



MEDICAL BENEFITS BOARD OF CONTROL **ST. JOHN'S, ANTIGUA**

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PRESS RELEASE

MBS member re-registration begins in earnest

Following-up on the heels of a successful pilot testing last month of the Medical Benefits Scheme (MBS) member re-registration program, all eligible members can now sign up for the new card as of yesterday, Monday 7th October, 2013. The new MBS card includes a photograph, and an embedded microchip to store medical information.

Registration for the new MBS card is done by appointment only which can be made in three ways:

1. by accessing the MBS website at www.mbs.gov.ag and following the prompts
2. by calling 481-6393; or
3. by completing and submitting an appointment form at any of the MBS service locations.

Appointment dates are set two (2) weeks following the date of the application to allow for research on card eligibility. While MBS members, and persons who are duly registered under MBS, are eligible to participate in the re-registration program, the appointment date maybe affected by requirements to regularize beneficiary status in accordance with the MBS Act and Regulations. For example, returning residents, migrants, those employed or self-employed and are between the ages of 60 and 70 years, the unemployed, and employees and the self-employed for whom there is no evidence of paid contributions into the Scheme or, at least, payable salary/wages deductions within the last year.

On the appointment date for the smart card, the first of which will occur on 21st October, 2013 persons are required to bring along their 'old' MBS Card, and a valid pass port and to dress appropriately as a photograph will be taken. Individuals can then collect their new cards five (5) days following their appointment at the Customer Service Department, Ground Floor, MBS Administrative Building on Nevis Street.

MBS will also be operating a mobile registration unit which can be accessible to groups of persons who have mobility issues. Their representatives can call MBS to make a request.