

Introduction to peba:connect

The South Carolina Public Employee Benefit Authority's current core operating systems were built in the early 1990s. The typical lifespan of a system is 15 to 20 years. So while our systems have served us well, it's getting difficult to find the resources needed to support them.

Overview

PEBA will buy a commercial off-the-shelf system and customize it to meet our needs. We've named the new system peba:connect. The project will take approximately five years to complete.

Goals

- Provide a unified, one-stop improved customer experience with respect to all programs administered by PEBA.
- Integrate retirement and insurance processes where further integration will improve operations and/or efficiencies.
- Improve existing data exchange functionality with all appropriate third parties.

Impact to employers

As with any new operating system, processes will change. This may mean that you will have to learn a new way to conduct business with PEBA. A large component of the project will be dedicated to training customers how to use the system prior to implementation. Our intent is to make conducting business with PEBA easier and more efficient.

Employer reporting

A critical component of the new system will be a redesign of the employer reporting process. Our goal is to increase the frequency that employers

report. Increasing the reporting frequency will decrease the lag time between employer payroll processing and contributions posting to member accounts.

Additional data collection

While we are still in the infancy of this project, some possible changes that could occur include the type and amount of data that PEBA collects. Gathering more data upfront will reduce the need for additional information from employers when members retire, request refunds or die since information will already be available for the calculation of benefits. The other data we anticipate collecting includes:

- Member position and compensation information such as, full time or part time (or number of work hours per week), mandatory overtime, voluntary overtime, bonuses, unused leave payments and current salary.
- Termination dates.
- Service information such as accrued service and leave history (military leave, leave without pay, workers compensation).

More information

To learn more go to www.peba.sc.gov/pebaconnect.html or email PEBA's Employer Services at EmployerServices@peba.sc.gov.