

PEBA Update

Week ending August 7, 2015

August 14 is BAW registration deadline

Friday, August 14, is the deadline to register for the 2015 Benefits at Work conference, which will be held August 31- September 3 at the Columbia Metropolitan Convention Center.

Registration is available online via the BA login at www.eip.sc.gov. If your employer only participates in PEBA's retirement program, [click here](#) for instructions on how to register. You can view the agenda and workshop descriptions [here](#).

Here's how to handle a medical emergency

A medical emergency that occurs before a subscriber receives his insurance cards is rare, but when it does happen, a BA needs to be prepared to help.

A subscriber can obtain services without his card by giving a provider his Benefits ID Number (BIN). To get it quickly, he can go through "Get my BIN?" under MyBenefits at www.eip.sc.gov. For more information, see page 19 in the General Information chapter of the 2015 *Insurance Benefits Guide*.

If an enrollment or a change needs to be processed the same day, a BA can complete the transaction in EBS. A BIN will be generated immediately. For more information, see page C-26 of the 2015 *BA Manual*.

PEBA Update

Week ending August 14, 2015

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Expiring myFBMC MSA Visa Debit Cards to be replaced

WageWorks is mailing new Medical Spending Account (MSA) debit cards to about 4,000 myFBMC Card® holders whose cards expire August 31.

Participants will need to activate their new card. They also need to remember to change the card expiration date if the card is used for recurring mail order expenses, such as prescriptions.

If your employees have questions, ask them to call the WageWorks Customer Care Center at 800.342.8017.

PEBA Update

Week ending August 21, 2015

Get ready for BAW!

The 2015 Benefits at Work conference will be held at the Columbia Metropolitan Convention Center August. 31 – September. 3. We will offer six workshops – three insurance workshops and three retirement workshops. See the agenda for more details. If you still need hotel accommodations, you may consider these nearby hotels: Hampton Inn, Hilton Columbia Center and the Columbia Marriott.

For conference questions, contact Pamala Jackson at 803.734.0706 or by email at pjackson@peba.sc.gov. We look forward to seeing you at the 2015 BAW conference!

Here's how to handle benefits when a teacher goes part time

At this time of year, some teachers move to part-time positions. If an ongoing employee accepts a position with the same employer as a part-time teacher, the employer may not terminate full-time benefits during the stability period and offer part-time benefits.

Coverage cannot be terminated until the end of the stability period following the change in status. The employer also needs to offer part-time coverage and obtain a signed Active Notice of Election (NOE) -- Part-time electing or refusing coverage for part-time teachers.

This chart shows how to administer the situation:

2014/2015 school year	Laura is a full-time ongoing employee	Offered benefits/stability period through 12/31/15
Summer 2015	Laura is returning in the fall part time	Offered benefits/stability period through 12/31/15
Fall semester 2015	Laura is teaching part time	Offered benefits/stability period through 12/31/15
October 3, 2015	End of standard measurement period	Employer should review Laura's hours over the standard measurement period to determine eligibility.
January 1, 2016	Laura is teaching part time	Depending on eligibility, Laura will either (1) be in another stability period through December 31, 2016, or (2) be offered part-time teacher coverage.

		Documentation: Complete a part-time NOE. Give "Change in status" as the type of change. Be sure include the effective date of the change and the hour category.
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Regional screening offered September 9-10 in Columbia

As part of PEBA's wellness initiative, Worksite Screening are being offered at no charge to employees, retirees, COBRA subscribers and their covered spouses whose primary health coverage is the Standard Plan or the Savings Plan. Subscribers whose primary coverage is Medicare are not eligible. The screening includes blood work, a personal health risk appraisal, height and weight measurements, a blood pressure check and lipid panels. A 12-hour fast before the screening produces the most accurate results.

Many employers offer preventive screenings. If your employer does not, you may wish to participate in a regional screening. The next one is September 9-10 on the 15th floor of the Capital Center Building, 1201 Main St., Columbia.

Additional regional screenings are scheduled for October 15 in Rock Hill, November 20 in Darlington and December 4 in Anderson.

To register for a regional screening, go to PEBA's insurance website, www.eip.sc.gov. Select "Health and Wellness Programs" and then "Event Registration." Click on "Register" on the date you wish to attend.

The screening is also offered without an appointment at more than 50 Doctors Care offices throughout the state and at some other participating providers with an appointment. Here is a list.

PEBA Update

Week ending August 28, 2015

BAW presentations are posted on website

The PowerPoint presentations for workshops scheduled for the 2015 Benefits at Work conference are now posted on the PEBA Insurance Benefits website at www.eip.sc.gov. Select "Presentations" from the left navigation pane and then the "Benefits at Work" drop down menu.

They also are on the home page of the PEBA Retirement Benefits website, www.retirement.sc.gov.

We encourage you to print the presentations or download them to your electronic device if you would like to have your own copy while you're at the conference. We look forward to seeing you there!

Update employee salaries for SLTD coverage

Employers that are not part of the Comptroller General (CG) group should update the salaries of their employees enrolled in Supplemental Long Term Disability (SLTD) coverage. This must be done between September 15 and October 31, 2015.

To update an employee's salary, log into EBS during the time period above and submit his salary information. An SLTD tutorial video has been added to www.eip.sc.gov under the "Presentations" tab.

Do one thing at a time on EBS and EES

When a benefits administrator uses Employee Benefits Service (EBS) or Electronic Employer Services (EES) he should not have two sessions running at the same time. This could affect the accuracy of the data.

Are you ready for Step-tember?

We are less than one month away from PEBA's Step-tember wellness walk!

The festivities will kick off at noon on Friday, September 25, at Columbia's Riverfront Park with healthy refreshments, free goodies and door prizes. You will have a chance to win a kayak trip for two from River Runner Outdoor Center, a Fitbit from BlueCross BlueShield of South Carolina, a three-month membership to the YMCA and a free pair of sunglasses from EyeMed. You will not want to miss out on what promises to be a fun-filled fall day!

For more information, email wellness@peba.sc.gov or call 803.737.5713.