under Recruiting Resources: [HR Operations](#)

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