

February 5, 2016

MyBenefits and EBS sites to undergo maintenance

EES enhanced in 2015

State ORP open enrollment

## be aware and prepare

*A sure way to an unsure future is to put off planning for retirement*

Retirement Readiness resources are available for your use on PEBA's website



[View Retirement Readiness resources](#)

## Open enrollment for participants of the State Optional Retirement Program

January 1, 2016, to March 1, 2016, is this year's annual open enrollment period for State Optional Retirement Program (State ORP) participants. During this period, participants may change their State ORP vendor or, if eligible, may irrevocably elect to participate in the South Carolina

## MyBenefits and Employee Benefits Services (EBS) sites to undergo maintenance

MyBenefits and EBS websites will be unavailable Saturday, February 6, due to a scheduled site maintenance. Both sites should be back online Sunday, February 7. We apologize for any inconvenience this may cause.

## Reminder: EES was enhanced in 2015

PEBA updated the Electronic Employer Services' (EES) site to allow users who complete a Final Payroll Certification or a Teacher and Employee Retention Incentive (TERI) Termination to request a previously completed task be reopened for corrections.

Retirement System (SCRS).  
State ORP participants may elect to participate in SCRS if they have between one and five years of State ORP participation.

For more information, go to [www.peba.sc.gov/sorp.html](http://www.peba.sc.gov/sorp.html).

To make a request, open the completed task in the review/reprint status. Select the "Request to Revise this Task" link. When you have completed the information, click "send email." An email will be sent to the appropriate PEBA staff member who will then review the request. Once it has been reopened, you will receive an email alerting you that the task has been placed back on the EES Task List.

If you have any questions about this new process, please contact your average final compensation analyst.



202 Arbor Lake Drive  
Columbia, SC 29223

803.737.6800 | 800.260.9430  
[www.peba.sc.gov](http://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.





4. The search feature will provide you with a list of places where the word is used in the guide.

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## New ACA files posted to EBS

New ACA files were posted to **EBS** on Thursday, February 11. The new files reflect retroactive changes for 2015 that were processed since the last files were posted on January 26.

If you did not have any retroactive changes for your employees, your files should not have changed. We know that many of you have not printed your forms yet, so we wanted to give you the most up-to-date coverage information for your employees and their dependents.

## series

PEBA's **retirement readiness** educational series is designed to provide employees with information that can help them make smart decisions about their financial future. The presentations include information on planning, creating a budget, setting financial goals, building a financial safety net and saving. More resources are coming soon, including a presentation on the investing. Please share these presentations with your employees or encourage them to check out the presentations themselves on **PEBA TV**.

The following presentations are available now:

- Planning for Your Future, Part One: Creating a Budget
- Planning for Your Future, Part Two: Setting Financial Goals and Building a Financial Safety Net
- Saving for Your Future

These presentations build upon information in the previous presentations, so we recommend viewing them in sequential order to get the most benefit from the information provided.

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## Form 1095

If you are a member of "The State" ALE or designated PEBA to issue form 1095-B to your non-Medicare retirees, survivors and COBRA subscribers, PEBA has forwarded the data for printing. We will inform you through a blast email or *PEBA Update* when the forms have been mailed. We will also inform members of "The State" ALE when the 1095-C forms for actives employees have been mailed.

Please remind employees and retirees that the deadline to receive the forms is March 31, 2016. The forms are not needed to complete their tax returns. Similar to last tax filing season, individuals will simply check a box on their tax return indicating that they had health coverage for the entire year. The forms provide individuals with a record of their health coverage, but do not need to be attached to the tax return.



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February 19, 2016

Dental Plus network changes coming March 1

Aiken regional screening

PEBA Perks workshop offered in Charleston

Searching the Insurance Benefits Guide

New ACA files posted to EBS

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## How to search the Insurance Benefits Guide

1. Go to PEBA's website, [www.peba.sc.gov](http://www.peba.sc.gov), and open the guide or click [here](#).
2. Once the guide is open, key "Control" and "F" (Cntr+F) at the same time.
3. In the box that appears in the upper right of the screen, type the word or term that you would like to

## Dental Plus network changes coming March 1

The provider network for the Dental Plus plan offered through the South Carolina Public Employee Benefit Authority (PEBA) and insured by BlueCross BlueShield of South Carolina will change effective March 1, 2016. PEBA's current Dental Plus provider network will convert to Blue Cross' network March 1. Blue Cross' network is larger than the current Dental Plus network and Blue Cross is actively recruiting dental care providers who participate only in PEBA's Dental Plus network. If you have questions about the Dental Plus network, contact BlueCross BlueShield of South Carolina at 888.214.6230.

[Space still available for Aiken regional](#)

find.

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## screening

PEBA is sponsoring a regional preventive screening on Thursday, February 25, 2016, at USC-Aiken, 471 University Parkway, in Room 110 of the Penland Building.

This benefit is provided at no cost to employees, retirees, COBRA subscribers and their covered spouses if their primary coverage is the Standard Plan or the Savings Plan. The screening includes blood work, a health risk appraisal, height and weight measurements, blood pressure and lipid panels.

Click [here](#) to learn how to register for the upcoming screening.

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## PEBA Perks workshop offered in Charleston

An opportunity to learn more about PEBA Perks will be offered from noon until 1 p.m. on Tuesday, March 8, at Trident Technical College in North Charleston, S.C.

Diane Conte, MSPH, from PEBA's Analytics and Health Initiatives department, will be the speaker.

PEBA is now offering several preventive health benefits available at no cost to members whose primary insurance is the State Health Plan. This workshop will provide information about each benefit and how you can take advantage of them. Don't miss this opportunity to learn more about PEBA Perks benefits.

Click [here](#) to register for the workshop. If you have questions, please email [wellness@peba.sc.gov](mailto:wellness@peba.sc.gov) or call 803.737.5713.



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February 26, 2016

Information for 2017 budget projections

March 1 is open enrollment deadline for State ORP

PEBA Perks workshop offered in Charleston

Space available for Beaufort regional screening

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## Online IBG now has index

An index has been added to the online version of the [Insurance Benefits Guide](#) (IBG). The IBG is on the PEBA website, [www.peba.sc.gov](http://www.peba.sc.gov). From *Insurance Benefits*, select *Resources* and then *Publications*.

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## Information for 2017 budget projections

PEBA is currently projecting an employer-only increase of 0.8 percent for the State Health Plan and a 15 percent employer-only increase for the Basic Dental Plan based on recent action related to the funding of the plans 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 2017 plan year, which begins January 1, 2017.

Final rate changes will be provided in August 2016.

Participating optional employers, those whose health insurance rates are subject to an annual experience rating, should apply any experience rating load factor to this projected increases. PEBA plans to mail load-factor letters to optional employers during the

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week of March 7.

Please share this information with any appropriate staff members.

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## March 1 is open enrollment deadline for State ORP

The annual open enrollment period for all participants of the [State Optional Retirement Program](#) (State ORP) will end March 1, 2016. During the 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).

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## Space available for Beaufort regional screening

PEBA is sponsoring a regional preventive screening on Thursday, March 17, 2016, in Room 117 at the Technical College of the Lowcountry -- New River Campus, 100 Community College Drive, Bluffton, S.C.

This benefit is provided at no cost to employees, retirees, COBRA subscribers and their covered spouses if their primary coverage is the Standard Plan or the Savings Plan. The screening includes blood work, a health risk appraisal, height and weight measurements, blood pressure and lipid panels.

Click [here](#) to learn how to register for the screening.



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