PEBA
SC Retirement Systems and State Health Plan

South Carolina Public Employee Benefit Authority
Serving those who serve South Carolina

Federally mandated notices

Grandfathered notice

The S.C. Public Employee Benefit Authority believes the State Health Plan is a "grandfathered health plan" under the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act (the Affordable Care Act). As permitted by the Affordable Care Act, a grandfathered health plan can preserve certain basic health coverage that was already in effect when that law was enacted. Being a grandfathered health plan means that your plan may not include certain consumer protections of the Affordable Care Act that apply to other plans, for example, the requirement for the provision of preventive health services without any cost sharing. However, grandfathered health plans must comply with certain other consumer protections in the Affordable Care Act, for example, the elimination of lifetime limits on benefits.

Questions regarding which protections apply and which protections do not apply to a grandfathered health plan and what might cause a plan to change from grandfathered health plan status can be directed to the plan administrator at 803.737.6800 or 888.260.9430.

Summaries of Benefits and Coverage

The 2026 *Summaries of Benefits and Coverage* for the Standard Plan and Savings Plan are available online at peba.sc.gov/publications. To request a copy at no charge, call PEBA at 803.737.6800 or 888.260.9430.

Notice of Privacy Practices

Effective: April 14, 2003 | Revised: July 1, 2020

This notice describes how medical information about you may be used and disclosed and how you can get access to this information. Please review it carefully. Please share this information with your covered adult dependents.

The South Carolina Public Employee Benefit Authority is committed to protecting the privacy of your protected health information. PEBA may access your medical claims information and related protected health information in order to provide you with health insurance and to assist you in claims resolution. This notice explains how PEBA may use and disclose your protected health information, PEBA's obligations related to the use and disclosure of your protected health information and your rights regarding your protected health information. PEBA is required by law, the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act of 1996 (HIPAA) and the Health Information Technology for Economic and Clinical Health Act (HITECH Act), to make sure that protected health information that identifies you is kept private, to give you this notice of its privacy practices and to follow the terms of its current notice. This notice applies to all of the records of your protected health information maintained or created by PEBA. All PEBA employees will follow the practices described in this notice.

If you have any questions about this Notice of Privacy Practices, please contact:

S.C. Public Employee Benefit Authority
Attn: HIPAA Privacy Officer
202 Arbor Lake Drive
Columbia, SC 29223
Phone: 803.737.6800 | Fax: 803.570.8110
Email: privacyofficer@peba.sc.gov

How PEBA may use and disclose protected health information

The following describes different ways PEBA may use and disclose your protected health information. For each category of use or disclosure, this notice may present some examples. Not every use or disclosure in a category will be listed. However, all of the ways that PEBA is permitted to use and disclose information will fall within one of the categories.

- **For treatment**. PEBA may use and disclose your protected health information to coordinate and manage your health care-related services by one or more of your health care providers. For example, a representative of PEBA, a case manager and your doctor may discuss the most beneficial treatment plan for you if you have a chronic condition, such as diabetes.
- **For payment**. PEBA may use and disclose your protected health information to bill, collect payment and pay for your treatment/services from an insurance company or another third party; to obtain premiums; to determine or fulfill its responsibility for coverage or provision of benefits; or to provide reimbursement for health care. For example, PEBA may need to give your protected health information to another insurance provider to facilitate the coordination of benefits or to your employer to facilitate the employer's payment of its portion of the premium.
- **For health care operations**. PEBA may use and disclose protected health information about you for other PEBA operations. PEBA may use protected health information in connection with conducting quality assessment and improvement activities; reviewing the competence or qualifications of health care professionals; evaluating practitioner, provider and health plan performance; underwriting, premium rating and other activities relating to health plan coverage; conducting or arranging for medical review, legal services, audit services and fraud and abuse detection programs; business planning and development, such as cost management; and business management and general administrative activities. For example, PEBA may disclose your protected health information to an actuary to make decisions regarding premium rates, or it may share your protected health information with other business associates that, through written agreement, provide services to PEBA. These business associates, such as consultants or third-party administrators, are required to protect the privacy of your protected health information.
- **Business Associates**. PEBA may contract with individuals or entities known as Business Associates to perform various functions on PEBA's behalf or to provide certain types of services. For example, PEBA may disclose your protected health information to a Business Associate to process your claims for Plan benefits, pharmacy benefits, or other support services, but the Business Associate must enter into a Business Associate contract with PEBA agreeing to implement appropriate safeguards regarding your protected health information.
- **Treatment alternatives and health-related benefits and services**. PEBA may use and disclose your protected health information to contact you about health-related benefits or services that may be of interest to you. For example, you may be contacted and offered enrollment in a program to assist you in handling a chronic disease, such as high blood pressure.
- **Individuals involved in your care or payment for your care**. PEBA may, in certain circumstances, disclose protected health information about you to your representative, such as a friend or family member who is involved in your health care, or to your representative who helps pay for your care. PEBA may disclose your protected health information to an agency assisting in disaster relief efforts so that your family can be notified about your condition, status and location.
- **Research**. PEBA may use and disclose your de-identified protected health information for research purposes, or PEBA may share protected health information for research approved by an institutional review board or privacy board after review of the research rules to ensure the privacy of your protected health information. For example, a research project may compare the health/recovery of patients who receive a medication with those who receive another medication for the same condition.
- **As required by law**. PEBA will disclose protected health information about you when it is required to do so by federal or South Carolina law. For example, PEBA will report any suspected insurance fraud as required by South Carolina law.
- **To avert a serious threat to health or safety, or for public health activities**. PEBA may use and disclose protected health information about you when necessary to prevent a serious threat to your health and safety, or to the health and safety of the public, or for public health activities.
- **Organ and tissue donation**. If you are an organ donor, PEBA may disclose your protected health information to organizations that handle organ, eye or tissue procurement, transplantation or donation.
- **Coroners, medical examiners and funeral directors**. PEBA may share your protected health information with a coroner/medical examiner or funeral director as needed to carry out their duties.
- **Military and veterans**. If you are a member of the armed forces, PEBA may disclose protected health information about you after the notice requirements are fulfilled by military command authorities.
- **Workers' compensation**. PEBA may disclose protected health information about you for workers' compensation or similar programs that provide benefits for work-related injuries or illness.
- **Health oversight activities.** PEBA may disclose your protected health information to a health oversight agency for authorized activities, such as audits and investigations.
- **Lawsuits and disputes**. PEBA may disclose your protected health information in response to a court or administrative order, a subpoena, discovery request or other lawful process if PEBA receives assurance from the party seeking the information

that you have either been given notice of the request, or that the party seeking the information has tried to secure a qualified protective order regarding this information.

- **Law enforcement**. PEBA may disclose information to a law enforcement official in response to a court order, subpoena, warrant, summons or similar process.
- **National security, intelligence activities and protective services**. PEBA may disclose your protected health information to authorized officials for intelligence, counterintelligence and other national security activities; to conduct special investigations; and to provide protection for the President, other authorized persons or foreign heads of state.
- **Inmates**. If you are an inmate of a correctional institution or are in the custody of a law enforcement official, PEBA may disclose your protected health information if the disclosure is necessary to provide you with health care, or to protect your health and safety or the health and safety of others.
- **Fundraising**. PEBA will not use or release your protected health information for purposes of fundraising activities.
- **Sale or marketing**. Your authorization is required for PEBA's use or disclosure of any protected health information (PHI) for marketing purposes, or for any disclosure by PEBA that constitutes the sale of PHI.

Your rights regarding your protected health information

You have the following rights regarding the protected health information that PEBA has about you:

- **Right to inspect and copy**. You have the right to request to see and receive a copy of your protected health information or, if you agree to the preparation cost, PEBA may provide you with a written summary. If PEBA maintains an electronic health record containing your protected health information, you have the right to request that PEBA send a copy of your protected health information in an electronic format to you. Some protected health information is exempt from disclosure. To see or obtain a copy of your protected health information, send a written request to: S.C. Public Employee Benefit Authority, Attn: HIPAA Privacy Officer, 202 Arbor Lake Drive, Columbia, SC 29223. PEBA may charge a fee for the costs associated with your request. In limited cases, PEBA may deny your request. If your request is denied, you may request a review of the denial.
- **Right to amend**. If you believe that your protected health information is incorrect or incomplete, you may ask PEBA to amend the information by sending a written request to: S.C. Public Employee Benefit Authority, Attn: HIPAA Privacy Officer, 202 Arbor Lake Drive, Columbia, SC 29223, stating the reason you believe your information should be amended. PEBA may deny your request if you ask it to amend information that was not created by PEBA, the information is not part of the protected health information kept by or for PEBA , the information is not part of the information you would be permitted to inspect and copy or your protected health information is accurate and complete. You have the right to request an amendment for as long as PEBA keeps the information.
- **Right to an accounting of disclosures**. You have the right to request a list of the disclosures of your protected health information PEBA has made. This list will NOT include protected health information released to provide treatment to you, to obtain payment for services or for health care operations; releases for national security purposes; releases to correctional institutions or law enforcement officials as required by law; releases authorized by you; releases of your protected health information to you; releases as part of a limited data set; releases to representatives involved in your health care; releases otherwise required by law or regulation and releases made prior to April 14, 2003. You must submit your request for an accounting of disclosures in writing to S.C. Public Employee Benefit Authority, Attn: HIPAA Privacy Officer, 202 Arbor Lake Drive, Columbia, SC 29223, indicating a time period that may not go back beyond six years. Your request should indicate the form in which you want the list (for example, by paper or electronically). The first list that you request within a 12-month period will be provided free of charge; however, PEBA may charge you for the cost of providing additional lists within a 12-month period.
- **Right to request restrictions of use and disclosure**. You have the right to request a restriction on the protected health information that PEBA uses or discloses. You also have the right to request a limit on the protected health information that PEBA discloses about you to someone who is involved in your care or the payment for your care. Please note that the protected health information collected by PEBA is not used for any other purpose than as necessary for the administration of your benefits as described above and is kept confidential pursuant to the requirements of state and federal law, including the protections under HIPAA and HITECH. PEBA is not required to agree to your request(s). If PEBA does agree, PEBA will comply with your request(s) unless the information is needed to provide you with emergency treatment. In your request, you must specify what information you want to limit and to whom you want the limits to apply. You must make these request(s), in writing, to S.C. Public Employee Benefit Authority, Attn: HIPAA Privacy Officer, 202 Arbor Lake Drive, Columbia, SC 29223.
- **Right to request confidential communications**. You have the right to request that PEBA communicate about your protected health information by alternative means or to an alternative location to avoid endangering you. PEBA will accommodate

your request if (a) it is reasonable, (b) you state clearly that failure to communicate your protected health information by the alternative means or to the alternative location could endanger you, and (c) you provide reasonable alternative means or location for communicating with you. You must make these request(s), in writing, to: S.C. Public Employee Benefit Authority, Attn: HIPAA Privacy Officer, 202 Arbor Lake Drive, Columbia, SC 29223.

- **Right to restrict release of information for certain services**. Unless the disclosure is required by law, you have the right to restrict the disclosure of information regarding services for which you have paid in full or on an out-of-pocket basis. This information can be released only upon your written authorization.
- **Right to a paper copy of this notice**. You have the right to request a paper copy of this notice at any time by contacting PEBA's HIPAA Privacy Officer at: S.C. Public Employee Benefit Authority, Attn: HIPAA Privacy Officer, 202 Arbor Lake Drive, Columbia, SC 29223. You may obtain a copy of this notice at PEBA's website at www.peba.sc.gov.
- **Right to breach notification**. You have the right to be notified of any breach of your unsecured protected health information.

Complaints

If you believe that your protected health information rights, as stated in this notice, have been violated, you may file a complaint with PEBA's HIPAA Privacy Officer and/or with the Office for Civil Rights, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services.

To file a complaint with the PEBA's HIPAA Privacy Officer, contact:

S.C. Public Employee Benefit Authority
Attn: HIPAA Privacy Officer
202 Arbor Lake Drive
Columbia, SC 29223
Phone: 803.737.6800 | Fax: 803.570.8110
Email: privacyofficer@peba.sc.gov

To file a complaint with the Office for Civil Rights, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, contact:

Office for Civil Rights
U.S. Department of Health and Human Services
61 Forsyth Street, S.W., Suite 16T70
Atlanta, GA 30303-8909
Phone: 404.562.7886 | Fax: 404.562.7881
TDD: 404.562.7884

PEBA will not intimidate, threaten, coerce, discriminate against or take other retaliatory actions against any individual who files a complaint.

Changes to this notice

PEBA reserves the right to change this notice. PEBA may make the changed notice effective for medical information it already has about you, as well as for any information it may receive in the future. PEBA will post a copy of the current notice on its website and in its office. PEBA will mail you a copy of revisions to this policy at the address that is on file with PEBA at the time of the mailing.

Other uses of protected health information

This notice describes and gives some examples of the permitted ways your protected health information may be used or disclosed. PEBA will ask for your written permission before it uses or discloses your protected health information for purposes not covered in this notice. If you provide PEBA with written permission to use or disclose information, you can change your mind and revoke your permission at any time by notifying PEBA in writing. If you revoke your permission, PEBA will no longer use or disclose the information for that purpose. However, PEBA will not be able to take back any disclosure that it made with your permission.

HIPAA Notice of Special Enrollment Rights

If you are declining enrollment for yourself or your dependents (including your spouse) because of other health insurance or group health plan coverage, you may be able to enroll yourself and your dependents in this plan if you or your dependents lose eligibility for that other coverage (or if the employer stops contributing toward your or your dependents' other coverage). However, you must request enrollment within 30 days after your or your dependents' other coverage ends (or after the employer stops contributing toward the other coverage). In addition, if you have a new dependent as a result of marriage, birth, adoption or placement for

adoption, you may be able to enroll yourself and your dependents. However, you must request enrollment within 31 days after the marriage, birth, adoption or placement for adoption. To request special enrollment or obtain more information, contact your benefits administrator.

Women's Health and Cancer Rights Act

Do you know that your plan, as required by the Women's Health and Cancer Rights Act of 1998, provides benefits for mastectomy-related services, including all stages of reconstruction and surgery to achieve symmetry between the breasts, prostheses and complications resulting from a mastectomy, including lymphedema? Call your plan administrator at 803.737.6800 or 888.260.9430 for more information.

Newborn's and Mother's Health Protection Act

Group health plans and health insurance issuers generally may not, under federal law, restrict benefits for any hospital length of stay in connection with childbirth for the mother or newborn child to less than 48 hours following a vaginal delivery, or less than 96 hours following a cesarean section. However, federal law generally does not prohibit the mother's or newborn's attending provider, after consulting with the mother, from discharging the mother or her newborn earlier than 48 hours (or 96 hours, as applicable). In any case, plans and issuers may not, under federal law, require that a provider obtain authorization from the plan or the issuer for prescribing a length of stay not in excess of 48 hours (or 96 hours).

Health Insurance Marketplace coverage options and your health coverage

PART A: General information
Even if you are offered health coverage through your employment, you may have other coverage options through the Health Insurance Marketplace ("Marketplace"). To assist you as you evaluate options for you and your family, this notice provides some basic information about the Health Insurance Marketplace and health coverage offered through your employment.

What is the Health Insurance Marketplace?
The Marketplace is designed to help you find health insurance that meets your needs and fits your budget. The Marketplace offers "one-stop shopping" to find and compare private health insurance options in your geographic area.

Can I save money on my health insurance premiums in the Marketplace?
You may qualify to save money and lower your monthly premium and other out-of-pocket costs, but only if your employer does not offer coverage, or offers coverage that is not considered affordable for you and doesn't meet certain minimum value standards (discussed below). The savings that you're eligible for depends on your household income. You may also be eligible for a tax credit that lowers your costs.

Does employer health coverage affect eligibility for premium savings through the Marketplace?
Yes. If you have an offer of health coverage from your employer that is considered affordable for you and meets certain minimum value standards, you will not be eligible for a tax credit, or advance payment of the tax credit, for your Marketplace coverage and may wish to enroll in your employment-based health plan. However, you may be eligible for a tax credit, and advance payments of the credit that lowers your monthly premium, or a reduction in certain cost-sharing, if your employer does not offer coverage to you at all or does not offer coverage that is considered affordable for you or meet minimum value standards. If your share of the premium cost of all plans offered to you through your employment is more than 9.12% of your annual household income, or if the coverage through your employment does not meet the "minimum value" standard set by the Affordable Care Act, you may be eligible for a tax credit, and advance payment of the credit, if you do not enroll in the employment-based health coverage. For family members of the employee, coverage is considered affordable if the employee's cost of premiums for the lowest-cost plan that would cover all family members does not exceed 9.12% of the employee's household income.

Note: If you purchase a health plan through the Marketplace instead of accepting health coverage offered through your employment, then you may lose access to whatever the employer contributes to the employment-based coverage. Also, this employer contribution - as well as your employee contribution to employment-based coverage - is generally excluded from income for federal and state income tax purposes. Your payments for coverage through the Marketplace are made on an after-tax basis. In addition, note that if the health coverage offered through your employment does not meet the affordability or minimum value standards, but you accept that coverage anyway, you will not be eligible for a tax credit. You should consider all of these factors in determining whether to purchase a health plan through the Marketplace.

How can I get more information?
For more information about your coverage offered through your employment, please check your health plan's summary plan description or contact your employer's human resources department. The Marketplace can help you evaluate your coverage options, including your eligibility for coverage through the Marketplace and its cost. Please visit HealthCare.gov for more information, including an online application for health insurance coverage and contact information for a Health Insurance Marketplace in your area.

Premium assistance under Medicaid and the Children's Health Insurance Program

If you or your children are eligible for Medicaid or CHIP and you're eligible for health coverage from your employer, your state may have a premium assistance program that can help pay for coverage, using funds from their Medicaid or CHIP programs. If you or your children aren't eligible for Medicaid or CHIP, you won't be eligible for these premium assistance programs, but you may be able to buy individual insurance coverage through the Health Insurance Marketplace. For more information, visit www.healthcare.gov.

If you or your dependents are already enrolled in Medicaid or CHIP and you live in a state listed below, contact your State Medicaid or CHIP office to find out if premium assistance is available.

If you or your dependents are NOT currently enrolled in Medicaid or CHIP, and you think you or any of your dependents might be eligible for either of these programs, contact your State Medicaid or CHIP office or dial 1-877-KIDS NOW or www.insurekidsnow.gov to find out how to apply. If you qualify, ask your state if it has a program that might help you pay the premiums for an employer-sponsored plan.

If you or your dependents are eligible for premium assistance under Medicaid or CHIP, as well as eligible under your employer plan, your employer must allow you to enroll in your employer plan if you aren't already enrolled. This is called a "special enrollment" opportunity, and you must request coverage within 60 days of being determined eligible for premium assistance. If you have questions about enrolling in your employer plan, contact the Department of Labor at www.askebsa.dol.gov or call 1-866-444-EBSA (3272).

If you live in one of the following states, you may be eligible for assistance paying your employer health plan premiums. The following list of states is current as of July 31, 2025. Contact your state for more information on eligibility.

ALABAMA - Medicaid Website: http://myalhipp.com/ Phone: 1-855-692-5447	**ALASKA - Medicaid** The AK Health Insurance Premium Payment Program Website: http://myakhipp.com/ Phone: 1-866-251-4861 Email: CustomerService@MyAKHIPP.com Medicaid Eligibility: https://health.alaska.gov/dpa/Pages/default.aspx
ARKANSAS - Medicaid Website: http://myarhipp.com/ Phone: 1-855-MyARHIPP (855-692-7447)	**CALIFORNIA – Medicaid** Health Insurance Premium Payment (HIPP) Program Website: http://dhcs.ca.gov/hipp Phone: 916-445-8322 Fax: 916-440-5676 Email: hipp@dhcs.ca.gov
COLORADO - Health First Colorado (Colorado's Medicaid Program) & Child Health Plan Plus (CHP+) Health First Colorado Website: https://www.healthfirstcolorado.com/ Health First Colorado Member Contact Center: 1-800-221-3943/State Relay 711 CHP+: https://hcpf.colorado.gov/child-health-plan-plus CHP+ Customer Service: 1-800-359-1991/State Relay 711 Health Insurance Buy-In Program (HIBI): https://www.mycohibi.com/ HIBI Customer Service: 1-855-692-6442	**FLORIDA – Medicaid** Website: https://www.flmedicaidtplrecovery.com/flmedicaidtplrecovery.com/hipp/index.html Phone: 1-877-357-3268

GEORGIA - Medicaid
GA HIPP Website: https://medicaid.georgia.gov/health-insurance-premium-payment-program-hipp
Phone: 678-564-1162, Press 1
GA CHIPRA Website:
https://medicaid.georgia.gov/programs/third-party-liability/childrens-health-insurance-program-reauthorization-act-2009-chipra
Phone: 678-564-1162, Press 2

INDIANA - Medicaid
Health Insurance Premium Payment Program All other Medicaid
Website: https://www.in.gov/medicaid
http://www.in.gov/fssa/dfr/
Family and Social Services Administration Phone:
1-800-403-0864
Member Services Phone: 1-800-457-4584

IOWA - Medicaid and CHIP (Hawki)
Medicaid Website: https://dhs.iowa.gov/ime/members
Medicaid Phone: 1-800-338-8366
Hawki Website: http://dhs.iowa.gov/Hawki
Hawki Phone: 1-800-257-8563
HIPP Website: https://dhs.iowa.gov/ime/members/medicaid- a-to-z/hipp HIPP Phone: 1-888-346-9562

KANSAS - Medicaid
Website: https://www.kancare.ks.gov/
Phone: 1-800-792-4884
HIPP Phone: 1-800-967-4660

KENTUCKY - Medicaid
Kentucky Integrated Health Insurance Premium Payment Program (KI-HIPP) Website:
https://chfs.ky.gov/agencies/dms/member/Pages/kihipp.aspx
Phone: 1-855-459-6328 Email: KIHIPP.PROGRAM@ky.gov
KCHIP Website: https://kynect.ky.gov
Phone: 1-877-524-4718
Kentucky Medicaid Website: https://chfs.ky.gov/agencies/dms

LOUISIANA - Medicaid
Website: www.medicaid.la.gov or www.ldh.la.gov/lahipp
Phone: 1-888-342-6207 (Medicaid hotline) or 1-855-618-5488 (LaHIPP)

MAINE - Medicaid
Enrollment Website:
https://www.mymaineconnection.gov/benefits/s/?language=en_US
Phone: 1-800-442-6003 TTY: Maine relay 711
Private Health Insurance Premium Webpage:
https://www.maine.gov/dhhs/ofi/applications-forms
Phone: 1-800-977-6740 TTY: Maine relay 711

MASSACHUSETTS - Medicaid
Website: https://www.mass.gov/masshealth/pa
Phone: 1-800-862-4840
TTY: 711
Email: masspremassistance@accenture.com

MINNESOTA – Medicaid
Website: https://mn.gov/dhs/health-care-coverage/ Phone: 1-800-657-3672

MISSOURI - Medicaid
Website:
http://www.dss.mo.gov/mhd/participants/pages/hipp.htm
Phone: 573-751-2005

MONTANA - Medicaid
Website: http://dphhs.mt.gov/MontanaHealthcarePrograms
HIPP Phone: 1-800-694-3084
Email: HHSHIPPProgram@mt.gov

NEBRASKA - Medicaid
Website: http://www.ACCESSNebraska.ne.gov
Phone: 1-855-632-7633 Lincoln: 402-473-7000
Omaha: 402-595-1178

NEVADA - Medicaid
Medicaid Website: http://dhcfp.nv.gov
Medicaid Phone: 1-800-992-0900

NEW HAMPSHIRE - Medicaid
Website: https://www.dhhs.nh.gov/programs-services/medicaid/health-insurance-premium-program
Phone: 603-271-5218
Toll free number for the HIPP program: 1-800-852-3345, ext. 15218
Email: DHHS.ThirdPartyLiabi@dhhs.nh.gov

NEW JERSEY – Medicaid and CHIP
Medicaid Website: http://www.state.nj.us/humanservices/dmahs/clients/medicaid/
Phone: 1-800-356-1561
CHIP Premium Assistance Phone: 609-631-2392
CHIP Website: http://www.njfamilycare.org/index.html
CHIP Phone: 1-800-701-0710 (TTY: 711)

NEW YORK - Medicaid
Website: https://www.health.ny.gov/health_care/medicaid/
Phone: 1-800-541-2831

NORTH CAROLINA - Medicaid
Website: https://medicaid.ncdhhs.gov/
Phone: 919-855-4100

NORTH DAKOTA - Medicaid
Website: https://www.hhs.nd.gov/healthcare
Phone: 1-844-854-4825

OKLAHOMA - Medicaid and CHIP Website: http://www.insureoklahoma.org Phone: 1-888-365-3742	**OREGON - Medicaid** Website: http://healthcare.oregon.gov/Pages/index.aspx Phone: 1-800-699-9075
PENNSYLVANIA - Medicaid and CHIP Website: https://www.pa.gov/en/services/dhs/apply-for-medicaid-health-insurance-premium-payment-program-hipp.html Phone: 1-800-692-7462 CHIP Website: https://www.dhs.pa.gov/CHIP/Pages/CHIP.aspx CHIP Phone: 1-800-986-KIDS (5437)	**RHODE ISLAND - Medicaid and CHIP** Website: http://www.eohhs.ri.gov/ Phone: 1-855-697-4347, or 401-462-0311 (Direct RIte Share Line)
SOUTH CAROLINA - Medicaid Website: https://www.scdhhs.gov Phone: 1-888-549-0820	**SOUTH DAKOTA - Medicaid** Website: http://dss.sd.gov Phone: 1-888-828-0059
TEXAS - Medicaid Website: https://www.hhs.texas.gov/services/financial/health-insurance-premium-payment-hipp-program Phone: 1-800-440-0493	**UTAH – Medicaid and CHIP** Utah's Premium Partnership for Health Insurance (UPP) Website: https://medicaid.utah.gov/upp/ Email: upp@utah.gov Phone: 1-888-222-2542 Adult Expansion Website: https://medicaid.utah.gov/expansion/ Utah Medicaid Buyout Program Website: https://medicaid.utah.gov/buyout-program/ CHIP Website: https://chip.utah.gov/
VERMONT - Medicaid Website: https://dvha.vermont.gov/members/medicaid/hipp-program Phone: 1-800-250-8427	**VIRGINIA - Medicaid** Website: https://coverva.dmas.virginia.gov/learn/premium-assistance/famis-select https://coverva.dmas.virginia.gov/learn/premium-assistance/health-insurance-premium-payment-hipp-programs Medicaid/CHIP Phone: 1-800-432-5924
WASHINGTON - Medicaid Website: https://www.hca.wa.gov/ Phone: 1-800-562-3022	**WEST VIRGINIA - Medicaid** Website: https://dhhr.wv.gov/bms/ http://mywvhipp.com/ Medicaid Phone: 304-558-1700 CHIP Toll-free phone: 1-855-MyWVHIPP (1-855-699-8447)
WISCONSIN - Medicaid and CHIP Website: https://www.dhs.wisconsin.gov/badgercareplus/p-10095.htm Phone: 1-800-362-3002	**WYOMING - Medicaid** Website: https://health.wyo.gov/healthcarefin/medicaid/programs-and-eligibility/ Phone: 1-800-251-1269

To see if any other states have added a premium assistance program since July 31, 2025, or for more information on special enrollment rights, contact either:

U.S. Department of Labor
Employee Benefits Security Administration
www.dol.gov/agencies/ebsa
1-866-444-EBSA (3272)

U.S. Department of Health and Human Services
Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services
www.cms.hhs.gov
1-877-267-2323, Menu Option 4, Ext. 61565

Paperwork Reduction Act Statement

According to the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (Pub. L. 104-13) (PRA), no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless such collection displays a valid Office of Management and Budget (OMB) control number. The Department notes that a Federal agency cannot conduct or sponsor a collection of information unless it is approved by OMB under the PRA, and displays a currently valid OMB control number, and the public is not required to respond to a collection of information unless it displays a currently valid OMB control number. See 44 U.S.C. 3507. Also, notwithstanding any other provisions of law, no person shall be subject to penalty for failing to comply with a collection of information if the collection of information does not display a currently valid OMB control number. See 44 U.S.C. 3512.

The public reporting burden for this collection of information is estimated to average approximately seven minutes per respondent. Interested parties are encouraged to send comments regarding the burden estimate or any other aspect of this collection of information, including suggestions for reducing this burden, to the U.S. Department of Labor, Employee Benefits Security

Administration, Office of Policy and Research, Attention: PRA Clearance Officer, 200 Constitution Avenue, N.W., Room N-5718, Washington, DC 20210 or email ebsa.opr@dol.gov and reference the OMB Control Number 1210-0137.

Medicare Part D creditable coverage letter

Important notice from PEBA about your prescription drug coverage and Medicare

Please read this notice carefully and keep it where you can find it.

This notice has information about your current prescription drug coverage with PEBA and your options under Medicare's prescription drug coverage. This information can help you decide whether you want to join a Medicare prescription drug plan other than the State Health Plan's Medicare prescription drug program.

If you are considering joining another Part D plan, you should compare your current coverage, including which drugs are covered at what cost, with the coverage and costs of the plans offering Medicare prescription drug coverage in your area. Information about where you can get help to make decisions about your prescription drug coverage is at the end of this notice.

There are two important things you need to know about your current coverage and Medicare's prescription drug coverage:

1. Medicare prescription drug coverage became available in 2006 to everyone with Medicare. You can get this coverage if you join a Medicare Prescription Drug Plan or join a Medicare Advantage Plan (such as a health maintenance organization or preferred provider organization) that offers prescription drug coverage. All Medicare prescription drug plans provide at least a standard level of coverage set by Medicare. Some plans may also offer more coverage for a higher monthly premium.
2. PEBA offers a Medicare prescription drug program and the State Health Plan Prescription Drug Program to members enrolled in Medicare. It has determined that the prescription drug coverage offered through the Standard Plan or the Medicare Supplemental Plan is, on average for all plan participants, expected to pay out as much as standard Medicare prescription drug coverage pays. It is, therefore, considered creditable coverage. Because your existing coverage is creditable coverage, you can keep this coverage and not pay a higher premium (a penalty) if you later decide to join a Medicare prescription drug plan.

When can you join a Medicare prescription drug plan?
You can join a Medicare prescription drug plan when you first become eligible for Medicare and each year from October 15 to December 7. However, if you lose your current creditable prescription drug coverage, through no fault of your own, you will also be eligible for a two-month Special Enrollment Period to join a Medicare prescription drug plan.

What happens to your current coverage if you decide to join a Medicare prescription drug plan?
If you decide to join a Medicare prescription drug plan other than the one sponsored by PEBA, you will lose your prescription drug coverage provided through your health plan with PEBA, and your premiums will not decrease. Please note that you and your dependents will be able to get this coverage back.

Before you decide to switch to other Medicare prescription drug coverage and drop your PEBA coverage, you should compare your PEBA coverage, including which drugs are covered, with the coverage and cost of any plans offering Medicare prescription drug coverage in your area.

When will you pay a higher premium (penalty) to join a Medicare drug plan?
If you drop or lose your current coverage with PEBA and don't join a Medicare prescription drug plan within 63 continuous days after your current coverage ends, you may pay a higher premium (a penalty) to join a Medicare prescription drug plan later.

If you go 63 continuous days or longer without creditable prescription drug coverage, your monthly premium may go up by at least 1% of the Medicare base beneficiary premium per month for every month that you did not have that coverage. For example, if you go 19 months without creditable coverage, your premium may consistently be at least 19% higher than the Medicare base beneficiary premium.

You may have to pay this higher premium (a penalty) as long as you have Medicare prescription drug coverage. In addition, you may have to wait until the following October to join.

For more information about this notice or your current prescription drug coverage
Contact PEBA at the address or telephone number listed below.

Note: You will receive this notice each year before the next period you can join a Medicare prescription drug plan and if this coverage through PEBA changes. You also may request a copy of this notice at any time.

For more information about your options under Medicare prescription drug coverage
More detailed information about Medicare plans that offer prescription drug coverage is in the *Medicare & You* handbook. You will get a copy of the handbook in the mail every year from Medicare. You may also be contacted directly by Medicare prescription drug plans.

For more information about Medicare prescription drug coverage: Visit www.medicare.gov.

For assistance, you may call 800-MEDICARE (800.633.4227). TTY users should call 877.486.2048.

Remember: Keep this creditable coverage notice. If you decide to join one of the Medicare prescription drug plans, you may be required to provide a copy of this notice when you join to show whether you have maintained creditable coverage and, therefore, whether you are required to pay a higher premium (a penalty).

Contact PEBA for further information.
Note: You will get this notice each year before the next period you can join a Medicare prescription drug plan and if this coverage through PEBA changes. You may also request a copy.

S.C. Public Employee Benefit Authority
202 Arbor Lake Drive
Columbia, SC 29223
803.737.6800 | 888.260.9430
peba.sc.gov

Your rights and protections against surprise medical bills

When you get emergency care or are treated by an out-of-network provider at a network hospital or ambulatory surgical center, you are protected from surprise billing. In these cases, you shouldn't be charged more than the State Health Plan's copayments, deductible and coinsurance.

What is surprise billing?
Surprise billing happens when you receive a bill for a service when you can't control who is involved in your care, like when you have an emergency or when you schedule a visit at a network facility but are unexpectedly treated by an out-of-network provider.

You are protected from surprise billing for the following services:
Emergency services
If you have an emergency medical condition and get emergency services from an out-of-network provider or facility, the most they can bill you is the State Health Plan's network cost sharing amount, such as copayments, deductibles and coinsurance. You **can't** be charged more than the Plan's allowed amount for these emergency services. This includes services you may get after you're in stable condition unless you give written consent and give up your protections against being charged more than the Plan's allowed amount for these services.

Certain services at a network hospital or ambulatory surgical center
When you get services from a network hospital or ambulatory surgical center, certain providers there may be out of network. In these cases, the most those providers can bill you is the State Health Plan's network cost sharing amount. This applies to emergency medicine, anesthesia, pathology, radiology, laboratory, neonatology, assistant surgeon, hospitalist or intensivist services. These providers **can't** charge you more than the Plan's allowed amount and may **not** ask you to give up your protections against surprise billing.

If you get other types of services at these network facilities, out-of-network providers **can't** charge you more than the Plan's allowed amount unless you give written consent and give up your protections.

You are never required to give up your protections from surprise billing. You also are not required to get out-of-network care. You can choose a provider or facility in the State Health Plan's network.

When you are protected against surprise billing, you also have these protections:

- You're responsible for paying only your share of the cost. This cost includes the copayments, deductibles and coinsurance you would pay if the provider or facility was in network. The State Health Plan will pay any additional costs to out-of-network providers and facilities directly.
- Generally, the State Health Plan must:
    - Cover emergency services without requiring you to get approval for services in advance, also known as prior authorization.
    - Cover emergency services by out-of-network providers.
    - Base what you owe the provider or facility (cost sharing) on what it would pay a network provider or facility and show that amount in your Explanation of Benefits.
    - Count any amount you pay for emergency or out-of-network services toward your in-network deductible and out-of-pocket coinsurance maximum.

If you think you've been wrongly billed, contact the United States Department of Health and Human Services at 888.393.2789. The toll-free phone number for information and complaints is 800.985.3059.

You may also receive help through an applicable state consumer assistance program. Visit www.dol.gov/ sites/default/files/ebsa/ laws-and-regulations/laws/affordable-care-act/for-employers-and-advisers/consumer-assistance-programs.doc for contact information by state. Visit www.dol.gov/agencies/ebsa/laws-and-regulations/laws/no-surprises-act for more information about your rights under federal law.

Note: If you choose to use an out-of-network provider, the provider may bill you the difference in its cost and the allowed amount. This is known as a balance bill. Learn more about balance billing at peba.sc.gov/nyb.

PEBA complies with applicable Federal civil rights laws and does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, age, disability, or sex. ATENCIÓN: si habla español, tiene a su disposición servicios gratuitos de asistencia lingüística. Llame al 1.888.260.9430. 注意：如果您使用繁體中 文，您可以免費獲得語言援助服務。請致電 1.888.260.9430