

YSU extends health benefits to same-sex domestic partners

Health insurance benefits will be extended to same-sex domestic partners of Youngstown State University employees under a resolution approved by the Board of Trustees on Thursday.

YSU becomes the fifth public university in Ohio to extend health benefits to same-sex domestic partners, joining Ohio University, Miami University, Cleveland State and Ohio State.

The resolution authorizes YSU to offer medical, vision, dental and prescription coverage to an eligible employee's same-sex domestic partner and his/her dependent children.

The resolution also requires that employees meet specific eligibility criteria and 10 percent health insurance premium co-pay requirements to receive the benefits.

An analysis by the university projected that about 12 employee partners could potentially sign up for the extended benefits at a net cost of about \$60,000 a year.

The YSU administration will consult with leaders of the university's four employee unions to discuss incorporating benefits for same-sex domestic partners into the union contracts.