# Statement on Student Health Insurance Premium Increases

The student health insurance plan, during a very unusual year, saw significant increases in our operational costs as the result of:

* Increased pharmaceutical costs year over year
* Higher utilization of medical care, in part due to COVID-19
* Higher outpatient visits/procedures in FY21 compared to previous years

As a result of the higher costs, student health insurance premium rates will rise by 10 percent for next year. While our estimates would support an increase of 18 percent we did not want to pass on that much of an increase and are capping the increase at 10%.

Dental and Vision benefit rates for the self-insured plan will remain flat as well as the University Health Service (UHS) Fees at FY21 levels.

Over the years we have worked hard to keep premium increases to a minimum. The average increase in premiums over the last four years has been a very modest 1.65%, even with benefit enhancements such as:

* Infertility benefits expanded to include all EHP network providers
* Expanding coverage eligibility for all domestic partners
* Removed the age restriction of 18 from gender reassignment treatment

With a 10% increase this year, the 5-year average is 3.32%, below the average market rates.

We will continue to monitor our plan carefully and explore ways to improve the health benefits that are affordable and accessible.