

January 10, 2017

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Navigating Your Benefits series
New MyBenefits feature

Blue CareOnDemandSM

is the faster, easier way to see a doctor.

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Available for State Health Plan primary members



www.BlueCareOnDemandSC.com

PEBA closed to observe King holiday

PEBA offices will be closed on Monday, January 16, in observance of Martin Luther King Jr. day. Offices will reopen at 8:30 a.m. on Tuesday, January 17.

PEBA TV has a new look

To kick off the new year, PEBA TV has been refreshed. You can find all of the latest insurance and retirement videos, as well as other resources to keep you informed. Now, you can also direct your employees to PEBA TV using the following address,

Watch PEBA TV to get up to speed on the State ORP

PEBA's YouTube channel, **PEBA TV**, can give your employees a great introduction to their State Optional Retirement Program (State ORP) benefits.

It's Your Choice (SCRS or State ORP)

This updated video provides newly-eligible employees with general information about and a comparison of the South Carolina Retirement System (SCRS) and State Optional Retirement Program (State ORP) plans. The purpose of the video is to help newly-hired employees decide which retirement plan aligns best with their personal retirement goals. The video can be useful for new hire sessions and can serve as a first look at the content found in the video's companion piece, the **Select Your Retirement Plan** guide.

State ORP at a glance

State ORP annual open enrollment is taking place through March 1. You can use this video to help remind your participating employees about their options for changing service providers as well as their eligibility for an irrevocable switch to SCRS. The video serves as a quick overview of the entire program, so it covers other topics related to State ORP as well.

EBS, MyBenefits unavailable

Employee Benefits Services (EBS) and MyBenefits will be unavailable due to maintenance beginning Friday, January 13 at 5 p.m. through Monday, February 16 at 8:30 a.m.

Update EES employer contact information

Employers are responsible for maintaining their retirement benefits contacts in **EES**. Please routinely review and update the information for each contact and department under the Employer Contact Information option. In order to update the Authorizing Contact, please submit **Form 6504**.

Remember that a Primary Contact must be designated for each department. He will receive all correspondence for that department. If deleting a Primary Contact, first add a new Primary Contact for that department. Additional instructions are available on the Help link in **EES**.

Navigating Your Benefits promoted to members

Insurance subscribers with a MyBenefits account and retirement system members with a Member Access account will receive an email announcement later this week about PEBA's **Navigating Your Benefits** series. This multimedia series, which benefits administrators saw in December during the soft launch, includes common-language explanations of insurance and retirement benefits.

New MyBenefits feature: how to upload supporting documentation

In some instances, a change in an employee's insurance coverage requires the employee to submit supporting documentation. A new feature in **MyBenefits** now allows the employee to upload his own supporting documentation once his benefits administrator processes a transaction on his behalf. Below is an outline of what the new process looks like for an employee in MyBenefits.

Once you have completed a transaction in **Employee Benefits Services (EBS)** and sent it to MyBenefits, your employee will see the screen to the right. Under **Pending Transaction**, the employee will need to select the reason for his change (i.e., birth of a child) to review and approve the transaction. Information related to the change, including the date created, the event date, status and deadline to complete the transaction is also displayed.

Statement of Benefits as of 01-02-2017 [Sign Out](#)

Your changes cannot be processed until you have clicked the pending transaction reason to review and approved the transaction.

Pending Transaction

Reason	Created	Event Date	Status	Deadline To Complete
BIRTH OF A CHILD	01-02-2017	01-02-2017	Pending Subscriber Approval	02-02-2017

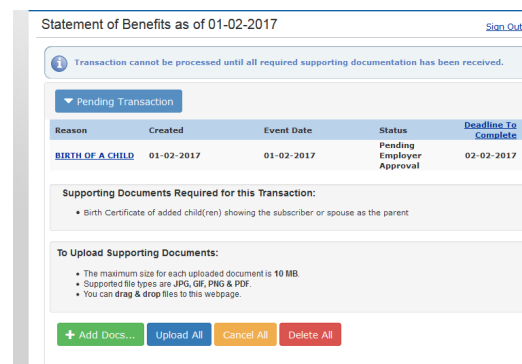
Enrollee

Coverage

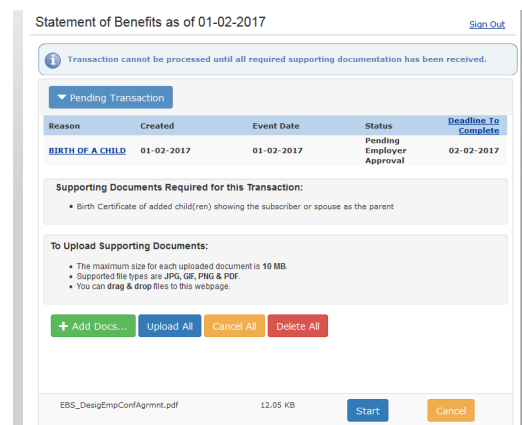
Dependents

Beneficiaries

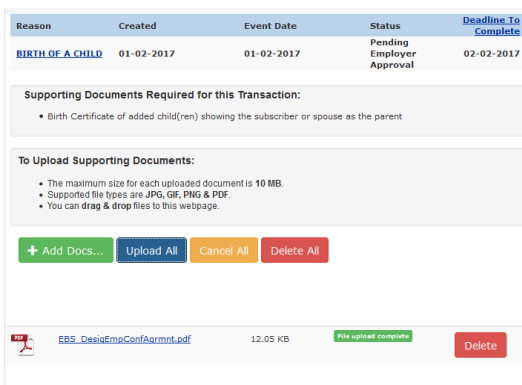
Once your employee has reviewed and approved the transaction he will be directed to the profile page to upload the required supporting documentation. To upload documentation, he should select the green **Add Docs** button.



To submit the documentation, the employee can either select the blue **Start** button next to his file, or, if there are multiple documents to upload, he can select the blue **Upload All** button.



When the upload is complete, the employee can select the file to review or delete the document if it is not legible. This is the last step for the employee.

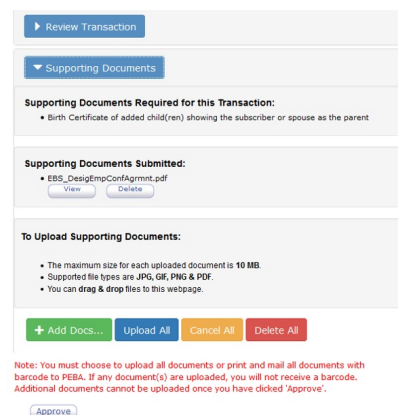


Finalizing the transaction in EBS

When an employee uploads supporting documentation, you must approve his transaction in EBS. The review tab has been renamed Approval Data. You will approve the transaction on this page.



You will then review the transaction and supporting documentation. You will also be able to add additional supporting documentation if it is needed. Once you approve the transaction, the status will show as Pending PEBA Approval in your console. If you delete a document, a pop-up box will appear and you will be required to enter a reason for the deletion.



Future enhancements

The next phase of enhancements to MyBenefits will allow employees to initiate a change before attaching supporting documentation to the transaction for your approval. Please encourage your employees to use this new feature in MyBenefits to upload supporting documentation.



202 Arbor Lake Drive
Columbia, SC 29223

803.737.6800 | 888.260.9430
www.peba.sc.gov
Monday-Friday, 8:30 a.m.-5 p.m.

Not all employers participate in a PEBA-administered retirement plan or insurance programs. Please disregard any information not applicable to you.

Data classification: public information



January 17, 2017

ACA reporting reminders
Insurance Benefits presentations updated
SHP formulary has changed
New MyBenefits feature
State ORP flyer added to Navigating Your Benefits

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Available for State Health Plan primary members



www.BlueCareOnDemandSC.com

Reminder: State Health Plan formulary changed

Effective January 1, 2017, PEBA transitioned to the Express Scripts National Preferred Formulary. Express Scripts serves as the State Health Plan's pharmacy benefits manager. PEBA mailed informational letters to members who were affected by the change, and Express Scripts also sent personalized, detailed information to those members this fall. If any of your employees have questions about their prescription drug coverage, please refer them to Express Scripts at 855.612.3128.

[New MyBenefits](#)

ACA reporting reminders

Please be advised of the following ACA reporting rules:

- Last year PEBA did not send employers coverage information for TRICARE subscribers because employers did not have to report supplemental coverage. This year, supplemental coverage, such as TRICARE, is subject to reporting; therefore, coverage information was included in your ACA reports. Employers will need to indicate the offer of coverage on Line 14 of Form 1095-C and then indicate if the employee enrolled in coverage on Line 16. For more information, please refer to the IRS instructions for Form 1095-C.
- The deadline for issuing 1095 forms to employees or retirees/COBRA subscribers was extended from January 31, 2017, to March 2, 2017. However, the deadlines for filing with the IRS did not change for 2017. The 2017 due dates for filing with the IRS are February 28 for paper filers and March 31 for electronic filers. Employers can obtain a 30-day extension by submitting Form 8809 by the due date for the ACA information returns.
- The IRS also extended "good faith transition relief" for an additional year. Employers that can show good-faith efforts to comply with the ACA reporting requirements may avoid substantial penalties that may otherwise apply.

feature

A new feature in **MyBenefits** now allows an employee to upload his own supporting documentation once his benefits administrator processes a transaction on his behalf. A description of what the new process looks like is available in the January 10, 2017, *PEBA Update*.

Insurance benefits presentations updated for 2017

The following insurance benefits presentations have been updated for 2017 and are available on PEBA's website:

- Insurance Benefits Training
- COBRA
- Retirement, Disability and Death
- Insurance Orientation and Education
- Preretirement Education

The PowerPoints and PDF documents can be found on the insurance **Employer training and resources** page and insurance **Resources** page under Presentations. Videos for each of the presentations are being finalized and will be available soon on **PEBA TV**.

State ORP summary flyer added to *Navigating Your Benefits*

You can now find a **one-page summary** of the State Optional Retirement Program (State ORP) as part of PEBA's **Navigating Your Benefits** series. The flyer covers the benefits available through the State ORP as well as information on how to enroll, contributions and distributions.

This flyer can be used in conjunction with the **South Carolina Retirement System (SCRS) at a glance flyer** to provide a comparison of the two plans. More detailed information about SCRS and the State ORP are available in the **Select Your Retirement Plan** guide.



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January 24, 2017

Forms 1099-R being mailed

Withholding tables updated

State ORP open enrollment

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primary members



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State ORP open enrollment continues

Annual open enrollment for the State **Optional Retirement Program** (State ORP) began January 1 and continues to March 1, 2017.

During annual open enrollment, all State ORP participants have the option to change service providers. State ORP participants between one and five years of State ORP participation may also make an irrevocable switch to the South Carolina Retirement System (SCRS) during annual open enrollment. More information on annual open enrollment may be found [here](#).

Forms 1099-R being mailed

Forms 1099-R for 2016 are being mailed to anyone who received a benefit payment from PEBA. Please allow two weeks for delivery. Remember, payees can access and print their Form 1099-Rs any time through **Member Access**.

IRS has released updated withholding tables

The Internal Revenue Service released updated income-tax withholding tables for 2017. Changes will be reflected in the January 2017 annuity payments.

Payees typically do not need to take any action. If changes are necessary, payees may send PEBA a Withholding Certificate for Monthly Benefit Payments (**Form 7202**). Payees also may view and make changes to their income tax withholdings online at any time through **Member Access**.



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January 31, 2017

ACA update
Finding online insurance information
Check MyFBMC card expiration date
WageWorks updates contact information

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Available for State Health Plan primary members



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Some MyFBMC cards expiring soon

Some MyFBMC cards will expire at the end of February. New cards will be mailed to participants beginning February 2-15, 2017. A participant's old card will work until March 1; however, new cards should be activated immediately upon receipt.

Please note the following:

- If a card is currently suspended due to Card Use Verification (CUV), the new card cannot be activated.
- If applicable, a member should update his mail order pharmacy with the new card's expiration date.
- If a member has not received

Update on Affordable Care Act

On January 20, 2017, President Trump signed an executive order, *Minimizing the Economic Burden of the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act Pending Repeal*. This executive order directs executive departments and agencies "with responsibility under the Act" to, within the authority and discretion granted to them by law, "waive, defer, grant exemptions from, or delay the implementation of any provision or requirement of the Act that would impose a fiscal burden on any State" or would impose a "cost, fee, tax, penalty, or regulatory burden" on patients, healthcare providers, insurers or manufacturers of healthcare products, among other groups.

The executive order merely is a directive for executive branch agencies and departments; it does not and cannot undermine the statutory authority of the Affordable Care Act. Further, as the executive order itself clearly states, any changes to the existing regulations that were issued through notice-and-comment rulemaking must comply with the Administrative Procedures Act and other applicable law.

While there has been much discussion in Congress and in the media about an eventual repeal, revision or replacement of the Affordable Care Act, **at this time, no changes have been made to the Affordable Care Act's statutory and regulatory provisions.**

a new card by February 20, he should call WageWorks at 800.342.8017.

- A member may receive a new card if he terminated after February 1, as the card vendor may not have been privy of the termination when the reissue process started. If this happens, the participant should destroy the new card.

Help your employees find online insurance information

From health insurance to dental, life and long-term disability insurance, employees covered by PEBA have many online resources to turn to when learning about and understanding their benefits. The



[Your resources for insurance](#)

[information](#) video can walk your employees through the features and functions of these websites, including those of BlueCross BlueShield of South Carolina, Express Scripts, EyeMed and others. In addition to sharing the video with employees, you can also give them the information [flyer format](#).

PEBA created these materials as part of its *Navigating Your Benefits* series. The full series can be found at <http://www.peba.sc.gov/nyb.html>.

WageWorks updates contact information

To ensure you receive accurate and timely customer service, WageWorks has updated its contact information. Please refer to the information below to help guide you to the appropriate department.

Addresses

Claims, enrollment and change in status forms, direct deposits and other communications

WageWorks, P.O. Box 14766, Lexington, KY 40512-4766

Payroll checks and participant remittances

WageWorks, P.O. Box 603244, Charlotte, NC 28260-3244

Administrative fees

WageWorks, P.O. Box 45584, San Francisco, CA 94145-0584

General mailing address

WageWorks, P.O. Box 14766, Lexington, KY 40512-4766

Telephone numbers and email addresses

Customer service: 800.342.8017

Changes in status: Manuela Hengstebeck, 262.518.6247 manuela.hengstebeck@wageworks.com

Appeals: Erin Fields, 262.236.8414, appeals-cis@wageworks.com

Enrollment: Al Gilliam, 262.236.8406; Fax: 866.672.4780, alpha.gilliam@wageworks.com

Payroll deductions: Candria Morgan, 262.236.8410, candria.morgan@wageworks.com

Relationship management: David Hanley, 262.518.6255, david.hanley@wageworks.com, Manuela Hengstebeck,

262.518.6247, manuela.hengstebeck@wageworks.com

Payback/reclassification reports: Zanteka Colston, 262.512.3501, zanteka.colston@wageworks.com, Claims fax: 888.800.5217

Enrollments, payroll, card escalations: Flora Ball, 262.518.6244, flora.ball@wageworks.com; Jeremy Thompson, 262.236.8447, jeremy.thompson@wageworks.com



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February 7, 2017

EBS, MyBenefits are secure sites
Enrolling in State ORP
2017 BA Manual online
EES enhancements
State ORP service provider contacts
State ORP annual open enrollment

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You asked for it - EES enhancements part 1

Ever wonder which State ORP vendor to which an employee is currently contributing? Member Profile searches now include the State ORP vendor name for an active participant in State ORP. If you search a profile for a new hire or employee that is currently enrolled under State ORP with another covered employer, the information will now include the vendor to which he is contributing to as a State ORP participant.

State ORP

EBS, MyBenefits are secure sites

Employee Benefits Services (EBS) and MyBenefits are secure websites for you to upload documents. Therefore, when you upload documents to these sites, you do not need to apply password protection to the documents. You can make any necessary changes to the documents you upload, but be sure to review them thoroughly for accuracy as it pertains to the specific employee intended and for legibility.

Enrolling in State ORP

PEBA staff continues to work on streamlining the State Optional Retirement Program (State ORP) enrollment process for new participants; in the meantime, please continue to follow the current procedure for enrolling a State ORP participant. When a new employee selects State ORP as his retirement plan, print a copy of the **Form 1100** from the Electronic Employer Services (EES) system and provide it to the designated service provider as soon as possible in order to establish the participant's account. Keep in mind that when enrolling participants through EES, you should not send a copy of the Form 1100 to PEBA. The participant must also complete the enrollment paperwork required by his selected service provider in order to designate a beneficiary and select his desired investment options. If this step is not completed, contributions to his account will be invested in the most appropriate target date fund based on his date of birth and his account

service provider contacts

As a reminder, PEBA provides **contact information** for the four **State ORP** service providers on its website. The contact list provides contacts for employers as well as participants. Please periodically check the site to ensure that you are using the most up-to-date contact information when reaching out for assistance.

will be left to his estate if he were to pass away.

2017 *BA Manual* available online

The 2017 **Benefits Administrator Manual** is now available online. Please take a moment to review it and print a copy if necessary.

State ORP annual open enrollment

There is less than one month remaining in this year's annual open enrollment period for State ORP participants (January 1, 2017, to March 1, 2017). During this period, participants may change their State ORP service provider or, if eligible, may irrevocably elect to participate in the South Carolina Retirement System (SCRS). State ORP participants may elect to participate in SCRS if they have between one and five years of State ORP participation. Please visit the **State ORP annual open enrollment webpage** for more information.

School districts encouraged to attend February 22 Employer Advisory Group

An open discussion for school district benefits administrators with Jennifer Dolder, PEBA's director of Employer Services, is scheduled from 10 a.m. until noon on Wednesday, February 22, at PEBA, 200 Arbor Lake Drive, Columbia.

If you are interested in attending or calling in, email **EmployerServices@peba.sc.gov**. We look forward to hearing from you!



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February 21, 2017

Retirement Systems funding update

HSAs - a great option for Savings Plan members

Annual recertification for EES

EES enhancements - part 2

Do you host a preventive worksite screening?

Employees, retirees, COBRA participants and covered spouses may be eligible for a health screening worth more than \$300 at no cost.

It's easy to host a preventive worksite screening.

Learn more and complete a request form at www.peba.sc.gov/valuebasedbenefits.html.

Annual recertification for EES access

PEBA is committed to protecting the privacy and security of confidential retirement information that is available through the Electronic Employer Services (EES) portal. As part of an annual validation effort, PEBA is sending a report to the authorizing contact for your entity and we have requested that each EES registered user's access and permission levels be confirmed in order for users to continue using EES without interruption.

If PEBA does not receive the requested recertification by March 31, 2017, permissions will be terminated and users will not be able to access EES.

Retirement Systems funding update

In August 2016, the Joint Committee on Pension Systems Review, a legislative committee established by the South Carolina General Assembly, began studying the current financial status of South Carolina's public employee pension plans and looking for solutions for the long-term sustainability of the plans. After nearly six months of study, the Joint Committee introduced legislation in the Senate and House of Representatives on February 9, 2017. Materials from the Joint Committee on Pension Systems Review are available on the [committee's website](#). The February 8, 2017, meeting materials include a detailed summary of the legislation.

House bill 3726 was voted out of House Ways and Means favorably, 20-0. **Senate bill 394** and H.3726 could be debated in the Senate and House as early as this week.

These companion bills would increase contribution rates on a schedule designed to proactively improve the plans' funded status, even if certain expectations are not met. Effective July 1, 2017, the legislation increases the employee contribution rate to 9 percent of pay for members of the South Carolina Retirement System (SCRS), which is then capped as the

We appreciate your attention and cooperation in assisting us with protecting your entity's data. If you have any questions, please call your Retirement Employer Reporting representative.

You asked for it - EES enhancements part 2

Member Profile in **EES** can be a very useful resource for employers. Account, service and beneficiary information is available to review for your employees. Employers can also view and print a member statement for employees.

Account transaction details by fiscal year for a member can be found under the Account link of Member Profile. Each transaction includes an employer code, and now PEBA has added a hover feature to help you identify the employer name. To use this feature, use your mouse to hover over an employer code to identify the employer name for that code.

maximum employee contribution rate. The bills also schedule a series of increases in the employer contribution rate, beginning with a 2 percent increase to 13.56 percent for SCRS effective July 1, 2017, and continuing with 1 percent annual increases until an ultimate scheduled rate of 18.56 percent is reached beginning July 1, 2022.

Similarly, for the Police Officers Retirement System (PORS), the employee contribution rate would increase to and be capped at 9.75 percent on July 1, 2017, and the employer contribution rate is increased by 2 percent to 16.24 percent July 1, 2017, and will increase by 1 percent annually to an ultimate rate of 21.24 percent by July 1, 2022.

Both legislative bodies must approve a bill before it can be enacted into law.

We will keep you updated as the General Assembly continues the public policy discussions and the companion bills move through the legislative process.

HSAs: a great option for Savings Plan members

A health savings account (HSA) can help your Savings Plan-enrolled employees make the most of their insurance benefits. PEBA's MoneyPlus benefits have many moving parts -



IRS regulations, contribution limits and rules about what counts as a qualified expense, for example. The *Navigating Your Benefits* series now offers a **flier** for employees enrolled in the Savings Plan to help them understand these issues and see how an HSA can help them save money and save on taxes.

The flier covers the advantages of an HSA, like pretax payroll deduction, as well as the differences between an HSA and a medical spending account (MSA) - like the ability to save healthcare money over multiple years, open an investment account for balances above minimum thresholds and keep an account after leaving employment or retiring.



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February 28, 2017

2018 Budget projections
Visitor and phone wait times increase
State ORP open enrollment ending soon
Save the date for BAW
Applying for LTD benefits
Retirement employer training
Did you know?
2017 Regional Screening dates
Facts about prescription coverage reviews

Do you host a preventive worksite screening?

Employees, retirees, COBRA participants and covered spouses may be eligible for a health screening worth more than \$300 at no cost.

It's easy to host a preventive worksite screening. Learn more and complete a request form at www.peba.sc.gov/valuebasedbenefits.html.

Save the date

Mark your calendars for the 2017 Benefits at Work conference. This year's conference will be held September 11-13, 2017, at the Columbia Metropolitan Convention Center. Stay tuned for more details.

Applying for LTD benefits

When applying for LTD benefits you must use the correct LTD claim form application. Here is the correct **LTD claim packet**, or you can visit **PEBA's**

Information for 2018 budget projections

PEBA is currently projecting an employer-only increase of 3.3 percent for the State Health Plan based on recent action related to the funding of the Plan taken by the House Ways and Means Committee. At present, we do not anticipate a change in the enrollee contribution. These projections are for the 2018 plan year, which begins January 1, 2018. Final rates will be published in August 2017.

Participating optional employers, those whose health insurance rates are subject to an annual experience rating, should apply any change in the experience rating load factor to this projected increase. PEBA plans to mail load-factor letters to optional employers the week of March 6.

Please share this information with any appropriate staff

website or the [Standard's microsite](#) under *Forms* and on PEBA's [Insurance and forms webpage](#).

Retirement employer training

Sign up for a 1 ½ day employer training course on retirement benefits March 8-9 at PEBA. Click [here](#) for information and to register.

Did you know?

Exercise, like vigorous walking, can reduce the risk of getting breast cancer by 25 percent.

Source: [Healthland/Time magazine](#)

members.

Visitor and phone wait times increase

PEBA welcomes the opportunity to serve our customers in person and on the telephone. Our Visitor Center and Customer Contact Center are experiencing longer than normal wait times due to the normal spring break peak season, a large number of retirees ending participation in the Teacher and Employee Retention Incentive (TERI) program, as well as large number of members entering the TERI program, which ends on June 30, 2018.

In order to minimize wait time, we encourage members to contact or visit us earlier in the day. Our longest wait times are typically during lunch hours and late afternoons. Our office hours are Monday-Friday, 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m.

We appreciate your patience and assistance as we continue to serve those who serve South Carolina.

Open enrollment for State ORP ending soon

The annual open enrollment period for all participants of the [State Optional Retirement Program](#) (State ORP) ends tomorrow, March 1. During the annual open enrollment period, State ORP participants may change their State ORP vendor or, if eligible, may irrevocably elect to participate in the [South Carolina Retirement System](#) (SCRS). Please remind all State ORP participants of the March 1 deadline for making changes. Details about the 2017 open enrollment period are available [online](#).

2017 regional screening dates set

As part of PEBA's value-based benefits, the preventive screening is offered at no cost to employees, retirees, COBRA subscribers and their covered spouses if their primary coverage is the Standard Plan or Savings Plan. The screening includes:

- A health risk appraisal
- Height and weight measurements
- Blood pressure check

After the screening, members will receive a confidential report with their results and recommendations for improving their health.

Regional screenings are scheduled in Aiken on March 2, and in Beaufort on March 8. A [complete list of dates and locations](#) for 2017 is available online. Registration forms for regional screenings are posted on

Facts about prescription coverage reviews

Running into a prescription coverage review when having a prescription filled can create confusion and concern for a State Health Plan member. Therefore, PEBA has developed a **Prescription coverage reviews video** to explain the three types of coverage reviews (prior authorizations, drug quantity management and step therapy), why these reviews exist and how State Health Plan members and their providers can request a review.



We encourage you to share this video with your employees. This video and the prescription drug benefits flyers listed below can be found on our **Navigating Your Benefits** webpage.

- Prescription coverage reviews: protecting safety and affordability
- Generics: the "store brand" of prescription drugs
- How much of a prescription drug can you get at a time?
- Your first step for meds: lower-cost prescriptions
- When your prescription needs a prior authorization

You can find this and other parts of PEBA's *Navigating Your Benefits* series at www.peba.sc.gov.



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March 7, 2017

Rally to launch April 1

State Health Plan formulary changed

2017 PEBA PERKS workshops

Maintenance scheduled for online services

Health Hub update

Did you know?

State ORP annual open enrollment is over

Do you host a preventive worksite screening?

Employees, retirees, COBRA participants and covered spouses may be eligible for a health screening worth more than \$300 at no cost.

It's easy to host a preventive worksite screening. Learn more and complete a request form at www.peba.sc.gov/valuebasedbenefits.html.

Maintenance scheduled for online services

EBS, MyBenefits, EES and Member Access will be unavailable from 5:30 p.m., Friday, March 10, until 8 a.m., Saturday, March 11, for maintenance.

Health Hub update

Files on the **PEBA Health Hub** are stored on Google Drive. Google has had some technical issues, therefore you may experience difficulty accessing files on the

Rally to launch April 1

At PEBA, we're committed to providing State Health Plan members with a convenient way to get engaged in managing their health. Rally®, a digital health platform, can help members get healthier, one small step at a time. Rally is available to State Health Plan primary members age 16 years and older.

Rally will show members how to make simple changes to their daily routine, set smart goals and stay on target. Members will get personalized recommendations to get them moving more, eating better and feeling great.

More information about Rally is available online at www.peba.sc.gov/rally.html. This webpage includes a video, which is available for download in the Rally folder on the **PEBA Health Hub**, as well as a **flyer** describing how to register that can be shared with your employees.

Health Hub. We have reported our access issues to Google and appreciate your patience.

Did you know?

If measured end to end, the human body has about 60,000 miles of blood vessels. Each day our heart pumps about 2,000 gallons of blood through those vessels. Click [here](#) to learn more unusual facts about the human body.

Source:

[HOWSTUFFWORKS Health](#)

Reminder: State Health Plan formulary changed

Effective January 1, 2017, PEBA transitioned to the Express Scripts National Preferred Formulary. Express Scripts serves as the State Health Plan's pharmacy benefits manager. PEBA mailed informational letters to members who were affected by the change, and Express Scripts also sent personalized, detailed information to those members last fall. If any of your employees have questions about their prescription drug coverage, please refer them to Express Scripts at 855.612.3128.

2017 PEBA Perks workshops

The 2017 PEBA Perks workshop promotes several key preventive health benefits, including those that are offered at no cost to State Health Plan primary members at network providers and pharmacies. This interactive workshop also walks through creating a confidential account on My Health Toolkit, includes information on other benefits such as Blue CareOnDemand and describes available online resources.

To register for a workshop near you in March, visit the [Upcoming events page](#). Please share the following locations and dates with your employees, and encourage them to sign up for this informative workshop.

- Tuesday, March 14, in Summerville
 - Tuesday, March 14, in St. George
 - Wednesday, March 22, at Orangeburg-Calhoun Technical College (includes pre-retirement presentation)
 - Tuesday, March 28, in Columbia
 - Wednesday, March 29, at Greenville Technical College
-

State ORP annual open enrollment is over. Now what?

The State ORP annual open enrollment period ended March 1, but the effective date of changes made during open enrollment is April 1. PEBA wants to make you aware of a few matters related to changes made during annual open enrollment.

Vendor change requests

Employers

- On or about March 2, employers should have been notified of vendor changes through Electronic Employer Services (EES). The notification is located in the Task List on EES.
- Employers should send a copy of the confirmation provided in the notification (Form 1160M) to the new State ORP vendor so the vendor can establish an account for the participant. Next, select the

"Complete" button to update the Task List status as complete.

- Payroll records should be updated accordingly with an April 1 effective date.

State ORP participants

- On or about March 2, participants should have received an email confirmation of their change and instructions for creating an account with the new vendor.
- Member Access should reflect that the vendor change is pending and will become effective April 1. The State ORP vendor listed on the participant's Member Access account will be the new vendor on April 1.
- Participants are allowed, but not required, to transfer their State ORP account balance from the previous vendor to the new vendor at any time. This does not have to be completed during an annual open enrollment period. The participant is not allowed, however, to transfer their account balance outside the plan or take a distribution while actively employed unless they meet the age requirement for a distribution.

Election to switch from State ORP to SCRS

Employers

- PEBA allows employers a two-week grace period beyond the March 1 election deadline to enter elections made during the open enrollment period into EES. On March 16, PEBA will execute a batch job to process the enrollment changes after which the status of the enrollment on EES will reflect that it is in process. The enrollment will remain in this status until May after the March quarterly reconciliation is complete.
- On the EES Task List, a notification will appear after the batch job processes to remind you to update your payroll records with an April 1 effective date.
- In May, PEBA will run a second batch job after which the enrollment status will change to Complete in EES.

State ORP participants

- Participants may purchase service credit for all or a portion of their State ORP participation at any time after joining SCRS. Funds from the participant's State ORP account may be rolled over to purchase service credit.



202 Arbor Lake Drive
Columbia, SC 29223

803.737.6800 | 888.260.9430
www.peba.sc.gov
Monday-Friday, 8:30 a.m.-5 p.m.

Not all employers participate in a PEBA-administered retirement plan or insurance programs. Please disregard any information not applicable to you.

Data classification: public information

March 14, 2017

Retirement contribution rates update
What will Rally do for you?
PCMHs now available in most S.C. counties
Recertify your EES access
Experience rating letters mailed this week
EBS and MyBenefits maintenance scheduled
Did you know?
Subscribe to our email list

State Health Plan primary members may be able to get a **colorectal cancer screening** at no cost. Learn more at www.PEBAPerks.com



Recertify your EES access

If you have not done so already, please remember to submit your recertification for EES access by March 31, 2017. Permissions will be terminated and users will not be able to access EES if PEBA does not receive the recertification. We appreciate your attention and cooperation in assisting us with protecting your entity's data. If you have any questions, please contact your Retirement Employer Reporting representative.

Retirement contribution rates update

Companion bills in the Senate and House, **S.394** and **H.3726**, include employer and employee contribution rate increases effective July 1, 2017. The employee contribution rate for the South Carolina Retirement System (SCRS) would increase to and be capped at 9 percent. The employee contribution rate for the Police Officers Retirement System (PORS) would increase to and be capped at 9.75 percent.

The employer contribution rate for SCRS and PORS would increase by 2 percent effective July 1, 2017, to 13.56 percent and 16.24 percent respectively. The employer rates would continue to increase annually by 1 percent through July 1, 2022.

Both legislative bodies must approve a bill before these rates become effective. PEBA will inform employers once contribution rates and the State budget for July 1, 2017, are

Experience rating letters mailed this week

Optional employers should receive experience rating letters this week. Please contact analytics@peba.sc.gov if you have any questions.

EBS and MyBenefits scheduled for maintenance

Beginning at 5 p.m., on Friday, March 15, until 8 a.m., Saturday, March 16, EBS and MyBenefits will be unavailable due to system maintenance.

Did you know?

Amazingly true, a caterpillar's body has more muscles than a human body.

Source: [Medindia \(No. 29\)](#)

finalized.

What will Rally do for you?

Rally, available to State Health Plan primary members age 16 years and older, will launch April 1. Once a member completes his Rally Survey, he'll get personalized recommendations to get moving more, eating better and feeling great.

See [what other users have to say](#) about Rally. We encourage you to promote Rally to your employees to get them excited, and we've made it easy for you to do just that! Materials are available on the [PEBA Health Hub](#) in the Rally folder on Page 1.

Members are at the center of care with a PCMH

When you receive care through a patient-centered medical home, or PCMH, you are the center of care. You will work with a health care team to improve your overall health by setting goals and making a plan to meet them. With a medical "home," you can count on a single, trusted doctor and health care team to provide comprehensive, coordinated care. Your PCMH team can help you manage your health, including getting preventive and follow-up care when needed.

This approach may be particularly beneficial to members with chronic illnesses, such as diabetes and high blood pressure.

To encourage members to receive care at a BlueCross BlueShield of South Carolina-affiliated PCMH, the State Health Plan does not charge Standard Plan members the \$12 copayment for a physician office visit. After Savings Plan and Standard Plan members meet their deductible, they will pay 10 percent coinsurance, rather than 20 percent, for care at a PCMH.

PCMHs are now available in most South Carolina counties, including some of which didn't have a PCMH previously. [A directory of statewide PCMHs](#) can be found online.

Subscribe to our email list

Our employer email distribution lists are pulled from contact lists in EBS and EES, which are managed by the authorizing agent for each employer. As such, each authorizing agent should log in to EBS and/or EES to add staff to the contact list. If you or other staff would like to receive communications from PEBA, ask your authorizing agent to add contact information.



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Data classification: public information



March 28, 2017

What do you call your health insurance?

April 12 Employer Advisory Group

Don't forget to recertify your EES access

Did you know?

Ending TERI participation

State Health Plan primary members may be able to get a **colorectal cancer screening** at no cost. Learn more at www.PEBAPerks.com



Don't forget to recertify your EES access

Friday, March 31, 2017, is the deadline to submit recertification for EES access. If PEBA does not receive the recertification, permissions will be terminated and users will not be able to access EES.

Thank you for your immediate attention and cooperation in assisting us with protecting your entity's data. Please contact your Retirement Employer Reporting representative if you have any questions.

Did you know?

The lining of a human's stomach is

What do you call your health insurance?

A lot of State Health Plan members think they have BlueCross BlueShield insurance. But, they don't. Their insurance is the State Health Plan.



PEBA's "**What insurance do you have?**" video explains how the State Health Plan is self-funded. The video and **its companion flyer** describe PEBA's relationship with its claims administrators.

These materials are part of PEBA's *Navigating Your Benefits* series. The full set of these common-language materials is at www.peba.sc.gov/nyb.

Local subs encouraged to attend April 12 Employer

replaced every 36 hours.

Source: **Crazy Health Facts**

Advisory Group

An open discussion for local subdivision benefits administrators with Jennifer Dolder, PEBA's director of Employer Services, is scheduled from 10 a.m. until noon on Wednesday, April 12, at PEBA, 200 Arbor Lake Drive, Columbia.

If you are interested in attending or calling in, email EmployerServices@peba.sc.gov. We look forward to hearing from you.

Ending TERI participation

The Teacher and Employee Retention Incentive (TERI) program will close to all members June 30, 2018, and your employees may have questions about how to end their participation.

You can help them by sharing the **Your choices when ending TERI participation flyer** which is available on PEBA's website. It covers when to end TERI and the steps to take, as well as an explanation of payment options.



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