

Chapter 182-12 WAC
ELIGIBLE AND NONELIGIBLE EMPLOYEES

Last Update: 8/29/24

WAC

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DISPOSITION OF SECTIONS FORMERLY CODIFIED IN THIS CHAPTER

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| 182-12-110 | Purpose. [Statutory Authority: Chapter 41.05 RCW. WSR 96-08-043, § 182-12-110, filed 3/29/96, effective 4/29/96; Order 5646, § 182-12-110, filed 2/9/76.] Repealed by WSR 04-18-039, filed 8/26/04, effective 1/1/05. Statutory Authority: RCW 41.05.160 and 41.05.165. |
| 182-12-112 | Insurance eligibility for higher education. [Statutory Authority: RCW 41.05.160. WSR 08-20-128 (Order 08-03), § 182-12-112, filed 10/1/08, effective 1/1/09; WSR 07-20-129 (Order 07-01), § 182-12-112, filed 10/3/07, effective 11/3/07. Statutory Authority: RCW 41.05.160 and 41.05.165. WSR 04-18-039, § 182-12-112, filed 8/26/04, effective 1/1/05.] Repealed by WSR 09-23-102 (Order 09-02), filed 11/17/09, effective 1/1/10. Statutory Authority: RCW 41.05.160. |
| 182-12-115 | Eligible employees. [Statutory Authority: RCW 41.05.160. WSR 07-20-129 (Order 07-01), § 182-12-115, filed 10/3/07, effective 11/3/07; WSR 06-12-002 (Order 06-01), § 182-12-115, filed 5/25/06, effective 6/25/06; WSR 05-17-132 (Order 04-04), § 182-12-115, filed 8/19/05, effective 9/2/05. Statutory Authority: RCW 41.05.160 and 41.05.165. WSR 03-17-031 (Order 02-07), § 182-12-115, filed 8/14/03, effective 9/14/03. Statutory Au- |

thority: Chapter 41.05 RCW. WSR 96-08-043, § 182-12-115, filed 3/29/96, effective 4/29/96; WSR 92-08-003, § 182-12-115, filed 3/18/92, effective 3/18/92; WSR 91-14-084, § 182-12-115, filed 7/1/91, effective 7/1/91. Statutory Authority: RCW 41.05.065(3). WSR 90-12-037, § 182-12-115, filed 5/31/90, effective 7/1/90. Statutory Authority: RCW 41.05.065. WSR 89-12-045 (Resolution No. 89-2), § 182-12-115, filed 6/2/89; WSR 89-01-053 (Resolution No. 88-6), § 182-12-115, filed 12/15/88. Statutory Authority: RCW 41.05.010. WSR 88-19-078 (Resolution No. 88-4), § 182-12-115, filed 9/19/88; WSR 88-12-034 (Resolution No. 88-1), § 182-12-115, filed 5/26/88, effective 7/1/88. Statutory Authority: Chapter 41.05 RCW. WSR 86-21-042 (Resolution No. 86-6), § 182-12-115, filed 10/10/86; WSR 83-12-007 (Order 2-83), § 182-12-115, filed 5/20/83; WSR 80-05-016 (Order 2-80), § 182-12-115, filed 4/10/80; WSR 78-08-071 (Order 5-78), § 182-12-115, filed 7/26/78; Order 5646, § 182-12-115, filed 2/9/76.] Repealed by WSR 09-23-102 (Order 09-02), filed 11/17/09, effective 1/1/10. Statutory Authority: RCW 41.05.160.

- 182-12-117 Eligible retirees. [Statutory Authority: RCW 41.05.160 and 41.05.165. WSR 03-17-031 (Order 02-07), § 182-12-117, filed 8/14/03, effective 9/14/03. Statutory Authority: RCW 41.05.160. WSR 01-17-042 (Order 01-01), § 182-12-117, filed 8/9/01, effective 9/9/01; WSR 97-21-127, § 182-12-117, filed 10/21/97, effective 11/21/97. Statutory Authority: Chapter 41.05 RCW. WSR 96-08-043, § 182-12-117, filed 3/29/96, effective 4/29/96.] Repealed by WSR 04-18-039, filed 8/26/04, effective 1/1/05. Statutory Authority: RCW 41.05.160 and 41.05.165.
- 182-12-118 Insurance eligibility for surviving dependents of emergency service personnel killed in the line of duty. [Statutory Authority: RCW 41.05.160 and 41.05.065. WSR 01-24-047 (Order 01-04), § 182-12-118, filed 11/29/01, effective 12/30/01.] Repealed by WSR 04-18-039, filed 8/26/04, effective 1/1/05. Statutory Authority: RCW 41.05.160 and 41.05.165.
- 182-12-119 Eligible dependents. [Statutory Authority: RCW 41.05.160 and 41.05.165. WSR 03-17-031 (Order 02-07), § 182-12-119, filed 8/14/03, effective 9/14/03. Statutory Authority: RCW 41.05.160. WSR 02-18-087 (Order 02-02), § 182-12-119, filed 9/3/02, effective 10/4/02; WSR 01-01-126 (Order 00-02), § 182-12-119, filed 12/19/00, effective 1/19/01; WSR 99-19-028 (Order 99-04), § 182-12-119, filed 9/8/99, effective 10/9/99; WSR 97-21-127, § 182-12-119, filed 10/21/97, effective 11/21/97. Statutory Authority: Chapter 41.05 RCW. WSR 96-08-043, § 182-12-119, filed 3/29/96, effective 4/29/96.] Repealed by WSR 04-18-039, filed 8/26/04, effective 1/1/05. Statutory Authority: RCW 41.05.160 and 41.05.165.
- 182-12-120 Noneligible employees. [Order 5646, § 182-12-120, filed 2/9/76.] Repealed by WSR 88-12-034 (Resolution No. 88-1), filed 5/26/88, effective 7/1/88. Statutory Authority: RCW 41.05.010.
- 182-12-121 Does a change in position or job affect eligibility status? [Statutory Authority: RCW 41.05.160 and 41.05.165. WSR 04-18-039, § 182-12-121, filed 8/26/04, effective 1/1/05. Statutory Authority: Chapter 41.05 RCW. WSR 80-01-082 (Order 5-79), § 182-12-121, filed 12/27/79.] Repealed by WSR 09-23-102 (Order 09-02), filed 11/17/09, effective 1/1/10. Statutory Authority: RCW 41.05.160.
- 182-12-122 Surviving dependents eligibility. [Statutory Authority: Chapter 41.05 RCW. WSR 86-16-061 (Resolution No. 86-3), § 182-12-122, filed 8/5/86; WSR 80-05-016 (Order 2-80), § 182-12-122, filed 4/10/80; WSR 78-08-071 (Order 5-78), § 182-12-122, filed 7/26/78.] Repealed by WSR 96-08-043, filed 3/29/96, effective 4/29/96. Statutory Authority: Chapter 41.05 RCW.
- 182-12-124 Determination by department of retirement systems of retroactive eligibility for PEBB pension. [Statutory Authority: RCW 41.05.160 and 41.05.165. WSR 03-17-031 (Order 02-07), § 182-12-124, filed 8/14/03, effective 9/14/03.] Repealed by WSR 04-18-039, filed 8/26/04, effective 1/1/05. Statutory Authority: RCW 41.05.160 and 41.05.165.
- 182-12-125 Employee or dependents become ineligible for state group coverage. [Statutory Authority: Chapter 41.05 RCW. WSR 84-09-043 (Resolution No. 2-84), § 182-12-125, filed 4/16/84; Order 5646, § 182-12-125, filed 2/9/76.] Repealed by WSR 84-14-058 (Order 5-84), filed 6/29/84. Statutory Authority: Chapter 41.05 RCW.
- 182-12-126 Extension of retiree dependents' eligibility. [Statutory Authority: Chapter 41.05 RCW. WSR 86-16-061 (Resolution No. 86-3), § 182-12-126, filed 8/5/86.] Repealed by WSR 87-21-069 (Resolution No. 87-6), filed 10/19/87. Statutory Authority: RCW 41.05.010 and 41.05.025.
- 182-12-127 Extension of retiree dependents' eligibility. [Statutory Authority: RCW 41.05.065. WSR 89-12-045 (Resolution No. 89-2), § 182-12-127, filed 6/2/89. Statutory Authority: RCW 41.05.010. WSR 88-19-078 (Resolution No. 88-4), § 182-12-127, filed 9/19/88. Statutory Authority: RCW 41.05.010 and 41.05.025. WSR 87-21-069 (Resolution No. 87-6), § 182-12-127, filed 10/19/87.] Repealed by WSR 91-11-010, filed 5/3/91, effective 6/3/91. Statutory Authority: RCW 41.05.010 and 41.05.025.
- 182-12-130 Retirees eligible for medicare. [Statutory Authority: Chapter 41.05 RCW. WSR 91-14-084, § 182-12-130, filed 7/1/91, effective 7/1/91; WSR 80-05-016 (Order 2-80), § 182-12-130, filed 4/10/80; Order 4-77, § 182-12-130, filed 11/17/77; Order 5646, § 182-12-130, filed 2/9/76.] Repealed by WSR 96-08-043, filed 3/29/96, effective 4/29/96. Statutory Authority: Chapter 41.05 RCW.
- 182-12-132 Deferring coverage at or following retirement. [Statutory Authority: RCW 41.05.160 and 41.05.165. WSR 03-17-031 (Order 02-07), § 182-12-132, filed 8/14/03, effective 9/14/03. Statutory Authority: RCW 41.05.160. WSR 02-18-087 (Order 02-02), § 182-12-132, filed 9/3/02, effective 10/4/02; WSR 01-01-126 (Order 00-02), § 182-12-132, filed 12/19/00, effective 1/19/01; WSR 97-21-127, § 182-12-132, filed 10/21/97, effective 11/21/97. Statutory Authority: Chapter 41.05 RCW. WSR 96-08-043, § 182-12-132, filed 3/29/96, effective 4/29/96; WSR 80-05-016 (Order 2-80), § 182-12-132, filed 4/10/80.] Repealed by WSR 04-18-039, filed 8/26/04, effective 1/1/05. Statutory Authority: RCW 41.05.160 and 41.05.165.
- 182-12-135 Eligibility for employees on leave without pay. [Order 4-77, § 182-12-135, filed 11/17/77; Order 5646, § 182-12-135, filed 2/9/76.] Repealed by WSR 80-05-016 (Order 2-80), filed 4/10/80. Statutory Authority: Chapter 41.05 RCW.

182-12-140 New eligible employees. [Order 4-77, § 182-12-140, filed 11/17/77; Order 5646, § 182-12-140, filed 2/9/76.] Repealed by WSR 89-05-013 (Resolution No. 89-1), filed 2/9/89. Statutory Authority: RCW 41.05.065.

182-12-145 Insurance eligibility for higher education. [Statutory Authority: RCW 41.05.160 and 41.05.165. WSR 03-17-031 (Order 02-07), § 182-12-145, filed 8/14/03, effective 9/14/03. Statutory Authority: Chapter 41.05 RCW. WSR 96-08-043, § 182-12-145, filed 3/29/96, effective 4/29/96; Order 5646, § 182-12-145, filed 2/9/76.] Repealed by WSR 04-18-039, filed 8/26/04, effective 1/1/05. Statutory Authority: RCW 41.05.160 and 41.05.165.

182-12-150 Husband and wife are eligible employees. [Order 5646, § 182-12-150, filed 2/9/76.] Repealed by Order 4-77, filed 11/17/77.

182-12-151 Dependent life insurance. [Order 01-77, § 182-12-151, filed 8/26/77.] Repealed by WSR 96-08-043, filed 3/29/96, effective 4/29/96. Statutory Authority: Chapter 41.05 RCW.

182-12-155 Classified employee eligible for employer contribution. [Order 5646, § 182-12-155, filed 2/9/76.] Repealed by Order 4-77, filed 11/17/77.

182-12-160 Elected officials. [Statutory Authority: Chapter 41.05 RCW. WSR 86-06-003 (Resolution No. 86-1), § 182-12-160, filed 2/20/86; Order 5646, § 182-12-160, filed 2/9/76.] Repealed by WSR 96-08-043, filed 3/29/96, effective 4/29/96. Statutory Authority: Chapter 41.05 RCW.

182-12-165 State contribution for permanent employees appointed to instructional year or seasonal positions. [Statutory Authority: RCW 41.05.010. WSR 88-12-034 (Resolution No. 88-1), § 182-12-165, filed 5/26/88, effective 7/1/88; Order 7228, § 182-12-165, filed 12/8/76.] Repealed by WSR 96-08-043, filed 3/29/96, effective 4/29/96. Statutory Authority: Chapter 41.05 RCW.

182-12-170 State contributions for medicare for actively employed. [Order 7228, § 182-12-170, filed 12/8/76.] Repealed by WSR 83-22-042 (Resolution No. 6-83), filed 10/28/83. Statutory Authority: Chapter 41.05 RCW.

182-12-175 May a local government entity or tribal government entity applying for participation in PEBB insurance coverage include their retirees in the transfer unit? [Statutory Authority: RCW 41.05.160. WSR 09-23-102 (Order 09-02), § 182-12-175, filed 11/17/09, effective 1/1/10; WSR 08-20-128 (Order 08-03), § 182-12-175, filed 10/1/08, effective 1/1/09; WSR 07-20-129 (Order 07-01), § 182-12-175, filed 10/3/07, effective 11/3/07. Statutory Authority: RCW 41.05.160, 41.05.350, and 41.05.165. WSR 05-16-046 (Order 05-01), § 182-12-175, filed 7/27/05, effective 8/27/05.] Repealed by WSR 12-20-022 (Order 2012-01), filed 9/25/12, effective 11/1/12. Statutory Authority: RCW 41.05.160.

182-12-190 May a retiree change health carriers at retirement? [Statutory Authority: RCW 41.05.160 and 41.05.165. WSR 04-18-039, § 182-12-190, filed 8/26/04, effective 1/1/05. Statutory Authority: Chapter 41.05 RCW. WSR 80-05-016 (Order 2-80), § 182-12-190, filed 4/10/80; Order 4-77, § 182-12-190, filed 11/17/77.] Repealed by WSR 07-20-129 (Order 07-01), filed 10/3/07, effective 11/3/07. Statutory Authority: RCW 41.05.160.

182-12-208 What are the requirements regarding enrollment in dental under public employees benefits board (PEBB) retiree insurance coverage? [Statutory Authority: RCW 41.05.021 and 41.05.160. WSR 20-16-062 (Admin #2020-03), § 182-12-208, filed 7/28/20, effective 1/1/21. Statutory Authority: RCW 41.05.021, 41.05.160 and PEBB policy resolutions. WSR 18-20-117 (Admin #2018-02), § 182-12-208, filed 10/3/18, effective 1/1/19. Statutory Authority: RCW 41.05.021, 41.05.160, 2016 c 67, and PEBB policy resolutions. WSR 16-20-080, § 182-12-208, filed 10/4/16, effective 1/1/17. Statutory Authority: RCW 41.05.160, 2015 c 116, and PEBB policy resolutions. WSR 15-22-099 (PEBB Admin # 2015-01 Rev 1), § 182-12-208, filed 11/4/15, effective 1/1/16. Statutory Authority: RCW 41.05.160 and 2013 2nd sp.s. c 4. WSR 14-20-058 (PEBB Admin 2014-02), § 182-12-208, filed 9/25/14, effective 1/1/15. Statutory Authority: RCW 41.05.160 and 2012 2nd sp.s. c 3. WSR 13-22-019 (Admin. 2013-01), § 182-12-208, filed 10/28/13, effective 1/1/14. Statutory Authority: RCW 41.05.160 and 2011 c 8. WSR 11-22-036 (Order 11-02), § 182-12-208, filed 10/26/11, effective 1/1/12. Statutory Authority: RCW 41.05.160. WSR 09-23-102 (Order 09-02), § 182-12-208, filed 11/17/09, effective 1/1/10; WSR 07-20-129 (Order 07-01), § 182-12-208, filed 10/3/07, effective 11/3/07.] Repealed by WSR 21-13-101 (Admin #2021-01.01), filed 6/18/21, effective 1/1/22. Statutory Authority: RCW 41.05.021, 41.05.160 and Policy resolution PEBB 2021-01.

182-12-210 Extended self-pay medical and dental coverage. [Statutory Authority: RCW 41.05.065. WSR 89-12-045 (Resolution No. 89-2), § 182-12-210, filed 6/2/89. Statutory Authority: RCW 41.05.010. WSR 88-19-078 (Resolution No. 88-4), § 182-12-210, filed 9/19/88. Statutory Authority: Chapter 41.05 RCW. WSR 87-07-034 (Resolution No. 87-2), § 182-12-210, filed 3/13/87; WSR 86-16-061 (Resolution No. 86-3), § 182-12-210, filed 8/5/86.] Repealed by WSR 91-11-010, filed 5/3/91, effective 6/3/91. Statutory Authority: RCW 41.05.010 and 41.05.025.

182-12-215 Continued PEBB medical/dental coverage under COBRA. [Statutory Authority: Chapter 41.05 RCW. WSR 96-08-043, § 182-12-215, filed 3/29/96, effective 4/29/96. Statutory Authority: RCW 41.05.010 and 41.05.025. WSR 91-11-010, § 182-12-215, filed 5/3/91, effective 6/3/91.] Repealed by WSR 04-18-039, filed 8/26/04, effective 1/1/05. Statutory Authority: RCW 41.05.160 and 41.05.165.

182-12-220 Eligibility during appeal of dismissal. [Statutory Authority: RCW 41.05.160 and 41.05.165. WSR 03-17-031 (Order 02-07), § 182-12-220, filed 8/14/03, effective 9/14/03. Statutory Authority: RCW 41.05.160. WSR 02-18-088 (Order 02-03), § 182-12-220, filed 9/3/02, effective 10/4/02. Statutory Authority: Chapter 41.05 RCW. WSR 96-08-043, § 182-12-220, filed 3/29/96, effective 4/29/96; WSR 86-16-061 (Resolution No. 86-3), § 182-12-220, filed 8/5/86.] Repealed by WSR 04-18-039, filed 8/26/04, effective 1/1/05. Statutory Authority: RCW 41.05.160 and 41.05.165.

182-12-230 Employer groups. [Statutory Authority: RCW 41.05.160. WSR 02-18-087 (Order 02-02), § 182-12-230, filed 9/3/02, effective 10/4/02. Statutory Authority: RCW 41.05.160, 41.05.021 (1)(h). WSR 02-08-047 (Order 01-09), § 182-12-230, filed 3/29/02, effective 4/29/02.] Repealed by WSR 04-18-039, filed 8/26/04, effective 1/1/05. Statutory Authority: RCW 41.05.160 and 41.05.165.

WAC 182-12-108 Purpose. The purpose of this chapter is to establish eligibility criteria for and effective date of enrollment in the public employees benefits board (PEBB) approved benefits.

[Statutory Authority: RCW 41.05.160. WSR 07-20-129 (Order 07-01), § 182-12-108, filed 10/3/07, effective 11/3/07. Statutory Authority: RCW 41.05.160 and 41.05.165. WSR 04-18-039, § 182-12-108, filed 8/26/04, effective 1/1/05.]

(Effective until January 1, 2025)

WAC 182-12-109 Definitions. The following definitions apply throughout this chapter unless the context clearly indicates another meaning:

"Accidental death and dismemberment insurance" or "AD&D" means basic accidental death and dismemberment (AD&D) insurance paid for by the employing agency, as well as supplemental accidental death and dismemberment insurance offered to and paid for by employees for themselves and their dependents.

"Affordable Care Act" means the federal Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act, P.L. 111-148, as amended by the federal Health Care and Education Reconciliation Act of 2010, P.L. 111-152, or federal regulations or guidance issued under the Affordable Care Act.

"Annual open enrollment" means an annual event set aside for a period of time by the HCA when subscribers may make changes to their health plan enrollment and salary reduction elections for the following plan year. During the annual open enrollment, subscribers may transfer from one health plan to another, enroll or remove dependents from coverage, enroll in coverage, or waive enrollment (see definition of "waive" in this section). Employees eligible to participate in the salary reduction plan may enroll in or change their election under the dependent care assistance program (DCAP), the medical flexible spending arrangement (FSA), or limited purpose FSA. They may also enroll in or opt out of the premium payment plan.

"Authority" or "HCA" means the Washington state health care authority.

"Benefits-eligible position" means any position held by an employee who is eligible for benefits under WAC 182-12-114, with the exception of employees who establish eligibility under WAC 182-12-114 (2) or (3) (a) (ii).

"Blind vendor" means a "licensee" as defined in RCW 74.18.200.

"Board" means the public employees benefits board established under provisions of RCW 41.05.055.

"Calendar days" or "days" means all days including Saturdays, Sundays, and all state legal holidays as set forth in RCW 1.16.050.

"Consolidated Omnibus Budget Reconciliation Act" or "COBRA" means continuation coverage as administered under 42 U.S.C. Secs. 300bb-1 through 300bb-8.

"Continuation coverage" means the temporary continuation of PEBB benefits available to enrollees under the Consolidated Omnibus Budget Reconciliation Act (COBRA), 42 U.S.C. Secs. 300bb-1 through 300bb-8, the Uniformed Services Employment and Reemployment Rights Act (USERRA), 38 U.S.C. Secs. 4301 through 4335, or the public employees benefits board's policies.

"Contracted vendor" means any person, persons, or entity under contract or agreement with the HCA to provide goods or services for

the provision or administration of PEBB benefits. The term "contracted vendor" includes subcontractors of the HCA and subcontractors of any person, persons, or entity under contract or agreement with the HCA that provide goods or services for the provision or administration of PEBB benefits.

"Creditable coverage" means coverage that meets the definition of "creditable coverage" under RCW 48.66.020 (13)(a) and includes payment of medical and hospital benefits.

"Defer" means to postpone enrollment or interrupt enrollment in PEBB insurance coverage by a retiree or an eligible survivor.

"Dependent" means a person who meets eligibility requirements in WAC 182-12-260, except that "surviving spouses, state registered domestic partners, and dependent children" of emergency service personnel who are killed in the line of duty is defined in WAC 182-12-250.

"Dependent care assistance program" or "DCAP" means a benefit plan whereby employees may pay for certain employment related dependent care with pretax dollars as provided in the salary reduction plan under chapter 41.05 RCW pursuant to 26 U.S.C. Sec. 129 or other sections of the Internal Revenue Code.

"Director" means the director of the authority.

"Documents" means papers, letters, writings, electronic mail, electronic files, or other printed or written items.

"Effective date of enrollment" means the first date when an enrollee is entitled to receive covered benefits.

"Employee" for the public employees benefits board program includes all employees of the state, whether or not covered by civil service; elected and appointed officials of the executive branch of government, including full-time members of boards, commissions, or committees; justices of the supreme court and judges of the court of appeals and the superior courts; and members of the state legislature. Pursuant to contractual agreement with the authority, "employee" may also include: (a) Employees of a county, municipality, or other political subdivision of the state and members of the legislative authority of any county, city, or town who are elected to office after February 20, 1970, if the legislative authority of the county, municipality, or other political subdivision of the state submits application materials to the authority to provide any of its insurance programs by contract with the authority, as provided in RCW 41.04.205 and 41.05.021 (1)(g); (b) employees of employee organizations representing state civil service employees, at the option of each such employee organization; (c) through December 31, 2019, employees of a school district or represented employees of an educational service district if the authority agrees to provide any of the school districts' or educational service districts' insurance programs by contract with the authority as provided in RCW 28A.400.350; (d) employees of a tribal government, if the governing body of the tribal government seeks and receives the approval of the authority to provide any of its insurance programs by contract with the authority, as provided in RCW 41.05.021 (1)(f) and (g); (e) employees of the Washington health benefit exchange if the governing board of the exchange established in RCW 43.71.020 seeks and receives approval of the authority to provide any of its insurance programs by contract with the authority, as provided in RCW 41.05.021 (1)(g) and (n); (f) through December 31, 2019, employees of a charter school established under chapter 28A.710 RCW; and (g) through December 31, 2023, nonrepresented employees of an educational service district. "Employee" does not include: Adult family home providers; unpaid volunteers; patients of state hospitals; inmates; employees of the Wash-

ington state convention and trade center as provided in RCW 41.05.110; students of institutions of higher education as determined by their institution; and any others not expressly defined as employees under RCW 41.05.011 or by the authority under this chapter.

"Employer" for the public employees benefits board program means the state of Washington.

"Employer-based group dental" means group dental related to a current employment relationship. It does not include dental coverage available to retired employees, individual market dental coverage, or government-sponsored programs such as medicaid.

"Employer-based group health plan" means group medical and group dental related to a current employment relationship. It does not include medical or dental coverage available to retired employees, individual market medical or dental coverage, or government-sponsored programs such as medicare or medicaid.

"Employer-based group medical" means group medical related to a current employment relationship. It does not include medical coverage available to retired employees, individual market medical coverage, or government-sponsored programs such as medicare or medicaid.

"Employer contribution" means the funding amount paid to the HCA by a state agency or employer group for its eligible employees as described under WAC 182-12-114 and 182-12-131.

"Employer group" means those counties, municipalities, political subdivisions, the Washington health benefit exchange, tribal governments, employee organizations representing state civil service employees, and through December 31, 2019, school districts and charter schools, and through December 31, 2023, educational service districts obtaining employee benefits through a contractual agreement with the authority to participate in benefit plans developed by the public employees benefits board as described in WAC 182-08-245.

"Employer-paid coverage" means PEBB insurance coverage for which an employer contribution is made by a state agency or an employer group for employees eligible in WAC 182-12-114 and 182-12-131. It also means SEBB insurance coverage for which an employer contribution is made by a SEBB organization, or basic benefits described in RCW 28A.400.270(1) for which an employer contribution is made by an educational service district.

"Employing agency" for the public employees benefits board means a division, department, or separate agency of state government, including an institution of higher education; a county, municipality, or other political subdivision; and a tribal government covered by chapter 41.05 RCW.

"Enrollee" means a person who meets all eligibility requirements defined in chapter 182-12 WAC, who is enrolled in PEBB benefits, and for whom applicable premium payments have been made.

"Exchange" means the Washington health benefit exchange established in RCW 43.71.020, and any other health benefit exchange established under the Affordable Care Act.

"Exchange coverage" means coverage offered by a qualified health plan through an exchange.

"Faculty" means an academic employee of an institution of higher education whose workload is not defined by work hours but whose appointment, workload, and duties directly serve the institution's academic mission, as determined under the authority of its enabling statutes, its governing body, and any applicable collective bargaining agreement.

"Federal retiree medical plan" means the Federal Employees Health Benefits program (FEHB) or TRICARE plans which are not employer-based group medical.

"Forms" or "form" means both paper forms and forms completed electronically.

"Health plan" means a plan offering medical or dental, or both, developed by the board and provided by a contracted vendor or self-insured plans administered by the HCA.

"Institutions of higher education" means the state public research universities, the public regional universities, The Evergreen State College, the community and technical colleges, and the state board for community and technical colleges.

"Layoff," for purposes of this chapter, means a change in employment status due to an employer's lack of funds or an employer's organizational change.

"Life insurance" means basic life insurance paid for by the employing agency, as well as supplemental life insurance or supplemental dependent life insurance offered to and paid for by employees for themselves and their dependents. Life insurance for eligible retirees includes retiree term life insurance offered to and paid for by retirees.

"Limited purpose flexible spending arrangement" or "limited purpose FSA" means a benefit plan whereby eligible state employees may reduce their salary before taxes to pay for dental and vision expenses not reimbursed by insurance as provided in the salary reduction plan established under chapter 41.05 RCW pursuant to 26 U.S.C. Sec. 125 or other sections of the Internal Revenue Code.

"Long-term disability insurance" or "LTD insurance" means employer-paid long-term disability insurance and employee-paid long-term disability insurance offered by the PEBB program.

"Medical flexible spending arrangement" or "medical FSA" means a benefit plan whereby eligible state employees may reduce their salary before taxes to pay for medical expenses not reimbursed by insurance as provided in the salary reduction plan established under chapter 41.05 RCW pursuant to 26 U.S.C. Sec. 125 or other sections of the Internal Revenue Code.

"Pay status" means all hours for which an employee receives pay.

"PEBB" means the public employees benefits board.

"PEBB benefits" means one or more insurance coverages or other employee benefits administered by the PEBB program within the health care authority.

"PEBB insurance coverage" means any health plan, life insurance, accidental death and dismemberment insurance, long-term disability (LTD) insurance, long-term care insurance, or property and casualty insurance administered as a PEBB benefit.

"PEBB program" means the program within the HCA that administers insurance and other benefits for eligible employees (as described in WAC 182-12-114), eligible retired employees (as described in WAC 182-12-171, 182-12-180, and 182-12-211), eligible survivors (as described in WAC 182-12-180, 182-12-250, and 182-12-265), eligible dependents (as described in WAC 182-12-250 and 182-12-260) and others as defined in RCW 41.05.011.

"Plan year" means the time period established by the authority.

"Premium payment plan" means a benefit plan whereby public employees may pay their share of group health plan premiums with pretax dollars as provided in the salary reduction plan under chapter 41.05

RCW pursuant to 26 U.S.C. Sec. 125 or other sections of the Internal Revenue Code.

"Premium surcharge" means a payment required from a subscriber, in addition to the subscriber's medical premium contribution, due to an enrollee's tobacco use or an enrolled subscriber's spouse or state registered domestic partner choosing not to enroll in their employer-based group medical when:

- The spouse's or state registered domestic partner's share of the medical premium is less than 95 percent of the additional cost an employee would be required to pay to enroll a spouse or state registered domestic partner in the public employees benefits board (PEBB) Uniform Medical Plan (UMP) Classic; and

- The benefits have an actuarial value of at least 95 percent of the actuarial value of PEBB UMP Classic benefits.

"Public employee" has the same meaning as employee.

"Qualified health plan" means a medical plan that is certified to be offered through an exchange.

"Salary reduction plan" means a benefit plan whereby public employees may agree to a reduction of salary on a pretax basis to participate in the dependent care assistance program, medical flexible spending arrangement, limited purpose flexible spending arrangement, or premium payment plan offered pursuant to 26 U.S.C. Sec. 125 or other sections of the Internal Revenue Code.

"School employee" means all employees of school districts and charter schools established under chapter 28A.710 RCW; and effective January 1, 2024, all employees of educational service districts.

"SEBB" means the school employees benefits board.

"SEBB insurance coverage" means any medical, dental, vision, life insurance, accidental death and dismemberment insurance, or long-term disability insurance administered as a SEBB benefit.

"SEBB organization" means a public school district or educational service district or charter school established under chapter 28A.710 RCW that is required to participate in benefit plans provided by the school employees benefits board.

"Season" means any recurring annual period of work at a specific time of year that lasts three to 11 consecutive months.

"Seasonal employee" means a state employee hired to work during a recurring, annual season with a duration of three months or more, and anticipated to return each season to perform similar work.

"Special open enrollment" means a period of time when subscribers may make changes to their health plan enrollment and salary reduction elections outside of the annual open enrollment period when specific life events occur. During the special open enrollment subscribers may change health plans and enroll or remove dependents from coverage. Additionally, employees may enroll in or waive enrollment (see definition of "waive" in this section). Employees eligible to participate in the salary reduction plan may enroll in or revoke their election under the DCAP, medical FSA, limited purpose FSA, or the premium payment plan and make a new election. For special open enrollment events related to specific PEBB benefits, see WAC 182-08-198, 182-08-199, 182-12-128, and 182-12-262.

"State agency" means an office, department, board, commission, institution, or other separate unit or division, however designated, of the state government. It includes the legislature, executive branch, and agencies or courts within the judicial branch, as well as institutions of higher education and any unit of state government established by law.

"State registered domestic partner" has the same meaning as defined in RCW 26.60.020(1) and substantially equivalent legal unions from other jurisdictions as defined in RCW 26.60.090.

"Subscriber" means the employee, retiree, continuation coverage enrollee, or survivor who has been determined eligible by the PEBB program, employer group, or state agency, is enrolled in PEBB benefits, and is the individual to whom the PEBB program and contracted vendors will issue all notices, information, requests, and premium bills on behalf of an enrollee.

"Supplemental coverage" means any life insurance or accidental death and dismemberment (AD&D) insurance coverage purchased by the employee in addition to the coverage provided by the employing agency.

"Tobacco products" means any product made with or derived from tobacco that is intended for human consumption, including any component, part, or accessory of a tobacco product. This includes, but is not limited to, cigars, cigarettes, pipe tobacco, chewing tobacco, snuff, and other tobacco products. It does not include e-cigarettes or United States Food and Drug Administration (FDA) approved quit aids.

"Tobacco use" means any use of tobacco products within the past two months. Tobacco use, however, does not include the religious or ceremonial use of tobacco.

"Tribal government" means an Indian tribal government as defined in Section 3(32) of the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 (ERISA), as amended, or an agency or instrumentality of the tribal government, that has government offices principally located in this state.

"Waive" means an eligible employee affirmatively declining enrollment in PEBB medical because the employee is enrolled in other employer-based group medical, a TRICARE plan, or medicare as allowed under WAC 182-12-128. An employee on approved educational leave who obtains another employer-based group health plan may waive enrollment as allowed under WAC 182-12-136. An employee may waive enrollment in PEBB medical to enroll in SEBB medical only if they are enrolled in SEBB dental and SEBB vision. An employee who waives enrollment in PEBB medical to enroll in SEBB medical also waives enrollment in PEBB dental.

[Statutory Authority: RCW 41.05.021 and 41.05.160. WSR 23-14-015 (Admin #2023-01), § 182-12-109, filed 6/23/23, effective 1/1/24; WSR 22-13-158 (Admin #2022-01), § 182-12-109, filed 6/21/22, effective 1/1/23; WSR 21-13-106 (Admin #2021-01.06), § 182-12-109, filed 6/18/21, effective 1/1/22; WSR 20-16-062 (Admin #2020-03), § 182-12-109, filed 7/28/20, effective 1/1/21. Statutory Authority: RCW 41.05.021, 41.05.160, and PEBB policy resolutions. WSR 19-17-073 (Admin #2019-01), § 182-12-109, filed 8/20/19, effective 1/1/20; WSR 18-20-117 (Admin #2018-02), § 182-12-109, filed 10/3/18, effective 1/1/19; WSR 17-19-077 (Order 2017-01), § 182-12-109, filed 9/15/17, effective 1/1/18. Statutory Authority: RCW 41.05.021, 41.05.160, 2016 c 67, and PEBB policy resolutions. WSR 16-20-080, § 182-12-109, filed 10/4/16, effective 1/1/17. Statutory Authority: RCW 41.05.160, 2015 c 116, and PEBB policy resolutions. WSR 15-22-099 (PEBB Admin # 2015-01 Rev 1), § 182-12-109, filed 11/4/15, effective 1/1/16. Statutory Authority: RCW 41.05.160 and 2013 2nd sp.s. c 4. WSR 14-20-058 (PEBB Admin 2014-02), § 182-12-109, filed 9/25/14, effective 1/1/15. Statutory Authority: RCW 41.05.160, 2013 2nd sp.s. c 4 and PEBB policy resolutions. WSR 14-08-040, § 182-12-109, filed 3/26/14, effective 4/26/14. Statutory Authority: RCW 41.05.160 and 2012 2nd sp.s. c 3. WSR 13-22-019 (Admin. 2013-01), § 182-12-109, filed 10/28/13, effective

1/1/14. Statutory Authority: RCW 41.05.160. WSR 12-20-022 (Order 2012-01), § 182-12-109, filed 9/25/12, effective 11/1/12. Statutory Authority: RCW 41.05.160 and 2011 c 8. WSR 11-22-036 (Order 11-02), § 182-12-109, filed 10/26/11, effective 1/1/12. Statutory Authority: RCW 41.05.160. WSR 10-20-147 (Order 10-02), § 182-12-109, filed 10/6/10, effective 1/1/11; WSR 09-23-102 (Order 09-02), § 182-12-109, filed 11/17/09, effective 1/1/10; WSR 08-20-128 (Order 08-03), § 182-12-109, filed 10/1/08, effective 1/1/09; WSR 07-20-129 (Order 07-01), § 182-12-109, filed 10/3/07, effective 11/3/07. Statutory Authority: RCW 41.05.160 and 41.05.068. WSR 06-23-165 (Order 06-09), § 182-12-109, filed 11/22/06, effective 12/23/06. Statutory Authority: RCW 41.05.160 and 41.05.165. WSR 04-18-039, § 182-12-109, filed 8/26/04, effective 1/1/05.]

(Effective January 1, 2025)

WAC 182-12-109 Definitions. The following definitions apply throughout this chapter unless the context clearly indicates another meaning:

"Accidental death and dismemberment insurance" or "AD&D" means basic accidental death and dismemberment (AD&D) insurance paid for by the employing agency, as well as supplemental accidental death and dismemberment insurance offered to and paid for by employees for themselves and their dependents.

"Affordable Care Act" means the federal Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act, P.L. 111-148, as amended by the federal Health Care and Education Reconciliation Act of 2010, P.L. 111-152, or federal regulations or guidance issued under the Affordable Care Act.

"Annual open enrollment" means an annual event set aside for a period of time by the HCA when subscribers may make changes to their health plan enrollment and salary reduction elections for the following plan year. During the annual open enrollment, subscribers may transfer from one health plan to another, enroll or remove dependents from coverage, enroll in coverage, or waive enrollment (see definition of "waive" in this section). Employees eligible to participate in the salary reduction plan may enroll in or change their election under the dependent care assistance program (DCAP), the flexible spending arrangement (FSA), or limited purpose FSA. They may also enroll in or opt out of the premium payment plan.

"Authority" or "HCA" means the Washington state health care authority.

"Benefits-eligible position" means any position held by an employee who is eligible for benefits under WAC 182-12-114, with the exception of employees who establish eligibility under WAC 182-12-114 (2) or (3) (a) (ii).

"Blind vendor" means a "licensee" as defined in RCW 74.18.200.

"Board" means the public employees benefits board established under provisions of RCW 41.05.055.

"Calendar days" or "days" means all days including Saturdays, Sundays, and all state legal holidays as set forth in RCW 1.16.050.

"Consolidated Omnibus Budget Reconciliation Act" or "COBRA" means continuation coverage as administered under 42 U.S.C. Secs. 300bb-1 through 300bb-8.

"Continuation coverage" means the temporary continuation of PEBB benefits available to enrollees under the Consolidated Omnibus Budget Reconciliation Act (COBRA), 42 U.S.C. Secs. 300bb-1 through 300bb-8,

the Uniformed Services Employment and Reemployment Rights Act (USERRA), 38 U.S.C. Secs. 4301 through 4335, or the public employees benefits board's policies.

"Contracted vendor" means any person, persons, or entity under contract or agreement with the HCA to provide goods or services for the provision or administration of PEBB benefits. The term "contracted vendor" includes subcontractors of the HCA and subcontractors of any person, persons, or entity under contract or agreement with the HCA that provide goods or services for the provision or administration of PEBB benefits.

"Creditable coverage" means coverage that meets the definition of "creditable coverage" under RCW 48.66.020 (13)(a) and includes payment of medical and hospital benefits.

"Defer" means to postpone enrollment or interrupt enrollment in PEBB insurance coverage by a retiree or an eligible survivor.

"Dependent" means a person who meets eligibility requirements in WAC 182-12-260, except that "surviving spouses, state registered domestic partners, and dependent children" of emergency service personnel who are killed in the line of duty is defined in WAC 182-12-250.

"Dependent care assistance program" or "DCAP" means a benefit plan whereby employees may pay for certain employment related dependent care with pretax dollars as provided in the salary reduction plan under chapter 41.05 RCW pursuant to 26 U.S.C. Sec. 129 or other sections of the Internal Revenue Code.

"Director" means the director of the authority.

"Documents" means papers, letters, writings, electronic mail, electronic files, or other printed or written items.

"Effective date of enrollment" means the first date when an enrollee is entitled to receive covered benefits.

"Employee" for the public employees benefits board program includes all employees of the state, whether or not covered by civil service; elected and appointed officials of the executive branch of government, including full-time members of boards, commissions, or committees; justices of the supreme court and judges of the court of appeals and the superior courts; and members of the state legislature. Pursuant to contractual agreement with the authority, "employee" may also include: (a) Employees of a county, municipality, or other political subdivision of the state and members of the legislative authority of any county, city, or town who are elected to office after February 20, 1970, if the legislative authority of the county, municipality, or other political subdivision of the state submits application materials to the authority to provide any of its insurance programs by contract with the authority, as provided in RCW 41.04.205 and 41.05.021 (1)(g); (b) employees of employee organizations representing state civil service employees, at the option of each such employee organization; (c) through December 31, 2019, employees of a school district if the authority agrees to provide any of the school districts' insurance programs by contract with the authority as provided in RCW 28A.400.350; (d) employees of a tribal government, if the governing body of the tribal government seeks and receives the approval of the authority to provide any of its insurance programs by contract with the authority, as provided in RCW 41.05.021 (1)(f) and (g); (e) employees of the Washington health benefit exchange if the governing board of the exchange established in RCW 43.71.020 seeks and receives approval of the authority to provide any of its insurance programs by contract with the authority, as provided in RCW 41.05.021 (1)(g) and (n); and (f) through December 31, 2019, employees of a charter school established

under chapter 28A.710 RCW. "Employee" does not include: Adult family home providers; unpaid volunteers; patients of state hospitals; inmates; students of institutions of higher education as determined by their institution; and any others not expressly defined as employees under RCW 41.05.011 or by the authority under this chapter.

"Employer" for the public employees benefits board program means the state of Washington.

"Employer-based group dental" means group dental related to a current employment relationship. It does not include dental coverage available to retired employees, individual market dental coverage, or government-sponsored programs such as medicaid.

"Employer-based group health plan" means group medical, group dental, and group vision related to a current employment relationship. It does not include medical, dental, or vision coverage available to retired employees, individual market medical or dental coverage, or government-sponsored programs such as medicare or medicaid.

"Employer-based group medical" means group medical related to a current employment relationship. It does not include medical coverage available to retired employees, individual market medical coverage, or government-sponsored programs such as medicare or medicaid.

"Employer contribution" means the funding amount paid to the HCA by a state agency or PEBB participating employer group for its eligible employees as described under WAC 182-12-114 and 182-12-131.

"Employer group" means:

- For the public employees benefits board as defined in RCW 41.05.011 (9)(a), those counties, municipalities, political subdivisions, the Washington health benefit exchange, tribal governments, and employee organizations representing state civil service employees obtaining employee benefits through a contractual agreement with the authority to participate in benefit plans developed by the public employees benefits board as described in WAC 182-08-245.

- For the school employees benefits board as defined in RCW 41.05.011 (9)(b), an employee organization representing school employees and a tribal school as defined in RCW 28A.715.010, obtaining school employee benefits through a contractual agreement with the authority to participate in benefit plans developed by the school employees benefits board as described in WAC 182-30-215.

"Employer-paid coverage" means PEBB insurance coverage for which an employer contribution is made by a state agency or a PEBB participating employer group for employees eligible in WAC 182-12-114 and 182-12-131. It also means SEBB insurance coverage for which an employer contribution is made by a SEBB organization or a SEBB participating employer group, or basic benefits described in RCW 28A.400.270(1) for which an employer contribution is made by an educational service district.

"Employing agency" for the public employees benefits board means a division, department, or separate agency of state government, including an institution of higher education; a county, municipality, or other political subdivision; and a tribal government covered by chapter 41.05 RCW.

"Enrollee" means a person who meets all eligibility requirements defined in chapter 182-12 WAC, who is enrolled in PEBB benefits, and for whom applicable premium payments have been made.

"Exchange" means the Washington health benefit exchange established in RCW 43.71.020, and any other health benefit exchange established under the Affordable Care Act.

"Exchange coverage" means coverage offered by a qualified health plan through an exchange.

"Faculty" means an academic employee of an institution of higher education whose workload is not defined by work hours but whose appointment, workload, and duties directly serve the institution's academic mission, as determined under the authority of its enabling statutes, its governing body, and any applicable collective bargaining agreement.

"Federal retiree medical plan" means the Federal Employees Health Benefits program (FEHB) or TRICARE plans which are not employer-based group medical.

"Flexible spending arrangement" or "FSA" means a benefit plan whereby eligible state employees may reduce their salary before taxes to pay for medical expenses not reimbursed by insurance as provided in the salary reduction plan established under chapter 41.05 RCW pursuant to 26 U.S.C. Sec. 125 or other sections of the Internal Revenue Code.

"Forms" or "form" means both paper forms and forms completed electronically.

"Health plan" means a plan offering medical, dental, vision, or any combination of these coverages, developed by the board and provided by a contracted vendor or self-insured plans administered by the HCA.

"Institutions of higher education" means the state public research universities, the public regional universities, The Evergreen State College, the community and technical colleges, and the state board for community and technical colleges.

"Layoff," for purposes of this chapter, means a change in employment status due to an employer's lack of funds or an employer's organizational change.

"Life insurance" means basic life insurance paid for by the employing agency, as well as supplemental life insurance or supplemental dependent life insurance offered to and paid for by employees for themselves and their dependents. Life insurance for eligible retirees includes retiree term life insurance offered to and paid for by retirees.

"Limited purpose flexible spending arrangement" or "limited purpose FSA" means a benefit plan whereby eligible state employees may reduce their salary before taxes to pay for dental and vision expenses not reimbursed by insurance as provided in the salary reduction plan established under chapter 41.05 RCW pursuant to 26 U.S.C. Sec. 125 or other sections of the Internal Revenue Code.

"Long-term disability insurance" or "LTD insurance" means employer-paid long-term disability insurance and employee-paid long-term disability insurance offered by the PEBB program.

"Pay status" means all hours for which an employee receives pay.

"PEBB" means the public employees benefits board.

"PEBB benefits" means one or more insurance coverages or other employee benefits administered by the PEBB program within the health care authority.

"PEBB insurance coverage" means any health plan, life insurance, accidental death and dismemberment insurance, long-term disability (LTD) insurance, long-term care insurance, or property and casualty insurance administered as a PEBB benefit.

"PEBB program" means the program within the HCA that administers insurance and other benefits for eligible employees (as described in WAC 182-12-114), eligible retired employees (as described in WAC 182-12-171, 182-12-180, and 182-12-211), eligible survivors (as de-

scribed in WAC 182-12-180, 182-12-250, and 182-12-265), eligible dependents (as described in WAC 182-12-250 and 182-12-260) and others as defined in RCW 41.05.011 or as described in RCW 41.05.080 (1)(a)(ii).

"Plan year" means the time period established by the authority.

"Premium payment plan" means a benefit plan whereby public employees may pay their share of group health plan premiums with pretax dollars as provided in the salary reduction plan under chapter 41.05 RCW pursuant to 26 U.S.C. Sec. 125 or other sections of the Internal Revenue Code.

"Premium surcharge" means a payment required from a subscriber, in addition to the subscriber's medical premium contribution, due to an enrollee's tobacco use or an enrolled subscriber's spouse or state registered domestic partner choosing not to enroll in their employer-based group medical when:

- The spouse's or state registered domestic partner's share of the medical premium is less than 95 percent of the additional cost an employee would be required to pay to enroll a spouse or state registered domestic partner in the public employees benefits board (PEBB) Uniform Medical Plan (UMP) Classic; and

- The benefits have an actuarial value of at least 95 percent of the actuarial value of PEBB UMP Classic benefits.

"Public employee" has the same meaning as employee.

"Qualified health plan" means a medical plan that is certified to be offered through an exchange.

"Salary reduction plan" means a benefit plan whereby public employees may agree to a reduction of salary on a pretax basis to participate in the dependent care assistance program, flexible spending arrangement, limited purpose flexible spending arrangement, or premium payment plan offered pursuant to 26 U.S.C. Sec. 125 or other sections of the Internal Revenue Code.

"School employee" means all employees of school districts and charter schools established under chapter 28A.710 RCW; represented employees of educational service districts; effective January 1, 2024, all employees of educational service districts; and effective January 1, 2024, pursuant to a contractual agreement with the authority, "school employee" may also include: (a) Employees of employee organizations representing school employees, at the option of each such employee organization; and (b) employees of a tribal school as defined in RCW 28A.715.010, if the governing body of the tribal school seeks and receives the approval of the authority to provide any of its insurance programs by contracts with the authority, as provided in RCW 41.05.021 (1)(f) and (g).

"SEBB" means the school employees benefits board.

"SEBB insurance coverage" means any medical, dental, vision, life insurance, accidental death and dismemberment insurance, or long-term disability insurance administered as a SEBB benefit.

"SEBB organization" means a public school district or educational service district or charter school established under chapter 28A.710 RCW that is required to participate in benefit plans provided by the school employees benefits board.

"Season" means any recurring annual period of work at a specific time of year that lasts three to 11 consecutive months.

"Seasonal employee" means a state employee hired to work during a recurring, annual season with a duration of three months or more, and anticipated to return each season to perform similar work.

"Special open enrollment" means a period of time when subscribers may make changes to their health plan enrollment and salary reduction

elections outside of the annual open enrollment period when specific life events occur. During the special open enrollment subscribers may change health plans and enroll or remove dependents from coverage. Additionally, employees may enroll in or waive enrollment (see definition of "waive" in this section). Employees eligible to participate in the salary reduction plan may enroll in or revoke their election under the DCAP, FSA, limited purpose FSA, or the premium payment plan and make a new election. For special open enrollment events related to specific PEBB benefits, see WAC 182-08-198, 182-08-199, 182-12-128, and 182-12-262.

"State agency" means an office, department, board, commission, institution, or other separate unit or division, however designated, of the state government. It includes the legislature, executive branch, and agencies or courts within the judicial branch, as well as institutions of higher education and any unit of state government established by law.

"State registered domestic partner" has the same meaning as defined in RCW 26.60.020(1) and substantially equivalent legal unions from other jurisdictions as defined in RCW 26.60.090.

"Subscriber" means the employee, retiree, continuation coverage enrollee, retired employee or retired school employee continuing health plan coverage when their employer group ceases participation with the authority, or survivor who has been determined eligible by the PEBB program, PEBB participating employer group, or state agency, is enrolled in PEBB benefits, and is the individual to whom the PEBB program and contracted vendors will issue all notices, information, requests, and premium bills on behalf of an enrollee.

"Supplemental coverage" means any life insurance or accidental death and dismemberment (AD&D) insurance coverage purchased by the employee in addition to the coverage provided by the employing agency.

"Tobacco products" means any product made with or derived from tobacco that is intended for human consumption, including any component, part, or accessory of a tobacco product. This includes, but is not limited to, cigars, cigarettes, pipe tobacco, chewing tobacco, snuff, and other tobacco products. It does not include e-cigarettes or United States Food and Drug Administration (FDA) approved quit aids.

"Tobacco use" means any use of tobacco products within the past two months. Tobacco use, however, does not include the religious or ceremonial use of tobacco.

"Tribal government" means an Indian tribal government as defined in Section 3(32) of the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 (ERISA), as amended, or an agency or instrumentality of the tribal government, that has government offices principally located in this state.

"Waive" means an eligible employee affirmatively declining enrollment in PEBB medical because the employee is enrolled in other employer-based group medical, a TRICARE plan, or medicare as allowed under WAC 182-12-128. An employee on approved educational leave who obtains another employer-based group health plan may waive enrollment as allowed under WAC 182-12-136. An employee may waive enrollment in PEBB medical to enroll in SEBB medical only if they are enrolled in SEBB dental and SEBB vision. An employee who waives enrollment in PEBB medical to enroll in SEBB medical also waives enrollment in PEBB dental and PEBB vision.

[Statutory Authority: RCW 41.05.021, 41.06.065 [41.05.065], 41.05.160, 2023 c 312 § 1, 2023 c 13 § 2, and 2023 c 51 § 3. WSR 24-18-077 (Admin

#2024-01.02), § 182-12-109, filed 8/29/24, effective 1/1/25. Statutory Authority: RCW 41.05.021 and 41.05.160. WSR 23-14-015 (Admin #2023-01), § 182-12-109, filed 6/23/23, effective 1/1/24; WSR 22-13-158 (Admin #2022-01), § 182-12-109, filed 6/21/22, effective 1/1/23; WSR 21-13-106 (Admin #2021-01.06), § 182-12-109, filed 6/18/21, effective 1/1/22; WSR 20-16-062 (Admin #2020-03), § 182-12-109, filed 7/28/20, effective 1/1/21. Statutory Authority: RCW 41.05.021, 41.05.160, and PEBB policy resolutions. WSR 19-17-073 (Admin #2019-01), § 182-12-109, filed 8/20/19, effective 1/1/20; WSR 18-20-117 (Admin #2018-02), § 182-12-109, filed 10/3/18, effective 1/1/19; WSR 17-19-077 (Order 2017-01), § 182-12-109, filed 9/15/17, effective 1/1/18. Statutory Authority: RCW 41.05.021, 41.05.160, 2016 c 67, and PEBB policy resolutions. WSR 16-20-080, § 182-12-109, filed 10/4/16, effective 1/1/17. Statutory Authority: RCW 41.05.160, 2015 c 116, and PEBB policy resolutions. WSR 15-22-099 (PEBB Admin # 2015-01 Rev 1), § 182-12-109, filed 11/4/15, effective 1/1/16. Statutory Authority: RCW 41.05.160 and 2013 2nd sp.s. c 4. WSR 14-20-058 (PEBB Admin 2014-02), § 182-12-109, filed 9/25/14, effective 1/1/15. Statutory Authority: RCW 41.05.160, 2013 2nd sp.s. c 4 and PEBB policy resolutions. WSR 14-08-040, § 182-12-109, filed 3/26/14, effective 4/26/14. Statutory Authority: RCW 41.05.160 and 2012 2nd sp.s. c 3. WSR 13-22-019 (Admin. 2013-01), § 182-12-109, filed 10/28/13, effective 1/1/14. Statutory Authority: RCW 41.05.160. WSR 12-20-022 (Order 2012-01), § 182-12-109, filed 9/25/12, effective 11/1/12. Statutory Authority: RCW 41.05.160 and 2011 c 8. WSR 11-22-036 (Order 11-02), § 182-12-109, filed 10/26/11, effective 1/1/12. Statutory Authority: RCW 41.05.160. WSR 10-20-147 (Order 10-02), § 182-12-109, filed 10/6/10, effective 1/1/11; WSR 09-23-102 (Order 09-02), § 182-12-109, filed 11/17/09, effective 1/1/10; WSR 08-20-128 (Order 08-03), § 182-12-109, filed 10/1/08, effective 1/1/09; WSR 07-20-129 (Order 07-01), § 182-12-109, filed 10/3/07, effective 11/3/07. Statutory Authority: RCW 41.05.160 and 41.05.068. WSR 06-23-165 (Order 06-09), § 182-12-109, filed 11/22/06, effective 12/23/06. Statutory Authority: RCW 41.05.160 and 41.05.165. WSR 04-18-039, § 182-12-109, filed 8/26/04, effective 1/1/05.]

(Effective until January 1, 2025)

WAC 182-12-111 Which entities and individuals are eligible for public employees benefits board (PEBB) benefits? The following entities and individuals shall be eligible for public employees benefits board (PEBB) benefits subject to the terms and conditions set forth below:

(1) **State agencies.** State agencies, as defined in WAC 182-12-109, are required to participate in all PEBB benefits. Insurance and health care contributions for ferry employees shall be governed by RCW 47.64.270.

(2) **Employer groups.** Employer groups may apply to participate in PEBB insurance coverage for groups of employees described in (a)(i) of this subsection and for members of the group's governing authority as described in (a)(i), (ii), and (iii) of this subsection at the option of each employer group:

(a) All eligible employees of the entity must transfer as a unit with the following exceptions:

(i) Bargaining units may elect to participate separately from the whole group;

(ii) Nonrepresented employees may elect to participate separately from the whole group provided all nonrepresented employees join as a group; and

(iii) Members of the employer group's governing authority may participate as described in the employer group's governing statutes and RCW 41.04.205.

(b) Employer groups must apply through the process described in WAC 182-08-235. Applications from employees of employee organizations representing state civil service employees, the Washington health benefit exchange, and employer groups with 5,000 or more employees are subject to review and approval by the health care authority (HCA) based on the employer group evaluation criteria described in WAC 182-08-240.

(c) Employer groups participate through a contract with the authority as described in WAC 182-08-245.

(3) **The Washington health benefit exchange.** In addition to subsection (2) of this section, the following provisions apply:

(a) The Washington health benefit exchange is subject to the same rules as an employing agency in chapters 182-08, 182-12, and 182-16 WAC.

(b) Employees of the Washington health benefit exchange are subject to the same rules as employees of an employing agency in chapters 182-08, 182-12 and 182-16 WAC.

(4) **Eligible nonemployees.**

(a) Blind vendors actively operating a business enterprise program facility in the state of Washington and deemed eligible by the department of services for the blind (DSB) may voluntarily participate in PEBB medical. Dependents of blind vendors are eligible as described in WAC 182-12-260.

(i) Eligible blind vendors and their dependents may enroll during the following times:

- When newly eligible: The DSB will notify eligible blind vendors of their eligibility in advance of the date they are eligible for enrollment in PEBB medical.

To enroll, blind vendors must submit the required forms to the DSB. The forms must be received by the DSB no later than 31 days after the blind vendor becomes eligible for PEBB medical;

- During the annual open enrollment: Blind vendors may enroll during the annual open enrollment. The required form must be received by the DSB before the end of the annual open enrollment. Enrollment will begin January 1st of the following year; or

- Following loss of other medical insurance coverage: Blind vendors may enroll following loss of other medical insurance coverage under a group health plan or through health insurance coverage, as defined by the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA). To enroll, blind vendors must submit the required forms to the DSB. The forms must be received by the DSB no later than 60 days after the loss of other medical insurance coverage. In addition to the required forms, the DSB will require blind vendors to provide evidence of loss of other medical insurance coverage.

(ii) Blind vendors who cease to actively operate a facility become ineligible to participate in PEBB medical as described in (a) of this subsection. Enrollees who lose eligibility for coverage may continue enrollment in PEBB medical on a self-pay basis under Consolidated Omnibus Budget Reconciliation Act (COBRA) coverage as described in WAC 182-12-146(5).

(iii) Blind vendors are not eligible for PEBB retiree insurance coverage.

(b) Dislocated forest products workers enrolled in the employment and career orientation program pursuant to chapter 50.70 RCW shall be eligible for PEBB medical and dental while enrolled in that program.

(c) Board members of Washington state school districts and educational service districts eligible to participate under RCW 28A.400.350 may participate in PEBB medical, dental, basic life insurance, basic accidental death and dismemberment (AD&D) insurance, supplemental life insurance, and supplemental AD&D insurance as long as they remain eligible under that section. The board of directors of educational service districts must apply through the process described in WAC 182-08-235 and participate through a contract with the HCA as described in WAC 182-08-245. Dependents of board members are eligible as described in WAC 182-12-260.

(i) Upon contract with the HCA, eligible board members may individually decide to enroll in PEBB insurance coverage each plan year. If they elect not to enroll, they may only enroll at the following times:

- During the annual open enrollment; or
- Following loss of other medical insurance coverage as defined by the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA).

(ii) Board members who no longer hold a position become ineligible to participate in PEBB insurance coverage as described in (c) of this subsection. Enrollees who lose eligibility for coverage may continue enrollment in PEBB medical, PEBB dental, or both on a self-pay basis under COBRA coverage as described in WAC 182-12-146(6).

(iii) Board members are not eligible for PEBB retiree insurance coverage.

(5) **Individuals and entities not eligible as employees include:**

- (a) Adult family home providers as defined in RCW 70.128.010;
- (b) Unpaid volunteers;
- (c) Patients of state hospitals;
- (d) Inmates in work programs offered by the Washington state department of corrections as described in RCW 72.09.100 or an equivalent program administered by a local government;
- (e) Employees of the Washington state convention and trade center as provided in RCW 41.05.110;
- (f) Students of institutions of higher education as determined by their institutions; and
- (g) Any others not expressly defined as an employee.

[Statutory Authority: RCW 41.05.021 and 41.05.160. WSR 23-14-015 (Admin #2023-01), § 182-12-111, filed 6/23/23, effective 1/1/24; WSR 20-16-062 (Admin #2020-03), § 182-12-111, filed 7/28/20, effective 1/1/21. Statutory Authority: RCW 41.05.021, 41.05.160, and PEBB policy resolutions. WSR 19-17-073 (Admin #2019-01), § 182-12-111, filed 8/20/19, effective 1/1/20. Statutory Authority: RCW 41.05.021, 41.05.160, 2016 c 67, and PEBB policy resolutions. WSR 16-20-080, § 182-12-111, filed 10/4/16, effective 1/1/17. Statutory Authority: RCW 41.05.160, 2015 c 116, and PEBB policy resolutions. WSR 15-22-099 (PEBB Admin # 2015-01 Rev 1), § 182-12-111, filed 11/4/15, effective 1/1/16. Statutory Authority: RCW 41.05.160 and 2013 2nd sp.s. c 4. WSR 14-20-058 (PEBB Admin 2014-02), § 182-12-111, filed 9/25/14, effective 1/1/15. Statutory Authority: RCW 41.05.160 and 2012 2nd sp.s. c 3. WSR 13-22-019 (Admin. 2013-01), § 182-12-111, filed 10/28/13, effective 1/1/14. Statutory Authority: RCW 41.05.160. WSR 12-20-022 (Order

2012-01), § 182-12-111, filed 9/25/12, effective 11/1/12; WSR 10-20-147 (Order 10-02), § 182-12-111, filed 10/6/10, effective 1/1/11; WSR 09-23-102 (Order 09-02), § 182-12-111, filed 11/17/09, effective 1/1/10; WSR 08-20-128 (Order 08-03), § 182-12-111, filed 10/1/08, effective 1/1/09; WSR 07-20-129 (Order 07-01), § 182-12-111, filed 10/3/07, effective 11/3/07. Statutory Authority: RCW 41.05.160 and 41.05.165. WSR 04-18-039, § 182-12-111, filed 8/26/04, effective 1/1/05; WSR 03-17-031 (Order 02-07), § 182-12-111, filed 8/14/03, effective 9/14/03. Statutory Authority: RCW 41.05.160. WSR 02-18-087 (Order 02-02), § 182-12-111, filed 9/3/02, effective 10/4/02; WSR 99-19-028 (Order 99-04), § 182-12-111, filed 9/8/99, effective 10/9/99; WSR 97-21-127, § 182-12-111, filed 10/21/97, effective 11/21/97. Statutory Authority: Chapter 41.05 RCW. WSR 96-08-043, § 182-12-111, filed 3/29/96, effective 4/29/96. Statutory Authority: RCW 41.04.205, 41.05.065, 41.05.011, 41.05.080 and chapter 41.05 RCW. WSR 92-03-040, § 182-12-111, filed 1/10/92, effective 1/10/92. Statutory Authority: Chapter 41.05 RCW. WSR 78-02-015 (Order 2-78), § 182-12-111, filed 1/10/78.]

(Effective January 1, 2025)

WAC 182-12-111 Which entities and individuals are eligible for public employees benefits board (PEBB) benefits? The following entities and individuals shall be eligible for public employees benefits board (PEBB) benefits subject to the terms and conditions set forth below:

(1) **State agencies.** State agencies, as defined in WAC 182-12-109, are required to participate in all PEBB benefits. Insurance and health care contributions for ferry employees shall be governed by RCW 47.64.270.

(2) **Employer groups.** Employer groups as defined in WAC 182-12-109 for the PEBB program may apply to participate in PEBB insurance coverage for groups of employees described in (a)(i) of this subsection and for members of the group's governing authority as described in (a)(i), (ii), and (iii) of this subsection at the option of each employer group:

(a) All eligible employees of the entity must transfer as a unit with the following exceptions:

(i) Bargaining units may elect to participate separately from the whole group;

(ii) Nonrepresented employees may elect to participate separately from the whole group provided all nonrepresented employees join as a group; and

(iii) Members of the employer group's governing authority may participate as described in the employer group's governing statutes and RCW 41.04.205.

(b) Employer groups must apply through the process described in WAC 182-08-235. Applications from employees of employee organizations representing state civil service employees, the Washington health benefit exchange, and employer groups with 5,000 or more employees are subject to review and approval by the health care authority (HCA) based on the employer group evaluation criteria described in WAC 182-08-240.

(c) Employer groups participate through a contract with the authority as described in WAC 182-08-245.

(3) **The Washington health benefit exchange.** In addition to subsection (2) of this section, the following provisions apply:

(a) The Washington health benefit exchange is subject to the same rules as an employing agency in chapters 182-08, 182-12, and 182-16 WAC.

(b) Employees of the Washington health benefit exchange are subject to the same rules as employees of an employing agency in chapters 182-08, 182-12 and 182-16 WAC.

(4) **Eligible nonemployees.**

(a) Blind vendors actively operating a business enterprise program facility in the state of Washington and deemed eligible by the department of services for the blind (DSB) may voluntarily participate in PEBB medical. Dependents of blind vendors are eligible as described in WAC 182-12-260.

(i) Eligible blind vendors and their dependents may enroll during the following times:

- When newly eligible: The DSB will notify eligible blind vendors of their eligibility in advance of the date they are eligible for enrollment in PEBB medical.

To enroll, blind vendors must submit the required forms to the DSB. The forms must be received by the DSB no later than 31 days after the blind vendor becomes eligible for PEBB medical;

- During the annual open enrollment: Blind vendors may enroll during the annual open enrollment. The required form must be received by the DSB before the end of the annual open enrollment. Enrollment will begin January 1st of the following year; or

- Following loss of other medical insurance coverage: Blind vendors may enroll following loss of other medical insurance coverage under a group health plan or through health insurance coverage, as defined by the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA). To enroll, blind vendors must submit the required forms to the DSB. The forms must be received by the DSB no later than 60 days after the loss of other medical insurance coverage. In addition to the required forms, the DSB will require blind vendors to provide evidence of loss of other medical insurance coverage.

(ii) Blind vendors who cease to actively operate a facility become ineligible to participate in PEBB medical as described in (a) of this subsection. Enrollees who lose eligibility for coverage may continue enrollment in PEBB medical on a self-pay basis under Consolidated Omnibus Budget Reconciliation Act (COBRA) coverage as described in WAC 182-12-146 (6).

(iii) Blind vendors are not eligible for PEBB retiree insurance coverage.

(b) Dislocated forest products workers enrolled in the employment and career orientation program pursuant to chapter 50.70 RCW shall be eligible for PEBB medical, dental, and vision while enrolled in that program.

(5) **Individuals and entities not eligible as employees include:**

(a) Adult family home providers as defined in RCW 70.128.010;

(b) Unpaid volunteers;

(c) Patients of state hospitals;

(d) Inmates in work programs offered by the Washington state department of corrections as described in RCW 72.09.100 or an equivalent program administered by a local government;

(e) Students of institutions of higher education as determined by their institutions; and

(f) Any others not expressly defined as an employee.

[Statutory Authority: RCW 41.05.021, 41.06.065 [41.05.065], and 41.05.160. WSR 24-18-076 (Admin #2024-01.01), § 182-12-111, filed 8/29/24, effective 1/1/25. Statutory Authority: RCW 41.05.021 and 41.05.160. WSR 23-14-015 (Admin #2023-01), § 182-12-111, filed 6/23/23, effective 1/1/24; WSR 20-16-062 (Admin #2020-03), § 182-12-111, filed 7/28/20, effective 1/1/21. Statutory Authority: RCW 41.05.021, 41.05.160, and PEBB policy resolutions. WSR 19-17-073 (Admin #2019-01), § 182-12-111, filed 8/20/19, effective 1/1/20. Statutory Authority: RCW 41.05.021, 41.05.160, 2016 c 67, and PEBB policy resolutions. WSR 16-20-080, § 182-12-111, filed 10/4/16, effective 1/1/17. Statutory Authority: RCW 41.05.160, 2015 c 116, and PEBB policy resolutions. WSR 15-22-099 (PEBB Admin # 2015-01 Rev 1), § 182-12-111, filed 11/4/15, effective 1/1/16. Statutory Authority: RCW 41.05.160 and 2013 2nd sp.s. c 4. WSR 14-20-058 (PEBB Admin 2014-02), § 182-12-111, filed 9/25/14, effective 1/1/15. Statutory Authority: RCW 41.05.160 and 2012 2nd sp.s. c 3. WSR 13-22-019 (Admin. 2013-01), § 182-12-111, filed 10/28/13, effective 1/1/14. Statutory Authority: RCW 41.05.160. WSR 12-20-022 (Order 2012-01), § 182-12-111, filed 9/25/12, effective 11/1/12; WSR 10-20-147 (Order 10-02), § 182-12-111, filed 10/6/10, effective 1/1/11; WSR 09-23-102 (Order 09-02), § 182-12-111, filed 11/17/09, effective 1/1/10; WSR 08-20-128 (Order 08-03), § 182-12-111, filed 10/1/08, effective 1/1/09; WSR 07-20-129 (Order 07-01), § 182-12-111, filed 10/3/07, effective 11/3/07. Statutory Authority: RCW 41.05.160 and 41.05.165. WSR 04-18-039, § 182-12-111, filed 8/26/04, effective 1/1/05; WSR 03-17-031 (Order 02-07), § 182-12-111, filed 8/14/03, effective 9/14/03. Statutory Authority: RCW 41.05.160. WSR 02-18-087 (Order 02-02), § 182-12-111, filed 9/3/02, effective 10/4/02; WSR 99-19-028 (Order 99-04), § 182-12-111, filed 9/8/99, effective 10/9/99; WSR 97-21-127, § 182-12-111, filed 10/21/97, effective 11/21/97. Statutory Authority: Chapter 41.05 RCW. WSR 96-08-043, § 182-12-111, filed 3/29/96, effective 4/29/96. Statutory Authority: RCW 41.04.205, 41.05.065, 41.05.011, 41.05.080 and chapter 41.05 RCW. WSR 92-03-040, § 182-12-111, filed 1/10/92, effective 1/10/92. Statutory Authority: Chapter 41.05 RCW. WSR 78-02-015 (Order 2-78), § 182-12-111, filed 1/10/78.]

WAC 182-12-113 What are the obligations of a state agency in the application of employee eligibility?

(1) All state agencies must carry out all actions, policies, and guidance issued by the public employees benefits board (PEBB) program necessary for the operation of benefit plans, education of employees, claims administration, and appeals process including those described in chapters 182-08, 182-12, and 182-16 WAC. State agencies must:

(a) Use the methods provided by the PEBB program to determine eligibility and enrollment in benefits, unless otherwise approved in writing;

(b) Provide eligibility determination reports with content and in a format designed and communicated by the PEBB program or otherwise as approved in writing by the PEBB program; and

(c) Carry out corrective action and pay any penalties imposed by the authority and established by the board when the state agency's eligibility determinations fail to comply with the criteria under these rules.

(2) All state agencies must determine employee eligibility for PEBB benefits and the employer contribution according to the criteria in WAC 182-12-114 and 182-12-131. State agencies must:

(a) Notify newly hired employees of PEBB program rules and guidance for eligibility and appeal rights;

(b) Provide written notice to faculty who are potentially eligible for benefits and employer contribution of their potential eligibility as described in WAC 182-12-114(3) and 182-12-131;

(c) Inform an employee in writing whether or not they are eligible for PEBB benefits upon employment. The written notice must include a description of any hours that are excluded in determining eligibility and information about the employee's right to appeal eligibility and enrollment decisions. An employee eligible for PEBB benefits must have no less than 10 calendar days after the date of notice to elect coverage;

(d) Routinely monitor all employees' eligible work hours to establish eligibility and maintain the employer contribution toward PEBB benefits;

(e) Make eligibility determinations based on the criteria of the eligibility category that most closely describes the employee's work circumstances per the PEBB program's direction;

(f) Identify when a previously ineligible employee becomes eligible or a previously eligible employee loses eligibility; and

(g) Inform an employee in writing whether or not they are eligible for PEBB benefits and the employer contribution whenever there is a change in work pattern such that the employee's eligibility status changes. Whenever this occurs, state agencies must inform the employee of the right to appeal eligibility and enrollment decisions. An employee eligible for PEBB benefits must have no less than 10 calendar days after the date of notice to elect coverage.

(3) State agencies must determine employee's dependents eligibility for PEBB health plan coverage according to the criteria in WAC 182-12-260.

(4) State agencies must assist an employee in determining whether or not the employee or their dependent has experienced an event that creates a special open enrollment as described in WAC 182-08-198, 182-08-199, 182-12-128, or 182-12-262, and inform the employee of the changes they can make consistent with that event.

[Statutory Authority: RCW 41.05.021 and 41.05.160. WSR 23-14-015 (Admin #2023-01), § 182-12-113, filed 6/23/23, effective 1/1/24; WSR 20-16-062 (Admin #2020-03), § 182-12-113, filed 7/28/20, effective 1/1/21. Statutory Authority: RCW 41.05.021, 41.05.160, and PEBB policy resolutions. WSR 19-17-073 (Admin #2019-01), § 182-12-113, filed 8/20/19, effective 1/1/20; WSR 18-20-117 (Admin #2018-02), § 182-12-113, filed 10/3/18, effective 1/1/19. Statutory Authority: RCW 41.05.021, 41.05.160, 2016 c 67, and PEBB policy resolutions. WSR 16-20-080, § 182-12-113, filed 10/4/16, effective 1/1/17. Statutory Authority: RCW 41.05.160. WSR 12-20-022 (Order 2012-01), § 182-12-113, filed 9/25/12, effective 11/1/12; WSR 09-23-102 (Order 09-02), § 182-12-113, filed 11/17/09, effective 1/1/10.]

(Effective until January 1, 2025)

WAC 182-12-114 How do employees establish eligibility for public employees benefits board (PEBB) benefits? Eligibility for an employee

whose work circumstances are described by more than one of the eligibility categories in subsections (1) through (5) of this section shall be determined solely by the criteria of the category that most closely describes the employee's work circumstances.

Hours that are excluded in determining eligibility include stand-by hours and any temporary increases in work hours, of six months or less, caused by training or emergencies (except governor-declared emergencies) that have not been or are not anticipated to be part of the employee's regular work schedule or pattern. Any hours worked in direct response to a governor-declared emergency are not excludable and must be included in determining eligibility. In order to include excluded hours in determining eligibility, employing agencies must request and receive the public employees benefits board (PEBB) program's approval.

For how the employer contribution toward PEBB benefits is maintained after eligibility is established under this section, see WAC 182-12-131.

(1) Employees are eligible for PEBB benefits as follows, except as described in subsections (2) through (5) of this section:

(a) **Eligibility.** An employee is eligible if they are anticipated to work an average of at least 80 hours per month and are anticipated to work for at least eight hours in each month for more than six consecutive months.

(b) **Determining eligibility.**

(i) **Upon employment:** An employee is eligible from the date of employment if the employing agency anticipates the employee will work according to the criteria in (a) of this subsection.

(ii) **Upon revision of anticipated work pattern:** If an employing agency revises an employee's anticipated work hours or anticipated duration of employment such that the employee meets the eligibility criteria in (a) of this subsection, the employee becomes eligible when the revision is made.

(iii) **Based on work pattern:** An employee who is determined to be ineligible, but later meets the eligibility criteria in (a) of this subsection, becomes eligible the first of the month following the six-month averaging period.

(c) **Stacking of hours.** As long as the work is within one state agency, employees may "stack" or combine hours worked in more than one position or job to establish eligibility and maintain the employer contribution toward PEBB benefits. Employees become eligible through stacking when they meet the requirements described in (a) of this subsection. They must notify their employing agency if they believe they are eligible through stacking. Stacking includes work situations in which:

(i) The employee works two or more positions or jobs at the same time (concurrent stacking);

(ii) The employee moves from one position or job to another (consecutive stacking); or

(iii) The employee combines hours from a seasonal position with hours from a nonseasonal position or job. An employee who establishes eligibility by stacking hours from a seasonal position or job with hours from a nonseasonal position or job shall maintain the employer contribution toward PEBB benefits as described in WAC 182-12-131(1).

(d) **When PEBB benefits begin.** Medical, dental, basic life insurance, basic accidental death and dismemberment (AD&D) insurance, employer-paid long-term disability (LTD) insurance, employee-paid LTD insurance (unless the employee declines the employee-paid LTD insur-

ance as described in WAC 182-08-197(1)), and if eligible, benefits under the salary reduction plan begin on the first day of the month following the date an employee becomes eligible. If the employee becomes eligible on the first working day of a month, then coverage begins on that date. Supplemental life insurance and supplemental AD&D insurance begin on the first day of the month following the date the contracted vendor receives the required form or approves the enrollment.

(2) **Seasonal employees**, as defined in WAC 182-12-109, are eligible as follows:

(a) **Eligibility.** A seasonal employee is eligible if they are anticipated to work an average of at least 80 hours per month and are anticipated to work for at least eight hours in each month of at least three consecutive months of the season.

(b) **Determining eligibility.**

(i) **Upon employment:** A seasonal employee is eligible from the date of employment if the employing agency anticipates that they will work according to the criteria in (a) of this subsection.

(ii) **Upon revision of anticipated work pattern.** If an employing agency revises an employee's anticipated work hours or anticipated duration of employment such that the employee meets the eligibility criteria in (a) of this subsection, the employee becomes eligible when the revision is made.

(iii) **Based on work pattern.** An employee who is determined to be ineligible for benefits, but later works an average of at least 80 hours per month and works for at least eight hours in each month and works for more than six consecutive months, becomes eligible the first of the month following a six-month averaging period.

(c) **Stacking of hours.** As long as the work is within one state agency, employees may "stack" or combine hours worked in more than one position or job to establish eligibility and maintain the employer contribution toward PEBB benefits. Employees become eligible through stacking when they meet the requirements described in (a) of this subsection. They must notify their employing agency if they believe they are eligible through stacking. Stacking includes work situations in which:

(i) The employee works two or more positions or jobs at the same time (concurrent stacking);

(ii) The employee moves from one position or job to another (consecutive stacking); or

(iii) The employee combines hours from a seasonal position or job with hours from a nonseasonal position or job. An employee who establishes eligibility by stacking hours from a seasonal position or job with hours from a nonseasonal position or job shall maintain the employer contribution toward PEBB benefits as described in WAC 182-12-131(1).

(d) **When PEBB benefits begin.** Medical, dental, basic life insurance, basic AD&D insurance, employer-paid LTD insurance, employee-paid LTD insurance (unless the employee declines the employee-paid LTD insurance as described in WAC 182-08-197(1)), and if eligible, benefits under the salary reduction plan begin on the first day of the month following the day the employee becomes eligible. If the employee becomes eligible on the first working day of a month, then coverage begins on that date. Supplemental life insurance and supplemental AD&D insurance begin on the first day of the month following the date the contracted vendor receives the required form or approves the enrollment.

Exception: Seasonal employees who work a recurring, annual season with a duration of less than nine months are not eligible for the employee-paid LTD insurance benefit.

(3) **Faculty** are eligible as follows:

(a) **Determining eligibility.** "Half-time" means one-half of the full-time academic workload as determined by each institution, except that half-time for community and technical college faculty employees is governed by RCW 28B.50.489.

(i) **Upon employment:** Faculty who the employing agency anticipates will work half-time or more for the entire instructional year, or equivalent nine-month period, are eligible from the date of employment.

(ii) **For faculty hired on quarter/semester to quarter/semester basis:** Faculty who the employing agency anticipates will not work for the entire instructional year, or equivalent nine-month period, are eligible at the beginning of the second consecutive quarter or semester of employment in which they are anticipated to work, or has actually worked, half-time or more. Spring and fall are considered consecutive quarters/semesters when first establishing eligibility for faculty that work less than half-time during the summer quarter/semester.

(iii) **Upon revision of anticipated work pattern:** Faculty who receive additional workload after the beginning of the anticipated work period (quarter, semester, or instructional year), such that their workload meets the eligibility criteria as described in (a)(i) or (ii) of this subsection become eligible when the revision is made.

(b) **Stacking.** Faculty may establish eligibility and maintain the employer contribution toward PEBB benefits by working as faculty for more than one institution of higher education. Faculty workloads may only be stacked with other faculty workloads to establish eligibility under this section or maintain eligibility as described in WAC 182-12-131(3). A faculty becomes eligible through stacking when they meet the requirements as described in (a) of this subsection. When a faculty works for more than one institution of higher education, the faculty must notify their employing agencies that they work at more than one institution and may be eligible through stacking.

(c) **When PEBB benefits begin.**

(i) Medical, dental, basic life insurance, basic AD&D insurance, employer-paid LTD insurance, employee-paid LTD insurance (unless the faculty declines the employee-paid LTD insurance as described in WAC 182-08-197(1)), and if eligible, benefits under the salary reduction plan begin on the first day of the month following the day the faculty becomes eligible. If the faculty becomes eligible on the first working day of a month, then coverage begins on that date. Supplemental life insurance and supplemental AD&D insurance begin on the first day of the month following the date the contracted vendor receives the required form or approves the enrollment.

(ii) For faculty hired on a quarter/semester to quarter/semester basis under (a)(ii) of this subsection, medical, dental, basic life insurance, basic AD&D insurance, employer-paid LTD insurance, employee-paid LTD insurance (unless the faculty declines the employee-paid LTD insurance as described in WAC 182-08-197(1)), and if eligible, benefits under the salary reduction plan begin the first day of the month following the beginning of the second consecutive quarter/semester of half-time or more employment. If the first day of the second consecutive quarter/semester is the first working day of the month, then coverage begins at the beginning of the second consecutive quarter/semester. Supplemental life insurance and supplemental AD&D insur-

ance begin on the first day of the month following the date the contracted vendor receives the required form or approves the enrollment.

(4) **Elected and full-time appointed officials of the legislative and executive branches of state government** are eligible as follows:

(a) **Eligibility.** A legislator is eligible for PEBB benefits on the date their term begins. All other elected and full-time appointed officials of the legislative and executive branches of state government are eligible on the date their terms begin or the date they take the oath of office, whichever occurs first.

(b) **When PEBB benefits begin.** Medical, dental, basic life insurance, basic AD&D insurance, employer-paid LTD insurance, employee-paid LTD insurance (unless the employee declines the employee-paid LTD insurance as described in WAC 182-08-197(1)), and if eligible, benefits under the salary reduction plan begin on the first day of the month following the day the employee becomes eligible. If the employee becomes eligible on the first working day of a month, then coverage begins on that date. Supplemental life insurance and supplemental AD&D insurance begin on the first day of the month following the date the contracted vendor receives the required form or approves the enrollment.

(5) **Justices and judges** are eligible as follows:

(a) **Eligibility.** A justice of the supreme court and judges of the court of appeals and the superior courts become eligible for PEBB benefits on the date they take the oath of office.

(b) **When PEBB benefits begin.** Medical, dental, basic life insurance, basic AD&D insurance, employer-paid LTD insurance, employee-paid LTD insurance (unless the employee declines the employee-paid LTD insurance as described in WAC 182-08-197(1)), and if eligible, benefits under the salary reduction plan begin on the first day of the month following the day the employee becomes eligible. If the employee becomes eligible on the first working day of a month, then coverage begins on that date. Supplemental life insurance and supplemental AD&D insurance begin on the first day of the month following the date the contracted vendor receives the required form or approves the enrollment.

[Statutory Authority: RCW 41.05.021 and 41.05.160. WSR 22-13-158 (Admin #2022-01), § 182-12-114, filed 6/21/22, effective 1/1/23. Statutory Authority: RCW 41.05.021, 41.05.160 and Policy resolutions PEBB 2021-11 and 2021-12. WSR 21-13-103 (Admin #2021-01.03), § 182-12-114, filed 6/18/21, effective 1/1/22. Statutory Authority: RCW 41.05.021 and 41.05.160. WSR 20-16-062 (Admin #2020-03), § 182-12-114, filed 7/28/20, effective 1/1/21. Statutory Authority: RCW 41.05.021, 41.05.160, and PEBB policy resolutions. WSR 19-17-073 (Admin #2019-01), § 182-12-114, filed 8/20/19, effective 1/1/20; WSR 18-20-117 (Admin #2018-02), § 182-12-114, filed 10/3/18, effective 1/1/19; WSR 17-19-077 (Order 2017-01), § 182-12-114, filed 9/15/17, effective 1/1/18. Statutory Authority: RCW 41.05.021, 41.05.160, 2016 c 67, and PEBB policy resolutions. WSR 16-20-080, § 182-12-114, filed 10/4/16, effective 1/1/17. Statutory Authority: RCW 41.05.160 and 2012 2nd sp.s. c 3. WSR 13-22-019 (Admin. 2013-01), § 182-12-114, filed 10/28/13, effective 1/1/14. Statutory Authority: RCW 41.05.160. WSR 10-20-147 (Order 10-02), § 182-12-114, filed 10/6/10, effective 1/1/11; WSR 09-23-102 (Order 09-02), § 182-12-114, filed 11/17/09, effective 1/1/10.]

(Effective January 1, 2025)

WAC 182-12-114 How do employees establish eligibility for public employees benefits board (PEBB) benefits? Eligibility for an employee whose work circumstances are described by more than one of the eligibility categories in subsections (1) through (5) of this section shall be determined solely by the criteria of the category that most closely describes the employee's work circumstances.

Hours that are excluded in determining eligibility include stand-by hours and any temporary increases in work hours, of six months or less, caused by training or emergencies (except governor-declared emergencies) that have not been or are not anticipated to be part of the employee's regular work schedule or pattern. Any hours worked in direct response to a governor-declared emergency are not excludable and must be included in determining eligibility. In order to include excluded hours in determining eligibility, employing agencies must request and receive the public employees benefits board (PEBB) program's approval.

For how the employer contribution toward PEBB benefits is maintained after eligibility is established under this section, see WAC 182-12-131.

(1) Employees are eligible for PEBB benefits as follows, except as described in subsections (2) through (5) of this section:

(a) **Eligibility.** An employee is eligible if they are anticipated to work an average of at least 80 hours per month and are anticipated to work for at least eight hours in each month for more than six consecutive months.

(b) **Determining eligibility.**

(i) **Upon employment:** An employee is eligible from the date of employment if the employing agency anticipates the employee will work according to the criteria in (a) of this subsection.

(ii) **Upon revision of anticipated work pattern:** If an employing agency revises an employee's anticipated work hours or anticipated duration of employment such that the employee meets the eligibility criteria in (a) of this subsection, the employee becomes eligible when the revision is made.

(iii) **Based on work pattern:** An employee who is determined to be ineligible, but later meets the eligibility criteria in (a) of this subsection, becomes eligible the first of the month following the six-month averaging period.

(c) **Stacking of hours.** As long as the work is within one state agency, employees may "stack" or combine hours worked in more than one position or job to establish eligibility and maintain the employer contribution toward PEBB benefits. Employees become eligible through stacking when they meet the requirements described in (a) of this subsection. They must notify their employing agency if they believe they are eligible through stacking. Stacking includes work situations in which:

(i) The employee works two or more positions or jobs at the same time (concurrent stacking);

(ii) The employee moves from one position or job to another (consecutive stacking); or

(iii) The employee combines hours from a seasonal position with hours from a nonseasonal position or job. An employee who establishes eligibility by stacking hours from a seasonal position or job with hours from a nonseasonal position or job shall maintain the employer contribution toward PEBB benefits as described in WAC 182-12-131(1).

(d) **When PEBB benefits begin.** Medical, dental, vision, basic life insurance, basic accidental death and dismemberment (AD&D) insurance, employer-paid long-term disability (LTD) insurance, employee-paid LTD insurance (unless the employee declines the employee-paid LTD insurance as described in WAC 182-08-197(1)), and if eligible, benefits under the salary reduction plan begin on the first day of the month following the date an employee becomes eligible. If the employee becomes eligible on the first working day of a month, then coverage begins on that date. Supplemental life insurance and supplemental AD&D insurance begin on the first day of the month following the date the contracted vendor receives the required form or approves the enrollment.

(2) **Seasonal employees,** as defined in WAC 182-12-109, are eligible as follows:

(a) **Eligibility.** A seasonal employee is eligible if they are anticipated to work an average of at least 80 hours per month and are anticipated to work for at least eight hours in each month of at least three consecutive months of the season.

(b) **Determining eligibility.**

(i) **Upon employment:** A seasonal employee is eligible from the date of employment if the employing agency anticipates that they will work according to the criteria in (a) of this subsection.

(ii) **Upon revision of anticipated work pattern.** If an employing agency revises an employee's anticipated work hours or anticipated duration of employment such that the employee meets the eligibility criteria in (a) of this subsection, the employee becomes eligible when the revision is made.

(iii) **Based on work pattern.** An employee who is determined to be ineligible for benefits, but later works an average of at least 80 hours per month and works for at least eight hours in each month and works for more than six consecutive months, becomes eligible the first of the month following a six-month averaging period.

(c) **Stacking of hours.** As long as the work is within one state agency, employees may "stack" or combine hours worked in more than one position or job to establish eligibility and maintain the employer contribution toward PEBB benefits. Employees become eligible through stacking when they meet the requirements described in (a) of this subsection. They must notify their employing agency if they believe they are eligible through stacking. Stacking includes work situations in which:

(i) The employee works two or more positions or jobs at the same time (concurrent stacking);

(ii) The employee moves from one position or job to another (consecutive stacking); or

(iii) The employee combines hours from a seasonal position or job with hours from a nonseasonal position or job. An employee who establishes eligibility by stacking hours from a seasonal position or job with hours from a nonseasonal position or job shall maintain the employer contribution toward PEBB benefits as described in WAC 182-12-131(1).

(d) **When PEBB benefits begin.** Medical, dental, vision, basic life insurance, basic AD&D insurance, employer-paid LTD insurance, employee-paid LTD insurance (unless the employee declines the employee-paid LTD insurance as described in WAC 182-08-197(1)), and if eligible, benefits under the salary reduction plan begin on the first day of the month following the day the employee becomes eligible. If the employee becomes eligible on the first working day of a month, then coverage begins on that date. Supplemental life insurance and supplemental AD&D

insurance begin on the first day of the month following the date the contracted vendor receives the required form or approves the enrollment.

Exception: Seasonal employees who work a recurring, annual season with a duration of less than nine months are not eligible for the employee-paid LTD insurance benefit.

(3) **Faculty** are eligible as follows:

(a) **Determining eligibility.** "Half-time" means one-half of the full-time academic workload as determined by each institution, except that half-time for community and technical college faculty employees is governed by RCW 28B.50.489.

(i) **Upon employment:** Faculty who the employing agency anticipates will work half-time or more for the entire instructional year, or equivalent nine-month period, are eligible from the date of employment.

(ii) **For faculty hired on quarter/semester to quarter/semester basis:** Faculty who the employing agency anticipates will not work for the entire instructional year, or equivalent nine-month period, are eligible at the beginning of the second consecutive quarter or semester of employment in which they are anticipated to work, or has actually worked, half-time or more. Spring and fall are considered consecutive quarters/semesters when first establishing eligibility for faculty that work less than half-time during the summer quarter/semester.

(iii) **Upon revision of anticipated work pattern:** Faculty who receive additional workload after the beginning of the anticipated work period (quarter, semester, or instructional year), such that their workload meets the eligibility criteria as described in (a)(i) or (ii) of this subsection become eligible when the revision is made.

(b) **Stacking.** Faculty may establish eligibility and maintain the employer contribution toward PEBB benefits by working as faculty for more than one institution of higher education. Faculty workloads may only be stacked with other faculty workloads to establish eligibility under this section or maintain eligibility as described in WAC 182-12-131(3). A faculty becomes eligible through stacking when they meet the requirements as described in (a) of this subsection. When a faculty works for more than one institution of higher education, the faculty must notify their employing agencies that they work at more than one institution and may be eligible through stacking.

(c) **When PEBB benefits begin.**

(i) Medical, dental, vision, basic life insurance, basic AD&D insurance, employer-paid LTD insurance, employee-paid LTD insurance (unless the faculty declines the employee-paid LTD insurance as described in WAC 182-08-197(1)), and if eligible, benefits under the salary reduction plan begin on the first day of the month following the day the faculty becomes eligible. If the faculty becomes eligible on the first working day of a month, then coverage begins on that date. Supplemental life insurance and supplemental AD&D insurance begin on the first day of the month following the date the contracted vendor receives the required form or approves the enrollment.

(ii) For faculty hired on a quarter/semester to quarter/semester basis under (a)(ii) of this subsection, medical, dental, vision, basic life insurance, basic AD&D insurance, employer-paid LTD insurance, employee-paid LTD insurance (unless the faculty declines the employee-paid LTD insurance as described in WAC 182-08-197(1)), and if eligible, benefits under the salary reduction plan begin the first day of the month following the beginning of the second consecutive quarter/semester of half-time or more employment. If the first day of the sec-

ond consecutive quarter/semester is the first working day of the month, then coverage begins at the beginning of the second consecutive quarter/semester. Supplemental life insurance and supplemental AD&D insurance begin on the first day of the month following the date the contracted vendor receives the required form or approves the enrollment.

(4) **Elected and full-time appointed officials of the legislative and executive branches of state government** are eligible as follows:

(a) **Eligibility.** A legislator is eligible for PEBB benefits on the date their term begins. All other elected and full-time appointed officials of the legislative and executive branches of state government are eligible on the date their terms begin or the date they take the oath of office, whichever occurs first.

(b) **When PEBB benefits begin.** Medical, dental, vision, basic life insurance, basic AD&D insurance, employer-paid LTD insurance, employee-paid LTD insurance (unless the employee declines the employee-paid LTD insurance as described in WAC 182-08-197(1)), and if eligible, benefits under the salary reduction plan begin on the first day of the month following the day the employee becomes eligible. If the employee becomes eligible on the first working day of a month, then coverage begins on that date. Supplemental life insurance and supplemental AD&D insurance begin on the first day of the month following the date the contracted vendor receives the required form or approves the enrollment.

(5) **Justices and judges** are eligible as follows:

(a) **Eligibility.** A justice of the supreme court and judges of the court of appeals and the superior courts become eligible for PEBB benefits on the date they take the oath of office.

(b) **When PEBB benefits begin.** Medical, dental, vision, basic life insurance, basic AD&D insurance, employer-paid LTD insurance, employee-paid LTD insurance (unless the employee declines the employee-paid LTD insurance as described in WAC 182-08-197(1)), and if eligible, benefits under the salary reduction plan begin on the first day of the month following the day the employee becomes eligible. If the employee becomes eligible on the first working day of a month, then coverage begins on that date. Supplemental life insurance and supplemental AD&D insurance begin on the first day of the month following the date the contracted vendor receives the required form or approves the enrollment.

[Statutory Authority: RCW 41.05.021, 41.06.065 [41.05.065], and 41.05.160. WSR 24-18-076 (Admin #2024-01.01), § 182-12-114, filed 8/29/24, effective 1/1/25. Statutory Authority: RCW 41.05.021 and 41.05.160. WSR 22-13-158 (Admin #2022-01), § 182-12-114, filed 6/21/22, effective 1/1/23. Statutory Authority: RCW 41.05.021, 41.05.160 and Policy resolutions PEBB 2021-11 and 2021-12. WSR 21-13-103 (Admin #2021-01.03), § 182-12-114, filed 6/18/21, effective 1/1/22. Statutory Authority: RCW 41.05.021 and 41.05.160. WSR 20-16-062 (Admin #2020-03), § 182-12-114, filed 7/28/20, effective 1/1/21. Statutory Authority: RCW 41.05.021, 41.05.160, and PEBB policy resolutions. WSR 19-17-073 (Admin #2019-01), § 182-12-114, filed 8/20/19, effective 1/1/20; WSR 18-20-117 (Admin #2018-02), § 182-12-114, filed 10/3/18, effective 1/1/19; WSR 17-19-077 (Order 2017-01), § 182-12-114, filed 9/15/17, effective 1/1/18. Statutory Authority: RCW 41.05.021, 41.05.160, 2016 c 67, and PEBB policy resolutions. WSR 16-20-080, § 182-12-114, filed 10/4/16, effective 1/1/17. Statutory Authority: RCW 41.05.160 and 2012 2nd sp.s. c 3. WSR

13-22-019 (Admin. 2013-01), § 182-12-114, filed 10/28/13, effective 1/1/14. Statutory Authority: RCW 41.05.160. WSR 10-20-147 (Order 10-02), § 182-12-114, filed 10/6/10, effective 1/1/11; WSR 09-23-102 (Order 09-02), § 182-12-114, filed 11/17/09, effective 1/1/10.]

(Effective until January 1, 2025)

WAC 182-12-116 Who is eligible to participate in the salary reduction plan? (1) Employees of state agencies are eligible to participate in the state's salary reduction plan provided they are eligible for public employees benefits board (PEBB) benefits as described in WAC 182-12-114 and they elect to participate within the time frames described in WAC 182-08-197, 182-08-187, or 182-08-199.

(2) Employees of employer groups, as defined in WAC 182-12-109, are not eligible to participate in the state's salary reduction plan.

[Statutory Authority: RCW 41.05.021, 41.05.160 and PEBB policy resolutions. WSR 19-17-073 (Admin #2019-01), § 182-12-116, filed 8/20/19, effective 1/1/20. Statutory Authority: RCW 41.05.021, 41.05.160, 2016 c 67, and PEBB policy resolutions. WSR 16-20-080, § 182-12-116, filed 10/4/16, effective 1/1/17. Statutory Authority: RCW 41.05.160 and 2012 2nd sp.s. c 3. WSR 13-22-019 (Admin. 2013-01), § 182-12-116, filed 10/28/13, effective 1/1/14. Statutory Authority: RCW 41.05.160. WSR 09-23-102 (Order 09-02), § 182-12-116, filed 11/17/09, effective 1/1/10; WSR 08-20-128 (Order 08-03), § 182-12-116, filed 10/1/08, effective 1/1/09; WSR 07-20-129 (Order 07-01), § 182-12-116, filed 10/3/07, effective 11/3/07; WSR 06-11-156 (Order 06-02), § 182-12-116, filed 5/24/06, effective 6/24/06. Statutory Authority: RCW 41.05.160, 41.05.350, and 41.05.165. WSR 05-16-046 (Order 05-01), § 182-12-116, filed 7/27/05, effective 8/27/05.]

(Effective January 1, 2025)

WAC 182-12-116 Who is eligible to participate in the salary reduction plan? (1) Employees of state agencies are eligible to participate in the state's salary reduction plan provided they are eligible for public employees benefits board (PEBB) benefits as described in WAC 182-12-114 and they elect to participate within the time frames described in WAC 182-08-197, 182-08-187, or 182-08-199.

(2) Employees of PEBB participating employer groups, as defined in WAC 182-12-109, are not eligible to participate in the state's salary reduction plan.

[Statutory Authority: RCW 41.05.021, 41.06.065 [41.05.065], and 41.05.160. WSR 24-18-076 (Admin #2024-01.01), § 182-12-116, filed 8/29/24, effective 1/1/25. Statutory Authority: RCW 41.05.021, 41.05.160 and PEBB policy resolutions. WSR 19-17-073 (Admin #2019-01), § 182-12-116, filed 8/20/19, effective 1/1/20. Statutory Authority: RCW 41.05.021, 41.05.160, 2016 c 67, and PEBB policy resolutions. WSR 16-20-080, § 182-12-116, filed 10/4/16, effective 1/1/17. Statutory Authority: RCW 41.05.160 and 2012 2nd sp.s. c 3. WSR 13-22-019 (Admin. 2013-01), § 182-12-116, filed 10/28/13, effective 1/1/14. Statutory Authority: RCW 41.05.160. WSR 09-23-102 (Order 09-02), § 182-12-116, filed 11/17/09, effective 1/1/10; WSR 08-20-128 (Order 08-03), § 182-12-116, filed 10/1/08, effective 1/1/09; WSR 07-20-129 (Order

07-01), § 182-12-116, filed 10/3/07, effective 11/3/07; WSR 06-11-156 (Order 06-02), § 182-12-116, filed 5/24/06, effective 6/24/06. Statutory Authority: RCW 41.05.160, 41.05.350, and 41.05.165. WSR 05-16-046 (Order 05-01), § 182-12-116, filed 7/27/05, effective 8/27/05.]

(Effective until January 1, 2025)

WAC 182-12-123 Is dual enrollment in public employees benefits board (PEBB) and school employees benefits board (SEBB) prohibited? Public employees benefits board (PEBB) medical and dental coverage is limited to a single enrollment per individual as described in subsections (1) through (5) of this section. Effective January 1, 2022, individuals are limited to a single enrollment in medical, dental, and vision plans in either the PEBB program or school employees benefits board (SEBB) program as described in subsection (6) of this section.

(1) An individual who has more than one source of eligibility for enrollment in PEBB medical and PEBB dental coverage (called "dual eligibility") is limited to one enrollment.

(2) An eligible employee may waive PEBB medical and enroll as a dependent under the PEBB medical plan of their spouse, state registered domestic partner, or parent as described in WAC 182-12-128.

(3) A dependent enrolled in PEBB medical or PEBB dental who becomes eligible for PEBB benefits as an employee must elect to enroll in PEBB benefits as described in WAC 182-08-197 (1) or (3). This includes making an election to enroll in or waive enrollment in PEBB medical as described in WAC 182-12-128.

(a) If the employee does not waive enrollment in PEBB medical, the employee is not eligible to remain enrolled in their spouse's, state registered domestic partner's, or parent's PEBB medical as a dependent. If the employee's spouse, state registered domestic partner, or parent does not take action to remove the employee (who is enrolled as a dependent) from their subscriber account, the PEBB program will automatically disenroll the employee's enrollment as a dependent the last day of the month before the employee's enrollment in PEBB benefits as described in WAC 182-12-114.

Exception: An enrolled dependent who becomes newly eligible for PEBB benefits as an employee may be dual-enrolled in PEBB medical and dental for one month. This exception is only allowed for the first month the dependent is enrolled as an employee, and only if the dependent becomes enrolled as an employee on the first working day of a month that is not the first day of the month.

(b) If the employee elects to waive their enrollment in PEBB medical, the employee will remain enrolled in PEBB medical under their spouse's, state registered domestic partner's, or parent's PEBB medical as a dependent.

(4) A child who is eligible for PEBB medical and PEBB dental under two subscribers may be enrolled under both subscribers but is limited to a single enrollment in PEBB medical and a single enrollment in PEBB dental.

(5) When an employee is eligible for the employer contribution toward PEBB benefits due to employment in more than one PEBB-participating employing agency the following provisions apply:

(a) The employee must choose to enroll under only one employing agency.

Exception: Faculty who seek to establish or maintain eligibility as described in WAC 182-12-114(3) with two or more state institutions of higher education will be enrolled under the employing agency responsible to pay the employer contribution according to WAC 182-08-200(2).

(b) If the employee loses eligibility under the employing agency, they must notify their other employing agency no later than 60 days

from the date PEBB benefits end through the employing agency described in (a) of this subsection to transfer coverage.

(c) The employee's elections remain the same when an employee transfers their enrollment under one employing agency to another employing agency without a break in PEBB benefits for one month or more, as described in (b) of this subsection.

(6) An individual who has more than one source of eligibility for enrollment in the PEBB and SEBB programs is limited to a single enrollment in medical, dental, and vision plans in either the PEBB or SEBB program. An employee must elect to enroll in PEBB benefits as described in WAC 182-08-197, waive enrollment as described in WAC 182-12-128, or remove eligible dependents as described in WAC 182-12-262. If the employee takes no action to resolve the dual enrollment, the PEBB program or the SEBB program will automatically enroll or automatically disenroll the individual as described in (d) through (h) of this subsection.

(a) An eligible employee may waive enrollment in PEBB medical to enroll in SEBB medical only if they are enrolled in SEBB dental and SEBB vision as described in WAC 182-12-128. An employee who waives enrollment in PEBB medical to enroll in SEBB medical also waives enrollment in PEBB dental.

(b) An eligible employee who waives enrollment in PEBB medical when they are enrolled in other employer-based group medical, a TRI-CARE plan, or medicare as described in WAC 182-12-128, and are not enrolled in SEBB medical, may waive enrollment in PEBB dental only if they are enrolled in both SEBB dental and SEBB vision as an eligible dependent in the SEBB program.

(c) A school employee in the SEBB program who waives SEBB medical, SEBB dental, and SEBB vision for PEBB medical must be enrolled in PEBB dental. If the school employee is not already enrolled in PEBB dental, the PEBB program will automatically enroll the school employee in the associated subscriber's PEBB dental.

(d) If the employee is enrolled only in PEBB dental, and is also enrolled in SEBB medical, and no action is taken to resolve their dual enrollment, the employee will remain in SEBB medical. The PEBB program will automatically disenroll the employee from PEBB dental in which they are enrolled. If the employee is not already enrolled in SEBB dental or SEBB vision, the SEBB program will automatically enroll them in both as described in WAC 182-31-070 (6)(g). The employee's enrollment in PEBB program life insurance, accidental death and dismemberment (AD&D) insurance, and long-term disability (LTD) insurance will remain.

(e) If the employee is enrolled in PEBB medical and is also a school employee in the SEBB program and enrolled in SEBB medical, and the employee has been enrolled in SEBB medical longer than they have been enrolled in PEBB medical, and no action is taken by the employee to resolve their dual enrollment, they will remain in SEBB medical. The PEBB program will automatically disenroll the employee from PEBB medical and PEBB dental. The employee's enrollment in PEBB program life insurance, AD&D insurance, and LTD insurance will remain. If the employee is not enrolled in medical under either the PEBB or SEBB program but is enrolled only in PEBB dental and SEBB vision (with or without enrollment in SEBB dental), the employee will remain in SEBB vision and if enrolled, SEBB dental. If the employee is not already enrolled in SEBB dental, the SEBB program will automatically enroll them as described in WAC 182-31-070 (6)(g). The PEBB program will automatically disenroll the employee from PEBB dental.

(f) If the employee's dependent is enrolled in any PEBB medical or PEBB dental plan, and the dependent is also a school employee in the SEBB program and enrolled in SEBB medical, and no action is taken by either the employee or the dependent to resolve the dependent's dual enrollment, the employee's dependent will remain in SEBB medical. The PEBB program will automatically disenroll the employee's dependent from PEBB medical and PEBB dental in which they are enrolled.

(g) If the employee's dependent is enrolled in both PEBB medical and SEBB medical as a dependent and has been enrolled in SEBB medical longer than they have been enrolled in PEBB medical, and no action is taken to resolve the dual enrollment, the employee's dependent will remain in SEBB medical. The PEBB program will automatically disenroll the employee's dependent from PEBB medical and PEBB dental if they are enrolled. If the employee's dependent who is eligible as a dependent in both the PEBB and SEBB programs is not enrolled in any medical but is enrolled only in PEBB dental and SEBB vision (with or without SEBB dental) as a dependent, the dependent will remain in SEBB vision and if enrolled, SEBB dental. The PEBB program will automatically disenroll the employee's dependent from PEBB dental.

Exception: If there is a National Medical Support Notice (NMSN) or a court order in place, enrollment will be in accordance with the NMSN or order.

(h) If the employee's dependent, who is also a school employee in the SEBB program who the SEBB program automatically disenrolled from SEBB dental and SEBB vision, the PEBB program will automatically enroll the employee's dependent in PEBB dental, if they are not already enrolled.

(i) If the employee who is eligible for the employer contribution toward PEBB benefits was enrolled as a dependent in SEBB medical, SEBB dental, and SEBB vision and is removed by the SEBB subscriber, the employee will be required to return from waived enrollment as described in WAC 182-12-128 (3)(b).

(j) If the PEBB program automatically disenrolls an individual from PEBB medical or PEBB dental to resolve their dual enrollment as described in (e), (f), or (g) of this subsection, but later determines that the employee did take action to resolve their dual enrollment within the required timelines, the PEBB program will reinstate coverage retroactive to the first of the month in which the individual was disenrolled.

(7) A retiree who defers enrollment in PEBB retiree insurance coverage as described in WAC 182-12-200 by enrolling as an eligible dependent in a health plan sponsored by PEBB or SEBB and who loses the employer contribution for such coverage must enroll in PEBB retiree insurance coverage as described in WAC 182-12-200 or defer enrollment as described in WAC 182-12-205.

[Statutory Authority: RCW 41.05.021 and 41.05.160. WSR 23-14-015 (Admin #2023-01), § 182-12-123, filed 6/23/23, effective 1/1/24. Statutory Authority: RCW 41.05.021, 41.05.160, and Policy Resolution PEBB 2022-02. WSR 22-13-164 (Admin #2022-02.02), § 182-12-123, filed 6/21/22, effective 1/1/23. Statutory Authority: RCW 41.05.021, 41.05.160 and Policy resolutions PEBB 2021-02, 2021-03, 2021-04, 2021-05, 2021-06, 2021-07, 2021-08, 2021-09. WSR 21-13-102 (Admin #2021-01.02), § 182-12-123, filed 6/18/21, effective 1/1/22. Statutory Authority: RCW 41.05.021 and 41.05.160. WSR 20-16-062 (Admin #2020-03), § 182-12-123, filed 7/28/20, effective 1/1/21. Statutory Authority: RCW 41.05.021, 41.05.160, and PEBB policy resolutions. WSR 19-17-073 (Admin #2019-01), § 182-12-123, filed 8/20/19, effective

1/1/20; WSR 18-20-117 (Admin #2018-02), § 182-12-123, filed 10/3/18, effective 1/1/19. Statutory Authority: RCW 41.05.021, 41.05.160, 2016 c 67, and PEBB policy resolutions. WSR 16-20-080, § 182-12-123, filed 10/4/16, effective 1/1/17. Statutory Authority: RCW 41.05.160, 2015 c 116, and PEBB policy resolutions. WSR 15-22-099 (PEBB Admin # 2015-01 Rev 1), § 182-12-123, filed 11/4/15, effective 1/1/16. Statutory Authority: RCW 41.05.160 and 2013 2nd sp.s. c 4. WSR 14-20-058 (PEBB Admin 2014-02), § 182-12-123, filed 9/25/14, effective 1/1/15. Statutory Authority: RCW 41.05.160 and 2012 2nd sp.s. c 3. WSR 13-22-019 (Admin. 2013-01), § 182-12-123, filed 10/28/13, effective 1/1/14. Statutory Authority: RCW 41.05.160. WSR 12-20-022 (Order 2012-01), § 182-12-123, filed 9/25/12, effective 11/1/12; WSR 10-20-147 (Order 10-02), § 182-12-123, filed 10/6/10, effective 1/1/11; WSR 09-23-102 (Order 09-02), § 182-12-123, filed 11/17/09, effective 1/1/10; WSR 07-20-129 (Order 07-01), § 182-12-123, filed 10/3/07, effective 11/3/07. Statutory Authority: RCW 41.05.160 and 41.05.165. WSR 04-18-039, § 182-12-123, filed 8/26/04, effective 1/1/05.]

(Effective January 1, 2025)

WAC 182-12-123 Is dual enrollment in public employees benefits board (PEBB) and school employees benefits board (SEBB) prohibited? Public employees benefits board (PEBB) medical, dental, and vision coverage is limited to a single enrollment per individual as described in subsections (1) through (5) of this section. Effective January 1, 2022, individuals are limited to a single enrollment in medical, dental, and vision plans in either the PEBB program or school employees benefits board (SEBB) program as described in subsection (6) of this section.

(1) An individual who has more than one source of eligibility for enrollment in PEBB medical, PEBB dental, and PEBB vision coverage (called "dual eligibility") is limited to one enrollment.

(2) An eligible employee may waive PEBB medical and enroll as a dependent under the PEBB medical plan of their spouse, state registered domestic partner, or parent as described in WAC 182-12-128.

(3) A dependent enrolled in PEBB medical, PEBB dental, or PEBB vision who becomes eligible for PEBB benefits as an employee must elect to enroll in PEBB benefits as described in WAC 182-08-197 (1) or (3). This includes making an election to enroll in or waive enrollment in PEBB medical as described in WAC 182-12-128.

(a) If the employee does not waive enrollment in PEBB medical, the employee is not eligible to remain enrolled in their spouse's, state registered domestic partner's, or parent's PEBB medical as a dependent. If the employee's spouse, state registered domestic partner, or parent does not take action to remove the employee (who is enrolled as a dependent) from their subscriber account, the PEBB program will automatically disenroll the employee's enrollment as a dependent the last day of the month before the employee's enrollment in PEBB benefits as described in WAC 182-12-114.

Exception: An enrolled dependent who becomes newly eligible for PEBB benefits as an employee may be dual-enrolled in PEBB medical, dental, and vision for one month. This exception is only allowed for the first month the dependent is enrolled as an employee, and only if the dependent becomes enrolled as an employee on the first working day of a month that is not the first day of the month.

(b) If the employee elects to waive their enrollment in PEBB medical, the employee will remain enrolled in PEBB medical under their spouse's, state registered domestic partner's, or parent's PEBB medical as a dependent.

(4) A child who is eligible for PEBB medical, PEBB dental, and PEBB vision under two subscribers may be enrolled under both subscribers but is limited to a single enrollment in PEBB medical, a single enrollment in PEBB dental, and a single enrollment in PEBB vision.

(5) When an employee is eligible for the employer contribution toward PEBB benefits due to employment in more than one PEBB-participating employing agency the following provisions apply:

(a) The employee must choose to enroll under only one employing agency.

Exception: Faculty who seek to establish or maintain eligibility as described in WAC 182-12-114(3) with two or more state institutions of higher education will be enrolled under the employing agency responsible to pay the employer contribution according to WAC 182-08-200(2).

(b) If the employee loses eligibility under the employing agency, they must notify their other employing agency no later than 60 days from the date PEBB benefits end through the employing agency described in (a) of this subsection to transfer coverage.

(c) The employee's elections remain the same when an employee transfers their enrollment under one employing agency to another employing agency without a break in PEBB benefits for one month or more, as described in (b) of this subsection.

(6) An individual who has more than one source of eligibility for enrollment in the PEBB and SEBB programs is limited to a single enrollment in medical, dental, and vision plans in either the PEBB or SEBB program. An employee must elect to enroll in PEBB benefits as described in WAC 182-08-197, waive enrollment as described in WAC 182-12-128, or remove eligible dependents as described in WAC 182-12-262. If the employee takes no action to resolve the dual enrollment, the PEBB program or the SEBB program will automatically enroll or automatically disenroll the individual as described in (c) through (g) of this subsection.

(a) An eligible employee may waive enrollment in PEBB medical to enroll in SEBB medical only if they are enrolled in SEBB dental and SEBB vision as described in WAC 182-12-128. An employee who waives enrollment in PEBB medical to enroll in SEBB medical also waives enrollment in PEBB dental and PEBB vision.

(b) A school employee in the SEBB program who waives SEBB medical, SEBB dental, and SEBB vision for PEBB medical must be enrolled in PEBB dental and PEBB vision. If the school employee is not already enrolled in PEBB dental and PEBB vision the PEBB program will automatically enroll the school employee in the associated subscriber's PEBB dental and PEBB vision.

(c) If the employee is enrolled only in PEBB dental and PEBB vision, and is also enrolled in SEBB medical, and no action is taken to resolve their dual enrollment, the employee will remain in SEBB medical. The PEBB program will automatically disenroll the employee from PEBB dental and PEBB vision in which they are enrolled. If the employee is not already enrolled in SEBB dental or SEBB vision, the SEBB program will automatically enroll them in both as described in WAC 182-31-070 (6)(g). The employee's enrollment in PEBB program life insurance, accidental death and dismemberment (AD&D) insurance, and long-term disability (LTD) insurance will remain.

(d) If the employee is enrolled in PEBB medical and is also a school employee in the SEBB program and enrolled in SEBB medical, and the employee has been enrolled in SEBB medical longer than they have been enrolled in PEBB medical, and no action is taken by the employee to resolve their dual enrollment, they will remain in SEBB medical. The PEBB program will automatically disenroll the employee from PEBB medical, PEBB dental, and PEBB vision. The employee's enrollment in

PEBB program life insurance, AD&D insurance, and LTD insurance will remain. If the employee is not enrolled in any medical under either the PEBB or SEBB program but is enrolled in PEBB dental, PEBB vision, SEBB dental, and SEBB vision, the employee will remain in SEBB benefits. The PEBB program will automatically disenroll the employee from PEBB dental and PEBB vision.

(e) If the employee's dependent is enrolled in any PEBB medical, PEBB dental, or PEBB vision plan, and the dependent is also a school employee in the SEBB program and enrolled in SEBB medical, and no action is taken by either the employee or the dependent to resolve the dependent's dual enrollment, the employee's dependent will remain in SEBB medical. The PEBB program will automatically disenroll the employee's dependent from PEBB medical, PEBB dental, and PEBB vision in which they are enrolled.

(f) If the employee's dependent is enrolled in both PEBB medical and SEBB medical as a dependent and has been enrolled in SEBB medical longer than they have been enrolled in PEBB medical, and no action is taken to resolve the dual enrollment, the employee's dependent will remain in SEBB medical. The PEBB program will automatically disenroll the employee's dependent from PEBB medical, PEBB dental, and PEBB vision if they are enrolled. If the employee's dependent who is eligible as a dependent in both the PEBB and SEBB programs is not enrolled in any medical but is enrolled in both a PEBB and SEBB dental plan, PEBB and SEBB vision plan, or any combination of these coverages as a dependent, the dependent will remain in SEBB benefits. The PEBB program will automatically disenroll the employee's dependent from PEBB benefits.

Exception: If there is a National Medical Support Notice (NMSN) or a court order in place, enrollment will be in accordance with the NMSN or order.

(g) If the employee's dependent, who is also a school employee in the SEBB program who the SEBB program automatically disenrolled from SEBB dental and SEBB vision, the PEBB program will automatically enroll the employee's dependent in PEBB dental and PEBB vision, if they are not already enrolled.

(h) If the employee who is eligible for the employer contribution toward PEBB benefits was enrolled as a dependent in SEBB medical, SEBB dental, and SEBB vision and is removed by the SEBB subscriber, the employee will be required to return from waived enrollment as described in WAC 182-12-128 (3)(b).

(i) If the PEBB program automatically disenrolls an individual from PEBB medical, PEBB dental, or PEBB vision to resolve their dual enrollment as described in (d), (e), or (f) of this subsection, but later determines that the employee did take action to resolve their dual enrollment within the required timelines, the PEBB program will reinstate coverage retroactive to the first of the month in which the individual was disenrolled.

(7) A retiree who defers enrollment in PEBB retiree insurance coverage as described in WAC 182-12-200 by enrolling as an eligible dependent in a health plan sponsored by PEBB or SEBB and who loses the employer contribution for such coverage must enroll in PEBB retiree insurance coverage as described in WAC 182-12-200 or defer enrollment as described in WAC 182-12-205.

[Statutory Authority: RCW 41.05.021, 41.06.065 [41.05.065], and 41.05.160. WSR 24-18-083 (Admin #2024-02), § 182-12-123, filed 8/29/24, effective 1/1/25. Statutory Authority: RCW 41.05.021 and 41.05.160. WSR 23-14-015 (Admin #2023-01), § 182-12-123, filed

6/23/23, effective 1/1/24. Statutory Authority: RCW 41.05.021, 41.05.160, and Policy Resolution PEBB 2022-02. WSR 22-13-164 (Admin #2022-02.02), § 182-12-123, filed 6/21/22, effective 1/1/23. Statutory Authority: RCW 41.05.021, 41.05.160 and Policy resolutions PEBB 2021-02, 2021-03, 2021-04, 2021-05, 2021-06, 2021-07, 2021-08, 2021-09. WSR 21-13-102 (Admin #2021-01.02), § 182-12-123, filed 6/18/21, effective 1/1/22. Statutory Authority: RCW 41.05.021 and 41.05.160. WSR 20-16-062 (Admin #2020-03), § 182-12-123, filed 7/28/20, effective 1/1/21. Statutory Authority: RCW 41.05.021, 41.05.160, and PEBB policy resolutions. WSR 19-17-073 (Admin #2019-01), § 182-12-123, filed 8/20/19, effective 1/1/20; WSR 18-20-117 (Admin #2018-02), § 182-12-123, filed 10/3/18, effective 1/1/19. Statutory Authority: RCW 41.05.021, 41.05.160, 2016 c 67, and PEBB policy resolutions. WSR 16-20-080, § 182-12-123, filed 10/4/16, effective 1/1/17. Statutory Authority: RCW 41.05.160, 2015 c 116, and PEBB policy resolutions. WSR 15-22-099 (PEBB Admin # 2015-01 Rev 1), § 182-12-123, filed 11/4/15, effective 1/1/16. Statutory Authority: RCW 41.05.160 and 2013 2nd sp.s. c 4. WSR 14-20-058 (PEBB Admin 2014-02), § 182-12-123, filed 9/25/14, effective 1/1/15. Statutory Authority: RCW 41.05.160 and 2012 2nd sp.s. c 3. WSR 13-22-019 (Admin. 2013-01), § 182-12-123, filed 10/28/13, effective 1/1/14. Statutory Authority: RCW 41.05.160. WSR 12-20-022 (Order 2012-01), § 182-12-123, filed 9/25/12, effective 11/1/12; WSR 10-20-147 (Order 10-02), § 182-12-123, filed 10/6/10, effective 1/1/11; WSR 09-23-102 (Order 09-02), § 182-12-123, filed 11/17/09, effective 1/1/10; WSR 07-20-129 (Order 07-01), § 182-12-123, filed 10/3/07, effective 11/3/07. Statutory Authority: RCW 41.05.160 and 41.05.165. WSR 04-18-039, § 182-12-123, filed 8/26/04, effective 1/1/05.]

(Effective until January 1, 2025)

WAC 182-12-128 When may an employee waive enrollment in public employees benefits board (PEBB) medical and when may they enroll in PEBB medical after having waived enrollment? An employee may waive enrollment in public employees benefits board (PEBB) medical if they are enrolled in other employer-based group medical, a TRICARE plan, or medicare as described in subsection (1)(a) through (c) of this section. They may not waive enrollment in PEBB medical if they are enrolled in PEBB retiree insurance coverage. An employee who waives enrollment in PEBB medical must enroll in PEBB dental, basic life insurance, basic accidental death and dismemberment insurance, and employer-paid long-term disability (LTD) insurance (unless the employing agency does not participate in these PEBB insurance coverages). For an employing agency that participates in LTD insurance, an employee will also be enrolled in employee-paid LTD insurance automatically unless the employee declines their employee-paid LTD insurance as described in WAC 182-08-197.

Exception: An employee may waive their enrollment in PEBB medical to enroll in school employees benefits board (SEBB) medical only if they are enrolled in SEBB dental and SEBB vision. An employee who waives enrollment in PEBB medical to enroll in SEBB medical also waives enrollment in PEBB dental.

(1) To waive enrollment in PEBB medical, the employee must submit the required form to their employing agency at one of the following times:

(a) **When the employee becomes eligible:** An employee may waive PEBB medical when they become eligible for PEBB benefits. The employee must indicate their election to waive enrollment in PEBB medical on

the required form and submit the form to their employing agency. The employing agency must receive the form no later than 31 days after the date the employee becomes eligible for PEBB benefits (see WAC 182-08-197). PEBB medical will be waived as of the date the employee becomes eligible for PEBB benefits.

(b) **During the annual open enrollment:** An employee may waive PEBB medical during the annual open enrollment. The required form must be received by the employee's employing agency before the end of the annual open enrollment. PEBB medical will be waived beginning January 1st of the following year.

(c) **During a special open enrollment:** An employee may waive PEBB medical during a special open enrollment only if they are enrolled in other employer-based group medical, a TRICARE plan, or medicare as described in subsection (4) of this section. A special open enrollment event must be an event other than an employee gaining initial eligibility or regaining eligibility for PEBB benefits.

The employee must submit the required form to their employing agency. The employing agency must receive the form no later than 60 days after the event that creates the special open enrollment. In addition to the required form, the employee must provide evidence of the event that creates the special open enrollment to the employing agency.

PEBB medical will be waived the last day of the month following the later of the event date or the date the required form is received. If that day is the first of the month, PEBB medical will be waived the last day of the previous month. If the special open enrollment is due to the birth, adoption, or assumption of legal obligation for total or partial support in anticipation of adoption of a child, PEBB medical will be waived the last day of the previous month.

(2) If an employee waives PEBB medical, the employee may not enroll dependents in PEBB medical.

(3) Once PEBB medical is waived, the employee is only allowed to enroll in PEBB medical at the following times:

(a) During the annual open enrollment. The required form must be received by the employee's employing agency before the end of the annual open enrollment. PEBB medical will begin January 1st of the following year.

(b) During a special open enrollment. A special open enrollment allows an employee to revoke their election and make a new election outside of the annual open enrollment. A special open enrollment may be created when one of the events described in subsection (4) of this section occurs.

The employee must submit the required form to their employing agency. The employing agency must receive the form no later than 60 days after the event that creates the special open enrollment. In addition to the required form, the employee must provide evidence of the event that creates the special open enrollment to the employing agency.

PEBB medical will begin the first day of the month following the later of the event date or the date the required form is received. If that day is the first of the month, coverage is effective on that day. If the special open enrollment is due to the birth, adoption, or assumption of legal obligation for total or partial support in anticipation of adoption of a child, PEBB medical for the employee will begin on the first day of the month in which the event occurs. PEBB medical for the newly born child, newly adopted child, spouse, or state regis-

tered domestic partner will begin as described in WAC 182-12-262 (3) (a) (iv).

If an employee who is eligible for the employer contribution toward PEBB benefits was enrolled as a dependent in SEBB medical, SEBB dental, and SEBB vision and is removed by the SEBB subscriber, the health care authority will notify the employee of their removal from the SEBB subscriber's account and that they have experienced a special enrollment event. The employee will be required to return from waived enrollment and elect PEBB medical and PEBB dental. If the employee's employing agency does not receive the employee's required forms indicating their medical and dental elections within 60 days of the employee losing SEBB medical, SEBB dental, and SEBB vision, they will be defaulted into employee-only PEBB medical and PEBB dental as described in WAC 182-08-197 (1) (b) (i) and (ii).

(4) **Special open enrollment:** Any one of the events in (a) through (k) of this subsection may create a special open enrollment that allows the employee to enroll in PEBB medical after having waived enrollment. The change in enrollment must be allowable under the Internal Revenue Code (IRC) and Treasury regulations, and correspond to and be consistent with the event that creates the special open enrollment for the employee, the employee's dependent, or both.

(a) Employee acquires a new dependent due to:

(i) Marriage or registering a state registered domestic partnership;

(ii) Birth, adoption, or when the subscriber has assumed a legal obligation for total or partial support in anticipation of adoption; or

(iii) A child becoming eligible as an extended dependent through legal custody or legal guardianship.

(b) Employee or an employee's dependent loses other coverage under a group health plan or through health insurance coverage, as defined by the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA);

(c) Employee has a change in employment status that affects the employee's eligibility for their employer contribution toward their employer-based group medical;

(d) The employee's dependent has a change in their own employment status that affects their eligibility or their dependent's eligibility for the employer contribution under their employer-based group medical;

Note: As used in (d) of this subsection, "employer contribution" means contributions made by the dependent's current or former employer toward health coverage as described in Treasury Regulation 26 C.F.R. 54.9801-6.

(e) Employee or an employee's dependent has a change in enrollment under an employer-based group medical plan during its annual open enrollment that does not align with the PEBB program's annual open enrollment;

(f) Employee's dependent has a change in residence from outside of the United States to within the United States, or from within the United States to outside of the United States and that change in residence resulted in the dependent losing their health insurance;

(g) A court order requires the employee or any other individual to provide a health plan for an eligible dependent of the employee (a former spouse or former state registered domestic partner is not an eligible dependent);

(h) Employee or an employee's dependent enrolls in coverage under medicaid or a state children's health insurance program (CHIP), or the

employee or an employee's dependent loses eligibility for coverage under medicaid or CHIP;

Note: An employee may only return from having waived PEBB medical for the events described in (h) of this subsection. An employee may not waive their PEBB medical for the events described in (h) of this subsection.

(i) Employee or an employee's dependent becomes eligible for state premium assistance subsidy for PEBB health plan coverage from medicaid or CHIP;

(j) Employee or employee's dependent becomes eligible and enrolls in a TRICARE plan, or loses eligibility for a TRICARE plan;

(k) Employee becomes eligible and enrolls in medicare, or loses eligibility for medicare.

[Statutory Authority: RCW 41.05.021 and 41.05.160. WSR 23-14-015 (Admin #2023-01), § 182-12-128, filed 6/23/23, effective 1/1/24; WSR 22-13-158 (Admin #2022-01), § 182-12-128, filed 6/21/22, effective 1/1/23. Statutory Authority: RCW 41.05.021, 41.05.160 and Policy resolutions PEBB 2021-02, 2021-03, 2021-04, 2021-05, 2021-06, 2021-07, 2021-08, 2021-09. WSR 21-13-102 (Admin #2021-01.02), § 182-12-128, filed 6/18/21, effective 1/1/22. Statutory Authority: RCW 41.05.021 and 41.05.160. WSR 20-16-062 (Admin #2020-03), § 182-12-128, filed 7/28/20, effective 1/1/21. Statutory Authority: RCW 41.05.021, 41.05.160, and PEBB policy resolutions. WSR 19-17-073 (Admin #2019-01), § 182-12-128, filed 8/20/19, effective 1/1/20; WSR 18-20-117 (Admin #2018-02), § 182-12-128, filed 10/3/18, effective 1/1/19; WSR 17-19-077 (Order 2017-01), § 182-12-128, filed 9/15/17, effective 1/1/18. Statutory Authority: RCW 41.05.021, 41.05.160, 2016 c 67, and PEBB policy resolutions. WSR 16-20-080, § 182-12-128, filed 10/4/16, effective 1/1/17. Statutory Authority: RCW 41.05.160, 2015 c 116, and PEBB policy resolutions. WSR 15-22-099 (PEBB Admin # 2015-01 Rev 1), § 182-12-128, filed 11/4/15, effective 1/1/16. Statutory Authority: RCW 41.05.160 and 2013 2nd sp.s. c 4. WSR 14-20-058 (PEBB Admin 2014-02), § 182-12-128, filed 9/25/14, effective 1/1/15. Statutory Authority: RCW 41.05.160, 2013 2nd sp.s. c 4 and PEBB policy resolutions. WSR 14-08-040, § 182-12-128, filed 3/26/14, effective 4/26/14. Statutory Authority: RCW 41.05.160 and 2012 2nd sp.s. c 3. WSR 13-22-019 (Admin. 2013-01), § 182-12-128, filed 10/28/13, effective 1/1/14. Statutory Authority: RCW 41.05.160. WSR 12-20-022 (Order 2012-01), § 182-12-128, filed 9/25/12, effective 11/1/12. Statutory Authority: RCW 41.05.160 and 2011 c 8. WSR 11-22-036 (Order 11-02), § 182-12-128, filed 10/26/11, effective 1/1/12. Statutory Authority: RCW 41.05.160. WSR 10-20-147 (Order 10-02), § 182-12-128, filed 10/6/10, effective 1/1/11; WSR 09-23-102 (Order 09-02), § 182-12-128, filed 11/17/09, effective 1/1/10; WSR 08-20-128 (Order 08-03), § 182-12-128, filed 10/1/08, effective 1/1/09; WSR 08-09-027 (Order 08-01), § 182-12-128, filed 4/8/08, effective 4/9/08; WSR 07-20-129 (Order 07-01), § 182-12-128, filed 10/3/07, effective 11/3/07. Statutory Authority: RCW 41.05.160 and 41.05.165. WSR 04-18-039, § 182-12-128, filed 8/26/04, effective 1/1/05.]

(Effective January 1, 2025)

WAC 182-12-128 When may an employee waive enrollment in public employees benefits board (PEBB) medical and when may they enroll in PEBB medical after having waived enrollment? An employee may waive enrollment in public employees benefits board (PEBB) medical if they are enrolled in other employer-based group medical, a TRICARE plan, or

medicare as described in subsection (1)(a) through (c) of this section. They may not waive enrollment in PEBB medical if they are enrolled in PEBB retiree insurance coverage. An employee who waives enrollment in PEBB medical must enroll in PEBB dental, PEBB vision, basic life insurance, basic accidental death and dismemberment insurance, and employer-paid long-term disability (LTD) insurance (unless the employing agency does not participate in these PEBB insurance coverages). For an employing agency that participates in LTD insurance, an employee will also be enrolled in employee-paid LTD insurance automatically unless the employee declines their employee-paid LTD insurance as described in WAC 182-08-197.

Exception: An employee may waive their enrollment in PEBB medical to enroll in school employees benefits board (SEBB) medical only if they are enrolled in SEBB dental and SEBB vision. An employee who waives enrollment in PEBB medical to enroll in SEBB medical also waives enrollment in PEBB dental and PEBB vision.

(1) To waive enrollment in PEBB medical, the employee must submit the required form to their employing agency at one of the following times:

(a) **When the employee becomes eligible:** An employee may waive PEBB medical when they become eligible for PEBB benefits. The employee must indicate their election to waive enrollment in PEBB medical on the required form and submit the form to their employing agency. The employing agency must receive the form no later than 31 days after the date the employee becomes eligible for PEBB benefits (see WAC 182-08-197). PEBB medical will be waived as of the date the employee becomes eligible for PEBB benefits.

(b) **During the annual open enrollment:** An employee may waive PEBB medical during the annual open enrollment. The required form must be received by the employee's employing agency before the end of the annual open enrollment. PEBB medical will be waived beginning January 1st of the following year.

(c) **During a special open enrollment:** An employee may waive PEBB medical during a special open enrollment only if they are enrolled in other employer-based group medical, a TRICARE plan, or medicare as described in subsection (4) of this section. A special open enrollment event must be an event other than an employee gaining initial eligibility or regaining eligibility for PEBB benefits.

The employee must submit the required form to their employing agency. The employing agency must receive the form no later than 60 days after the event that creates the special open enrollment. In addition to the required form, the employee must provide evidence of the event that creates the special open enrollment to the employing agency.

PEBB medical will be waived the last day of the month following the later of the event date or the date the required form is received. If that day is the first of the month, PEBB medical will be waived the last day of the previous month. If the special open enrollment is due to the birth, adoption, or assumption of legal obligation for total or partial support in anticipation of adoption of a child, PEBB medical will be waived the last day of the previous month.

(2) If an employee waives PEBB medical, the employee may not enroll dependents in PEBB medical.

(3) Once PEBB medical is waived, the employee is only allowed to enroll in PEBB medical at the following times:

(a) During the annual open enrollment. The required form must be received by the employee's employing agency before the end of the annual open enrollment. PEBB medical will begin January 1st of the following year.

(b) During a special open enrollment. A special open enrollment allows an employee to revoke their election and make a new election outside of the annual open enrollment. A special open enrollment may be created when one of the events described in subsection (4) of this section occurs.

The employee must submit the required form to their employing agency. The employing agency must receive the form no later than 60 days after the event that creates the special open enrollment. In addition to the required form, the employee must provide evidence of the event that creates the special open enrollment to the employing agency.

PEBB medical will begin the first day of the month following the later of the event date or the date the required form is received. If that day is the first of the month, coverage is effective on that day. If the special open enrollment is due to the birth, adoption, or assumption of legal obligation for total or partial support in anticipation of adoption of a child, PEBB medical for the employee will begin on the first day of the month in which the event occurs. PEBB medical for the newly born child, newly adopted child, spouse, or state registered domestic partner will begin as described in WAC 182-12-262 (3) (a) (iv).

If an employee who is eligible for the employer contribution toward PEBB benefits was enrolled as a dependent in SEBB medical, SEBB dental, and SEBB vision and is removed by the SEBB subscriber, the health care authority will notify the employee of their removal from the SEBB subscriber's account and that they have experienced a special enrollment event. The employee will be required to return from waived enrollment and elect PEBB medical, PEBB dental, and PEBB vision. If the employee's employing agency does not receive the employee's required forms indicating their medical, dental, and vision elections within 60 days of the employee losing SEBB medical, SEBB dental, and SEBB vision, they will be defaulted into employee-only PEBB medical, PEBB dental, and PEBB vision as described in WAC 182-08-197 (1) (b) (i) through (iii).

(4) **Special open enrollment:** Any one of the events in (a) through (k) of this subsection may create a special open enrollment that allows the employee to enroll in PEBB medical after having waived enrollment. The change in enrollment must be allowable under the Internal Revenue Code (IRC) and Treasury regulations, and correspond to and be consistent with the event that creates the special open enrollment for the employee, the employee's dependent, or both.

(a) Employee acquires a new dependent due to:

(i) Marriage or registering a state registered domestic partnership;

(ii) Birth, adoption, or when the subscriber has assumed a legal obligation for total or partial support in anticipation of adoption; or

(iii) A child becoming eligible as an extended dependent through legal custody or legal guardianship.

(b) Employee or an employee's dependent loses other coverage under a group health plan or through health insurance coverage, as defined by the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA);

(c) Employee has a change in employment status that affects the employee's eligibility for their employer contribution toward their employer-based group medical;

(d) The employee's dependent has a change in their own employment status that affects their eligibility or their dependent's eligibility for the employer contribution under their employer-based group medical;

Note: As used in (d) of this subsection, "employer contribution" means contributions made by the dependent's current or former employer toward health coverage as described in Treasury Regulation 26 C.F.R. 54.9801-6.

(e) Employee or an employee's dependent has a change in enrollment under an employer-based group medical plan during its annual open enrollment that does not align with the PEBB program's annual open enrollment;

(f) Employee's dependent has a change in residence from outside of the United States to within the United States, or from within the United States to outside of the United States and that change in residence resulted in the dependent losing their health insurance;

(g) A court order requires the employee or any other individual to provide a health plan for an eligible dependent of the employee (a former spouse or former state registered domestic partner is not an eligible dependent);

(h) Employee or an employee's dependent enrolls in coverage under medicaid or a state children's health insurance program (CHIP), or the employee or an employee's dependent loses eligibility for coverage under medicaid or CHIP;

Note: An employee may only return from having waived PEBB medical for the events described in (h) of this subsection. An employee may not waive their PEBB medical for the events described in (h) of this subsection.

(i) Employee or an employee's dependent becomes eligible for state premium assistance subsidy for PEBB health plan coverage from medicaid or CHIP;

(j) Employee or employee's dependent becomes eligible and enrolls in a TRICARE plan, or loses eligibility for a TRICARE plan;

(k) Employee becomes eligible and enrolls in medicare, or loses eligibility for medicare.

[Statutory Authority: RCW 41.05.021, 41.06.065 [41.05.065], and 41.05.160. WSR 24-18-083 (Admin #2024-02), § 182-12-128, filed 8/29/24, effective 1/1/25. Statutory Authority: RCW 41.05.021 and 41.05.160. WSR 23-14-015 (Admin #2023-01), § 182-12-128, filed 6/23/23, effective 1/1/24; WSR 22-13-158 (Admin #2022-01), § 182-12-128, filed 6/21/22, effective 1/1/23. Statutory Authority: RCW 41.05.021, 41.05.160 and Policy resolutions PEBB 2021-02, 2021-03, 2021-04, 2021-05, 2021-06, 2021-07, 2021-08, 2021-09. WSR 21-13-102 (Admin #2021-01.02), § 182-12-128, filed 6/18/21, effective 1/1/22. Statutory Authority: RCW 41.05.021 and 41.05.160. WSR 20-16-062 (Admin #2020-03), § 182-12-128, filed 7/28/20, effective 1/1/21. Statutory Authority: RCW 41.05.021, 41.05.160, and PEBB policy resolutions. WSR 19-17-073 (Admin #2019-01), § 182-12-128, filed 8/20/19, effective 1/1/20; WSR 18-20-117 (Admin #2018-02), § 182-12-128, filed 10/3/18, effective 1/1/19; WSR 17-19-077 (Order 2017-01), § 182-12-128, filed 9/15/17, effective 1/1/18. Statutory Authority: RCW 41.05.021, 41.05.160, 2016 c 67, and PEBB policy resolutions. WSR 16-20-080, § 182-12-128, filed 10/4/16, effective 1/1/17. Statutory Authority: RCW 41.05.160, 2015 c 116, and PEBB policy resolutions. WSR 15-22-099 (PEBB Admin # 2015-01 Rev 1), § 182-12-128, filed 11/4/15, effective 1/1/16. Statutory Authority: RCW 41.05.160 and 2013 2nd sp.s. c 4. WSR 14-20-058 (PEBB Admin 2014-02), § 182-12-128, filed 9/25/14, effective 1/1/15. Statutory Authority: RCW 41.05.160, 2013 2nd sp.s. c 4 and PEBB policy resolutions. WSR 14-08-040, § 182-12-128, filed 3/26/14, effective 4/26/14. Statutory Authority: RCW 41.05.160 and 2012 2nd

sp.s. c 3. WSR 13-22-019 (Admin. 2013-01), § 182-12-128, filed 10/28/13, effective 1/1/14. Statutory Authority: RCW 41.05.160. WSR 12-20-022 (Order 2012-01), § 182-12-128, filed 9/25/12, effective 11/1/12. Statutory Authority: RCW 41.05.160 and 2011 c 8. WSR 11-22-036 (Order 11-02), § 182-12-128, filed 10/26/11, effective 1/1/12. Statutory Authority: RCW 41.05.160. WSR 10-20-147 (Order 10-02), § 182-12-128, filed 10/6/10, effective 1/1/11; WSR 09-23-102 (Order 09-02), § 182-12-128, filed 11/17/09, effective 1/1/10; WSR 08-20-128 (Order 08-03), § 182-12-128, filed 10/1/08, effective 1/1/09; WSR 08-09-027 (Order 08-01), § 182-12-128, filed 4/8/08, effective 4/9/08; WSR 07-20-129 (Order 07-01), § 182-12-128, filed 10/3/07, effective 11/3/07. Statutory Authority: RCW 41.05.160 and 41.05.165. WSR 04-18-039, § 182-12-128, filed 8/26/04, effective 1/1/05.]

WAC 182-12-129 What happens when an employee moves from an eligible to an otherwise ineligible position or job due to a layoff? This section applies to employees employed by state agencies (as defined in this chapter), including benefits-eligible seasonal employees, and is intended to address situations where an employee moves from one position or job to another due to a layoff, as described in WAC 182-12-109. This section does not apply to employees with an anticipated end date.

If an employee moves from an eligible to an otherwise ineligible position due to layoff, the employee may retain their eligibility for the employer contribution toward public employees benefits board (PEBB) benefits for each month that the employee is in pay status for at least eight hours. To maintain eligibility using this section the employee must:

- Be hired into a position with a state agency within 24 months of the original eligible position ending; and
- Upon hire, notify the employing state agency that they are potentially eligible to use this section.

This section ceases to apply when the employee is employed in a position eligible for PEBB benefits under WAC 182-12-114 or at the end of the 24th month after the original eligible position ended, whichever occurs first.

[Statutory Authority: RCW 41.05.021 and 41.05.160. WSR 23-14-015 (Admin #2023-01), § 182-12-129, filed 6/23/23, effective 1/1/24; WSR 20-16-062 (Admin #2020-03), § 182-12-129, filed 7/28/20, effective 1/1/21. Statutory Authority: RCW 41.05.021, 41.05.160 and PEBB policy resolutions. WSR 18-20-117 (Admin #2018-02), § 182-12-129, filed 10/3/18, effective 1/1/19. Statutory Authority: RCW 41.05.021, 41.05.160, 2016 c 67, and PEBB policy resolutions. WSR 16-20-080, § 182-12-129, filed 10/4/16, effective 1/1/17. Statutory Authority: RCW 41.05.160 and 2012 2nd sp.s. c 3. WSR 13-22-019 (Admin. 2013-01), § 182-12-129, filed 10/28/13, effective 1/1/14. Statutory Authority: RCW 41.05.160. WSR 09-23-102 (Order 09-02), § 182-12-129, filed 11/17/09, effective 1/1/10.]

(Effective until January 1, 2025)

WAC 182-12-131 How do eligible employees maintain the employer contribution toward public employees benefits board (PEBB) benefits?

The employer contribution toward public employees benefits board (PEBB) benefits begins as described in WAC 182-12-114. This section describes under what circumstances employees maintain eligibility for the employer contribution toward PEBB benefits.

(1) **Maintaining the employer contribution.** Except as described in subsections (2), (3), and (4) of this section, employees who have established eligibility for benefits as described in WAC 182-12-114 are eligible for the employer contribution each month in which they are in pay status eight or more hours per month.

(2) **Maintaining the employer contribution - Benefits-eligible seasonal employees.**

(a) Benefits-eligible seasonal employees (eligible as described in WAC 182-12-114(2)) who work a season of less than nine months are eligible for the employer contribution in any month of the season in which they are in pay status eight or more hours during that month. The employer contribution toward PEBB benefits for seasonal employees returning after their off season begins on the first day of the first month of the season in which they are in pay status eight hours or more.

(b) Benefits-eligible seasonal employees (eligible as described in WAC 182-12-114(2)) who work a season of nine months or more are eligible for the employer contribution:

(i) In any month of the season in which they are in pay status eight or more hours during that month; and

(ii) Through the off season following each season worked, but the eligibility may not exceed a total of twelve consecutive calendar months for the combined season and off season.

(3) **Maintaining the employer contribution - Eligible faculty.**

(a) Benefits-eligible faculty anticipated to work half time or more the entire instructional year or equivalent nine-month period (eligible as described in WAC 182-12-114 (3)(a)(i)) are eligible for the employer contribution each month of the instructional year, except as described in subsection (7) of this section.

(b) Benefits-eligible faculty who are hired on a quarter/semester to quarter/semester basis (eligible as described in WAC 182-12-114 (3)(a)(ii)) are eligible for the employer contribution each quarter or semester in which employees work half-time or more.

(c) Summer or off-quarter/semester coverage: All benefits-eligible faculty (eligible as described in WAC 182-12-114 (3)(a) and (b)) who work an average of half-time or more throughout the entire instructional year or equivalent nine-month period and work each quarter/semester of the instructional year or equivalent nine-month period are eligible for the employer contribution toward summer or off-quarter/semester PEBB benefits.

Exception: Eligibility for the employer contribution toward summer or off-quarter/semester PEBB benefits ends on the end date specified in an employing agency's termination notice or an employee's resignation letter, whichever is earlier, if the employing agency has no anticipation that the employee will be returning as faculty at any institution of higher education where the employee has employment. If the employing agency deducted the employee's premium for PEBB insurance coverage after the employee was no longer eligible for the employer contribution, PEBB benefits end the last day of the month for which employee premiums were deducted.

(d) Two-year averaging: All benefits-eligible faculty (eligible as described in WAC 182-12-114 (3)(a) and (b)) who worked an average of half-time or more in each of the two preceding academic years are potentially eligible to receive uninterrupted employer contribution toward PEBB benefits. "Academic year" means summer, fall, winter, and spring quarters or summer, fall, and spring semesters and begins with summer quarter/semester. In order to be eligible for the employer contribution through two-year averaging, the faculty must provide written notification of their potential eligibility to their employing agency

or agencies within the deadlines established by the employing agency or agencies. Faculty continue to receive uninterrupted employer contribution for each academic year in which they:

(i) Are employed on a quarter/semester to quarter/semester basis and work at least two quarters or two semesters; and

(ii) Have an average workload of half-time or more for three quarters or two semesters.

Eligibility for the employer contribution under two-year averaging ceases immediately if the eligibility criteria is not met or if the eligibility criteria becomes impossible to meet.

(e) Faculty who lose eligibility for the employer contribution: All benefits-eligible faculty (eligible as described in WAC 182-12-114 (3)(a) and (b)) who lose eligibility for the employer contribution will regain it if they return to a faculty position where it is anticipated that they will work half-time or more for the quarter/semester no later than the twelfth month after the month in which they lost eligibility for the employer contribution. The employer contribution begins on the first day of the month in which the quarter/semester begins.

(4) Maintaining the employer contribution - Employees on leave and under the special circumstances listed below.

(a) Employees who are on approved leave under the federal Family and Medical Leave Act (FMLA) or the paid family and medical leave program continue to receive the employer contribution as long as they are approved under the act.

(b) Unless otherwise indicated in this section, employees in the following circumstances receive the employer contribution only for the months they are in pay status eight hours or more:

(i) Employees on authorized leave without pay;

(ii) Employees on approved educational leave;

(iii) Employees receiving time-loss benefits under workers' compensation;

(iv) Employees called to active duty in the uniformed services as defined under the Uniformed Services Employment and Reemployment Rights Act (USERRA); or

(v) Employees applying for disability retirement.

(5) Maintaining the employer contribution - Employees who move from an eligible to an otherwise ineligible position due to a layoff maintain the employer contribution toward PEBB benefits as described in WAC 182-12-129.

(6) Employees who are in pay status less than eight hours in a month. Unless otherwise indicated in this section, when there is a month in which employees are not in pay status for at least eight hours, employees:

(a) Lose eligibility for the employer contribution for that month; and

(b) Must reestablish eligibility for PEBB benefits as described in WAC 182-12-114 in order to be eligible for the employer contribution again.

(7) The employer contribution toward PEBB benefits ends in any one of these circumstances for all employees:

(a) When employees fail to maintain eligibility for the employer contribution as indicated in the criteria in subsections (1) through (6) of this section.

(b) When the employment relationship is terminated. As long as the employing agency has no anticipation that the employee will be re-hired, the employment relationship is terminated:

(i) On the date specified in an employee's letter of resignation;
or
(ii) On the date specified in any contract or hire letter or on the effective date of an employer-initiated termination notice.

(c) When employees move to a position that is not anticipated to be eligible for PEBB benefits as described in WAC 182-12-114, not including changes in position due to a layoff.

The employer contribution toward PEBB benefits cease for employees and their enrolled dependents the last day of the month in which employees are eligible for the employer contribution under this section.

Exception: If the employing agency deducted the employee's premium for PEBB insurance coverage after the employee was no longer eligible for the employer contribution, PEBB benefits end the last day of the month for which employee premiums were deducted.

(8) **Options for continuation coverage by self-paying.** During temporary or permanent loss of the employer contribution toward PEBB benefits, employees have options for providing continuation coverage for themselves and their dependents by self-paying the premium and applicable premium surcharges set by the health care authority (HCA). These options are available as described in WAC 182-12-133, 182-12-141, 182-12-142, 182-12-146, 182-12-148, and 182-12-270.

[Statutory Authority: RCW 41.05.021 and 41.05.160. WSR 20-16-062 (Admin #2020-03), § 182-12-131, filed 7/28/20, effective 1/1/21. Statutory Authority: RCW 41.05.021, 41.05.160, and PEBB policy resolutions. WSR 19-17-073 (Admin #2019-01), § 182-12-131, filed 8/20/19, effective 1/1/20; WSR 18-20-117 (Admin #2018-02), § 182-12-131, filed 10/3/18, effective 1/1/19; WSR 17-19-077 (Order 2017-01), § 182-12-131, filed 9/15/17, effective 1/1/18. Statutory Authority: RCW 41.05.021, 41.05.160, 2016 c 67, and PEBB policy resolutions. WSR 16-20-080, § 182-12-131, filed 10/4/16, effective 1/1/17. Statutory Authority: RCW 41.05.160, 2015 c 116, and PEBB policy resolutions. WSR 15-22-099 (PEBB Admin # 2015-01 Rev 1), § 182-12-131, filed 11/4/15, effective 1/1/16. Statutory Authority: RCW 41.05.160 and 2013 2nd sp.s. c 4. WSR 14-20-058 (PEBB Admin 2014-02), § 182-12-131, filed 9/25/14, effective 1/1/15. Statutory Authority: RCW 41.05.160 and 2012 2nd sp.s. c 3. WSR 13-22-019 (Admin. 2013-01), § 182-12-131, filed 10/28/13, effective 1/1/14. Statutory Authority: RCW 41.05.160. WSR 12-20-022 (Order 2012-01), § 182-12-131, filed 9/25/12, effective 11/1/12. Statutory Authority: RCW 41.05.160 and 2011 c 8. WSR 11-22-036 (Order 11-02), § 182-12-131, filed 10/26/11, effective 1/1/12. Statutory Authority: RCW 41.05.160. WSR 10-20-147 (Order 10-02), § 182-12-131, filed 10/6/10, effective 1/1/11; WSR 09-23-102 (Order 09-02), § 182-12-131, filed 11/17/09, effective 1/1/10; WSR 07-20-129 (Order 07-01), § 182-12-131, filed 10/3/07, effective 11/3/07. Statutory Authority: RCW 41.05.160 and 41.05.165. WSR 04-18-039, § 182-12-131, filed 8/26/04, effective 1/1/05.]

(Effective January 1, 2025)

WAC 182-12-131 How do eligible employees maintain the employer contribution toward public employees benefits board (PEBB) benefits? The employer contribution toward public employees benefits board (PEBB) benefits begins as described in WAC 182-12-114. This section describes under what circumstances employees maintain eligibility for the employer contribution toward PEBB benefits.

(1) **Maintaining the employer contribution.** Except as described in subsections (2), (3), and (4) of this section, employees who have established eligibility for benefits as described in WAC 182-12-114 are eligible for the employer contribution each month in which they are in pay status eight or more hours per month.

(2) **Maintaining the employer contribution - Benefits-eligible seasonal employees.**

(a) Benefits-eligible seasonal employees (eligible as described in WAC 182-12-114(2)) who work a season of less than nine months are eligible for the employer contribution in any month of the season in which they are in pay status eight or more hours during that month. The employer contribution toward PEBB benefits for seasonal employees returning after their off season begins on the first day of the first month of the season in which they are in pay status eight hours or more.

(b) Benefits-eligible seasonal employees (eligible as described in WAC 182-12-114(2)) who work a season of nine months or more are eligible for the employer contribution:

(i) In any month of the season in which they are in pay status eight or more hours during that month; and

(ii) Through the off season following each season worked, but the eligibility may not exceed a total of 12 consecutive calendar months for the combined season and off season.

(3) **Maintaining the employer contribution - Eligible faculty.**

(a) Benefits-eligible faculty anticipated to work half time or more the entire instructional year or equivalent nine-month period (eligible as described in WAC 182-12-114 (3)(a)(i)) are eligible for the employer contribution each month of the instructional year, except as described in subsection (7) of this section.

(b) Benefits-eligible faculty who are hired on a quarter/semester to quarter/semester basis (eligible as described in WAC 182-12-114 (3)(a)(ii)) are eligible for the employer contribution each quarter or semester in which employees work half-time or more.

(c) Summer or off-quarter/semester coverage: All benefits-eligible faculty (eligible as described in WAC 182-12-114 (3)(a) and (b)) who work an average of half-time or more throughout the entire instructional year or equivalent nine-month period and work each quarter/semester of the instructional year or equivalent nine-month period are eligible for the employer contribution toward summer or off-quarter/semester PEBB benefits.

Exception: Eligibility for the employer contribution toward summer or off-quarter/semester PEBB benefits ends on the end date specified in an employing agency's termination notice or an employee's resignation letter, whichever is earlier, if the employing agency has no anticipation that the employee will be returning as faculty at any institution of higher education where the employee has employment. If the employing agency deducted the employee's premium for PEBB insurance coverage after the employee was no longer eligible for the employer contribution, PEBB benefits end the last day of the month for which employee premiums were deducted.

(d) Two-year averaging: All benefits-eligible faculty (eligible as described in WAC 182-12-114 (3)(a) and (b)) who worked an average of half-time or more in each of the two preceding academic years are potentially eligible to receive uninterrupted employer contribution toward PEBB benefits. "Academic year" means summer, fall, winter, and spring quarters or summer, fall, and spring semesters and begins with summer quarter/semester. In order to be eligible for the employer contribution through two-year averaging, the faculty must provide written notification of their potential eligibility to their employing agency or agencies within the deadlines established by the employing agency or agencies. Faculty continue to receive uninterrupted employer contribution for each academic year in which they:

- (i) Are employed on a quarter/semester to quarter/semester basis and work at least two quarters or two semesters; and
- (ii) Have an average workload of half-time or more for three quarters or two semesters.

Eligibility for the employer contribution under two-year averaging ceases immediately if the eligibility criteria is not met or if the eligibility criteria becomes impossible to meet.

(e) Faculty who lose eligibility for the employer contribution: All benefits-eligible faculty (eligible as described in WAC 182-12-114 (3)(a) and (b)) who lose eligibility for the employer contribution will regain it if they return to a faculty position where it is anticipated that they will work half-time or more for the quarter/semester no later than the twelfth month after the month in which they lost eligibility for the employer contribution. The employer contribution begins on the first day of the month in which the quarter/semester begins.

(4) Maintaining the employer contribution - Employees on leave and under the special circumstances listed below.

(a) Employees who are on approved leave under the federal Family and Medical Leave Act (FMLA) or the paid family and medical leave program continue to receive the employer contribution as long as they are approved under the act.

(b) Unless otherwise indicated in this section, employees in the following circumstances receive the employer contribution only for the months they are in pay status eight hours or more:

- (i) Employees on authorized leave without pay;
- (ii) Employees on approved educational leave;
- (iii) Employees receiving time-loss benefits under workers' compensation;
- (iv) Employees called to active duty in the uniformed services as defined under the Uniformed Services Employment and Reemployment Rights Act (USERRA); or
- (v) Employees applying for disability retirement.

(5) Maintaining the employer contribution - Employees who move from an eligible to an otherwise ineligible position due to a layoff maintain the employer contribution toward PEBB benefits as described in WAC 182-12-129.

(6) Employees who are in pay status less than eight hours in a month. Unless otherwise indicated in this section, when there is a month in which employees are not in pay status for at least eight hours, employees:

- (a) Lose eligibility for the employer contribution for that month; and
- (b) Must reestablish eligibility for PEBB benefits as described in WAC 182-12-114 in order to be eligible for the employer contribution again.

(7) The employer contribution toward PEBB benefits ends in any one of these circumstances for all employees:

(a) When employees fail to maintain eligibility for the employer contribution as indicated in the criteria in subsections (1) through (6) of this section.

(b) When the employment relationship is terminated. As long as the employing agency has no anticipation that the employee will be re-hired, the employment relationship is terminated:

- (i) On the date specified in an employee's letter of resignation;
- or

(ii) On the date specified in any contract or hire letter or on the effective date of an employer-initiated termination notice.

(c) When employees move to a position that is not anticipated to be eligible for PEBB benefits as described in WAC 182-12-114, not including changes in position due to a layoff.

(d) The employer contribution toward PEBB benefits cease for employees and their enrolled dependents the last day of the month in which employees are eligible for the employer contribution under this section.

Exception: If the employing agency deducted the employee's premium for PEBB insurance coverage after the employee was no longer eligible for the employer contribution, PEBB benefits end the last day of the month for which employee premiums were deducted.

(8) **Options for continuation coverage by self-paying.** During temporary or permanent loss of the employer contribution toward PEBB benefits, employees have options for providing continuation coverage for themselves and their dependents by self-paying the premium and applicable premium surcharges set by the health care authority (HCA). These options are available as described in WAC 182-12-133, 182-12-141, 182-12-142, 182-12-146, 182-12-148, and 182-12-270.

[Statutory Authority: RCW 41.05.021, 41.06.065 [41.05.065], and 41.05.160. WSR 24-18-076 (Admin #2024-01.01), § 182-12-131, filed 8/29/24, effective 1/1/25. Statutory Authority: RCW 41.05.021 and 41.05.160. WSR 20-16-062 (Admin #2020-03), § 182-12-131, filed 7/28/20, effective 1/1/21. Statutory Authority: RCW 41.05.021, 41.05.160, and PEBB policy resolutions. WSR 19-17-073 (Admin #2019-01), § 182-12-131, filed 8/20/19, effective 1/1/20; WSR 18-20-117 (Admin #2018-02), § 182-12-131, filed 10/3/18, effective 1/1/19; WSR 17-19-077 (Order 2017-01), § 182-12-131, filed 9/15/17, effective 1/1/18. Statutory Authority: RCW 41.05.021, 41.05.160, 2016 c 67, and PEBB policy resolutions. WSR 16-20-080, § 182-12-131, filed 10/4/16, effective 1/1/17. Statutory Authority: RCW 41.05.160, 2015 c 116, and PEBB policy resolutions. WSR 15-22-099 (PEBB Admin # 2015-01 Rev 1), § 182-12-131, filed 11/4/15, effective 1/1/16. Statutory Authority: RCW 41.05.160 and 2013 2nd sp.s. c 4. WSR 14-20-058 (PEBB Admin 2014-02), § 182-12-131, filed 9/25/14, effective 1/1/15. Statutory Authority: RCW 41.05.160 and 2012 2nd sp.s. c 3. WSR 13-22-019 (Admin. 2013-01), § 182-12-131, filed 10/28/13, effective 1/1/14. Statutory Authority: RCW 41.05.160. WSR 12-20-022 (Order 2012-01), § 182-12-131, filed 9/25/12, effective 11/1/12. Statutory Authority: RCW 41.05.160 and 2011 c 8. WSR 11-22-036 (Order 11-02), § 182-12-131, filed 10/26/11, effective 1/1/12. Statutory Authority: RCW 41.05.160. WSR 10-20-147 (Order 10-02), § 182-12-131, filed 10/6/10, effective 1/1/11; WSR 09-23-102 (Order 09-02), § 182-12-131, filed 11/17/09, effective 1/1/10; WSR 07-20-129 (Order 07-01), § 182-12-131, filed 10/3/07, effective 11/3/07. Statutory Authority: RCW 41.05.160 and 41.05.165. WSR 04-18-039, § 182-12-131, filed 8/26/04, effective 1/1/05.]

(Effective until January 1, 2025)

WAC 182-12-133 What options for continuation coverage are available to employees and their dependents during certain types of leave or when employment ends due to a layoff? Employees who have established eligibility for public employees benefits board (PEBB) benefits as described in WAC 182-12-114 may continue coverage for themselves

and their dependents during certain types of leave or when their employment ends due to a layoff.

(1) Employees who are no longer eligible for the employer contribution toward PEBB benefits due to an event described in (b)(i) through (vi) of this subsection may continue coverage by self-paying the premium and applicable premium surcharges set by the health care authority (HCA) from the date eligibility for the employer contribution is lost:

(a) Employees may continue any combination of medical or dental, and may also continue life insurance and accidental death and dismemberment (AD&D) insurance. If life insurance or AD&D insurance is elected, both basic life and basic AD&D insurance must be continued. Employees who continue basic life insurance and basic AD&D insurance may also continue supplemental life and AD&D insurance. Employees on approved educational leave or called in to active duty in the uniformed services as defined under the Uniformed Services Employment and Reemployment Rights Act (USERRA) may continue either employer-paid long-term disability (LTD) insurance or both employer-paid and employee-paid LTD insurance.

(b) Employees in the following circumstances who lose their eligibility for the employer contribution toward PEBB benefits qualify to continue coverage under this subsection:

(i) Employees who are on authorized leave without pay;

(ii) Employees who are on approved educational leave;

(iii) Employees who are receiving time-loss benefits under workers' compensation;

(iv) Employees who are called to active duty in the uniformed services as defined under USERRA;

(v) Employees whose employment ends due to a layoff as defined in WAC 182-12-109; and

(vi) Employees who are applying for disability retirement.

(c) The employee's election must be received by the PEBB program no later than sixty days from the date the employee's PEBB health plan coverage ended or from the postmark date on the election notice sent by the PEBB program, whichever is later;

(d) Employees may self-pay for a maximum of twenty-nine months. The employee's first premium payment and applicable premium surcharges are due no later than forty-five days after the election period ends as described in (c) of this subsection.

Premiums and applicable premium surcharges associated with continuing PEBB medical, must be made to the HCA as well as premiums associated with continuing PEBB dental or LTD insurance coverage. Premiums associated with continuing life insurance and AD&D insurance coverage must be made to the contracted vendor. Following the employee's first premium payment, the employee must pay the premium amounts for PEBB insurance coverage and applicable premium surcharges as premiums become due; and

(e) If the employee's monthly premium or applicable premium surcharges remain unpaid for sixty days from the original due date, the employee's PEBB insurance coverage will be terminated retroactive to the last day of the month for which the monthly premium and applicable premium surcharges were paid as described in WAC 182-08-180 (1)(c).

(2) The number of months that employees self-pay the premium while eligible as described in subsection (1) of this section will count toward the total months of continuation coverage allowed under the federal Consolidated Omnibus Budget Reconciliation Act (COBRA). Employees who are no longer eligible for continuation coverage as de-

scribed in subsection (1) of this section but who have not used the maximum number of months allowed under COBRA coverage may continue medical, dental, or both for the remaining difference in months by self-paying the premium and applicable premium surcharges as described in WAC 182-12-146.

[Statutory Authority: RCW 41.05.021, 41.05.160 and Policy resolutions PEBB 2021-11 and 2021-12. WSR 21-13-103 (Admin #2021-01.03), § 182-12-133, filed 6/18/21, effective 1/1/22. Statutory Authority: RCW 41.05.021 and 41.05.160. WSR 20-16-062 (Admin #2020-03), § 182-12-133, filed 7/28/20, effective 1/1/21. Statutory Authority: RCW 41.05.021, 41.05.160, and PEBB policy resolutions. WSR 19-17-073 (Admin #2019-01), § 182-12-133, filed 8/20/19, effective 1/1/20; WSR 18-20-117 (Admin #2018-02), § 182-12-133, filed 10/3/18, effective 1/1/19; WSR 17-19-077 (Order 2017-01), § 182-12-133, filed 9/15/17, effective 1/1/18. Statutory Authority: RCW 41.05.021, 41.05.160, 2016 c 67, and PEBB policy resolutions. WSR 16-20-080, § 182-12-133, filed 10/4/16, effective 1/1/17. Statutory Authority: RCW 41.05.160, 2015 c 116, and PEBB policy resolutions. WSR 15-22-099 (PEBB Admin # 2015-01 Rev 1), § 182-12-133, filed 11/4/15, effective 1/1/16. Statutory Authority: RCW 41.05.160 and 2012 2nd sp.s. c 3. WSR 13-22-019 (Admin. 2013-01), § 182-12-133, filed 10/28/13, effective 1/1/14. Statutory Authority: RCW 41.05.160. WSR 12-20-022 (Order 2012-01), § 182-12-133, filed 9/25/12, effective 11/1/12; WSR 10-20-147 (Order 10-02), § 182-12-133, filed 10/6/10, effective 1/1/11; WSR 09-23-102 (Order 09-02), § 182-12-133, filed 11/17/09, effective 1/1/10; WSR 08-20-128 (Order 08-03), § 182-12-133, filed 10/1/08, effective 1/1/09; WSR 07-20-129 (Order 07-01), § 182-12-133, filed 10/3/07, effective 11/3/07; WSR 06-11-156 (Order 06-02), § 182-12-133, filed 5/24/06, effective 6/24/06. Statutory Authority: RCW 41.05.160 and 41.05.165. WSR 04-18-039, § 182-12-133, filed 8/26/04, effective 1/1/05.]

(Effective January 1, 2025)

WAC 182-12-133 What options for continuation coverage are available to employees and their dependents during certain types of leave or when employment ends due to a layoff? Employees who have established eligibility for public employees benefits board (PEBB) benefits as described in WAC 182-12-114 may continue coverage for themselves and their dependents during certain types of leave or when their employment ends due to a layoff.

(1) Employees who are no longer eligible for the employer contribution toward PEBB benefits due to an event described in (b)(i) through (vi) of this subsection may continue coverage by self-paying the premium and applicable premium surcharges set by the health care authority (HCA) from the date eligibility for the employer contribution is lost:

(a) Employees may continue any combination of medical, dental, or vision and may also continue life insurance and accidental death and dismemberment (AD&D) insurance. If life insurance or AD&D insurance is elected, both basic life and basic AD&D insurance must be continued. Employees who continue basic life insurance and basic AD&D insurance may also continue supplemental life and AD&D insurance. Employees on approved educational leave or called in to active duty in the uniformed services as defined under the Uniformed Services Employment and Reemployment Rights Act (USERRA) may continue either employer-paid

long-term disability (LTD) insurance or both employer-paid and employee-paid LTD insurance.

(b) Employees in the following circumstances who lose their eligibility for the employer contribution toward PEBB benefits qualify to continue coverage under this subsection:

- (i) Employees who are on authorized leave without pay;
- (ii) Employees who are on approved educational leave;
- (iii) Employees who are receiving time-loss benefits under workers' compensation;
- (iv) Employees who are called to active duty in the uniformed services as defined under USERRA;
- (v) Employees whose employment ends due to a layoff as defined in WAC 182-12-109; and
- (vi) Employees who are applying for disability retirement.

(c) The employee's election must be received by the PEBB program no later than 60 days from the date the employee's PEBB health plan coverage ended or from the postmark date on the election notice sent by the PEBB program, whichever is later;

(d) Employees may self-pay for a maximum of 29 months. The employee's first premium payment and applicable premium surcharges are due no later than 45 days after the election period ends as described in (c) of this subsection, except as described in WAC 182-08-180 (1) (a).

Premiums and applicable premium surcharges associated with continuing PEBB medical, must be made to the HCA as well as premiums associated with continuing PEBB dental, PEBB vision, or LTD insurance coverage. Premiums associated with continuing life insurance and AD&D insurance coverage must be made to the contracted vendor. Following the employee's first premium payment, the employee must pay the premium amounts for PEBB insurance coverage and applicable premium surcharges as premiums become due; and

(e) If the employee's monthly premium or applicable premium surcharges remain unpaid for 60 days from the original due date, the employee's PEBB insurance coverage will be terminated retroactive to the last day of the month for which the monthly premium and applicable premium surcharges were paid as described in WAC 182-08-180 (1) (c).

(2) The number of months that employees self-pay the premium while eligible as described in subsection (1) of this section will count toward the total months of continuation coverage allowed under the federal Consolidated Omnibus Budget Reconciliation Act (COBRA). Employees who are no longer eligible for continuation coverage as described in subsection (1) of this section but who have not used the maximum number of months allowed under COBRA coverage may continue medical, dental, vision, or any combination of these benefits for the remaining difference in months by self-paying the premium and applicable premium surcharges as described in WAC 182-12-146.

[Statutory Authority: RCW 41.05.021, 41.06.065 [41.05.065], and 41.05.160. WSR 24-18-076 (Admin #2024-01.01), § 182-12-133, filed 8/29/24, effective 1/1/25. Statutory Authority: RCW 41.05.021, 41.05.160 and Policy resolutions PEBB 2021-11 and 2021-12. WSR 21-13-103 (Admin #2021-01.03), § 182-12-133, filed 6/18/21, effective 1/1/22. Statutory Authority: RCW 41.05.021 and 41.05.160. WSR 20-16-062 (Admin #2020-03), § 182-12-133, filed 7/28/20, effective 1/1/21. Statutory Authority: RCW 41.05.021, 41.05.160, and PEBB policy resolutions. WSR 19-17-073 (Admin #2019-01), § 182-12-133, filed 8/20/19, effective 1/1/20; WSR 18-20-117 (Admin #2018-02), §

182-12-133, filed 10/3/18, effective 1/1/19; WSR 17-19-077 (Order 2017-01), § 182-12-133, filed 9/15/17, effective 1/1/18. Statutory Authority: RCW 41.05.021, 41.05.160, 2016 c 67, and PEBB policy resolutions. WSR 16-20-080, § 182-12-133, filed 10/4/16, effective 1/1/17. Statutory Authority: RCW 41.05.160, 2015 c 116, and PEBB policy resolutions. WSR 15-22-099 (PEBB Admin # 2015-01 Rev 1), § 182-12-133, filed 11/4/15, effective 1/1/16. Statutory Authority: RCW 41.05.160 and 2012 2nd sp.s. c 3. WSR 13-22-019 (Admin. 2013-01), § 182-12-133, filed 10/28/13, effective 1/1/14. Statutory Authority: RCW 41.05.160. WSR 12-20-022 (Order 2012-01), § 182-12-133, filed 9/25/12, effective 11/1/12; WSR 10-20-147 (Order 10-02), § 182-12-133, filed 10/6/10, effective 1/1/11; WSR 09-23-102 (Order 09-02), § 182-12-133, filed 11/17/09, effective 1/1/10; WSR 08-20-128 (Order 08-03), § 182-12-133, filed 10/1/08, effective 1/1/09; WSR 07-20-129 (Order 07-01), § 182-12-133, filed 10/3/07, effective 11/3/07; WSR 06-11-156 (Order 06-02), § 182-12-133, filed 5/24/06, effective 6/24/06. Statutory Authority: RCW 41.05.160 and 41.05.165. WSR 04-18-039, § 182-12-133, filed 8/26/04, effective 1/1/05.]

(Effective until January 1, 2025)

WAC 182-12-136 May employees on approved educational leave waive continuation coverage? In order to avoid duplication of group health plan coverage, the following shall apply to employees during any period of approved educational leave. Employees eligible for continuation coverage provided in WAC 182-12-133 who obtain other employer-based group medical or dental, or both, may waive continuation of such coverage for each full calendar month in which they maintain coverage under the other employer-based medical or dental. These employees have the right to reenroll in a public employees benefits board (PEBB) health plan effective the first day of the month after the date the other employer-based group medical or dental ends, provided evidence of such other coverage is provided to the PEBB program upon application for reenrollment.

[Statutory Authority: RCW 41.05.021, 41.05.160, 2016 c 67, and PEBB policy resolutions. WSR 16-20-080, § 182-12-136, filed 10/4/16, effective 1/1/17. Statutory Authority: RCW 41.05.160 and 2013 2nd sp.s. c 4. WSR 14-20-058 (PEBB Admin 2014-02), § 182-12-136, filed 9/25/14, effective 1/1/15. Statutory Authority: RCW 41.05.160. WSR 09-23-102 (Order 09-02), § 182-12-136, filed 11/17/09, effective 1/1/10; WSR 07-20-129 (Order 07-01), § 182-12-136, filed 10/3/07, effective 11/3/07. Statutory Authority: RCW 41.05.160 and 41.05.165. WSR 04-18-039, § 182-12-136, filed 8/26/04, effective 1/1/05.]

(Effective January 1, 2025)

WAC 182-12-136 May employees on approved educational leave waive continuation coverage? In order to avoid duplication of group health plan coverage, the following shall apply to employees during any period of approved educational leave. Employees eligible for continuation coverage provided in WAC 182-12-133 who obtain other employer-based group medical, dental, vision, or any combination of these benefits, may waive continuation of such coverage for each full calendar month in which they maintain coverage under the other employer-based medi-

cal, dental, or vision. These employees have the right to reenroll in a public employees benefits board (PEBB) health plan effective the first day of the month after the date the other employer-based group medical, dental, or vision ends, provided evidence of such other coverage is provided to the PEBB program upon application for reenrollment.

[Statutory Authority: RCW 41.05.021, 41.06.065 [41.05.065], and 41.05.160. WSR 24-18-076 (Admin #2024-01.01), § 182-12-136, filed 8/29/24, effective 1/1/25. Statutory Authority: RCW 41.05.021, 41.05.160, 2016 c 67, and PEBB policy resolutions. WSR 16-20-080, § 182-12-136, filed 10/4/16, effective 1/1/17. Statutory Authority: RCW 41.05.160 and 2013 2nd sp.s. c 4. WSR 14-20-058 (PEBB Admin 2014-02), § 182-12-136, filed 9/25/14, effective 1/1/15. Statutory Authority: RCW 41.05.160. WSR 09-23-102 (Order 09-02), § 182-12-136, filed 11/17/09, effective 1/1/10; WSR 07-20-129 (Order 07-01), § 182-12-136, filed 10/3/07, effective 11/3/07. Statutory Authority: RCW 41.05.160 and 41.05.165. WSR 04-18-039, § 182-12-136, filed 8/26/04, effective 1/1/05.]

WAC 182-12-138 What options are available if an employee is approved for the federal Family and Medical Leave Act (FMLA) or the paid family and medical leave program?

(1) An employee on approved leave under the federal Family and Medical Leave Act (FMLA) may continue to receive the employer contribution toward public employees benefits board (PEBB) benefits in accordance with the federal FMLA. The employee may also continue current supplemental life, supplemental accidental death and dismemberment (AD&D), and employee-paid long-term disability (LTD) insurance. The employee's employing agency is responsible for determining if the employee is eligible for leave under FMLA and the duration of such leave.

(2) An employee on approved leave under the paid family and medical leave program under chapter 50A.05 RCW may continue to receive the employer contribution toward PEBB benefits in accordance with RCW 50A.35.020. The employee may also continue current supplemental life, supplemental AD&D, and employee-paid LTD insurance. The employment security department is responsible for determining if the employee is eligible for the paid family and medical leave program.

(3) If an employee exhausts the period of leave approved under FMLA or paid family and medical leave, PEBB insurance coverage may be continued by self-paying the premium and applicable premium surcharges set by the HCA, with no contribution from the employing agency as described in WAC 182-12-133(1).

[Statutory Authority: RCW 41.05.021, 41.05.160 and Policy resolutions PEBB 2021-11 and 2021-12. WSR 21-13-103 (Admin #2021-01.03), § 182-12-138, filed 6/18/21, effective 1/1/22. Statutory Authority: RCW 41.05.021 and 41.05.160. WSR 20-16-062 (Admin #2020-03), § 182-12-138, filed 7/28/20, effective 1/1/21. Statutory Authority: RCW 41.05.021, 41.05.160, and PEBB policy resolutions. WSR 19-17-073 (Admin #2019-01), § 182-12-138, filed 8/20/19, effective 1/1/20; WSR 18-20-117 (Admin #2018-02), § 182-12-138, filed 10/3/18, effective 1/1/19; WSR 17-19-077 (Order 2017-01), § 182-12-138, filed 9/15/17, effective 1/1/18. Statutory Authority: RCW 41.05.021, 41.05.160, 2016 c 67, and PEBB policy resolutions. WSR 16-20-080, § 182-12-138, filed 10/4/16, effective 1/1/17. Statutory Authority: RCW 41.05.160, 2015 c

116, and PEBB policy resolutions. WSR 15-22-099 (PEBB Admin # 2015-01 Rev 1), § 182-12-138, filed 11/4/15, effective 1/1/16. Statutory Authority: RCW 41.05.160. WSR 12-20-022 (Order 2012-01), § 182-12-138, filed 9/25/12, effective 11/1/12. Statutory Authority: RCW 41.05.160 and 2011 c 8. WSR 11-22-036 (Order 11-02), § 182-12-138, filed 10/26/11, effective 1/1/12. Statutory Authority: RCW 41.05.160. WSR 09-23-102 (Order 09-02), § 182-12-138, filed 11/17/09, effective 1/1/10; WSR 08-20-128 (Order 08-03), § 182-12-138, filed 10/1/08, effective 1/1/09; WSR 07-20-129 (Order 07-01), § 182-12-138, filed 10/3/07, effective 11/3/07. Statutory Authority: RCW 41.05.160 and 41.05.165. WSR 04-18-039, § 182-12-138, filed 8/26/04, effective 1/1/05.]

(Effective until January 1, 2025)

WAC 182-12-141 If an employee reverts from an eligible position, what happens to their public employees benefits board (PEBB) insurance coverage?

(1) If an employee reverts for reasons other than a layoff and is not eligible for the employer contribution toward public employees benefits board (PEBB) benefits under this chapter, they may continue PEBB insurance coverage by self-paying the premium and applicable premium surcharge set by the health care authority (HCA) for up to eighteen months under the same terms as an employee who is granted leave without pay under WAC 182-12-133(1):

(a) The employee's election must be received by the PEBB program no later than sixty days from the date the employee's PEBB health plan coverage ended or from the postmark date on the election notice sent by the PEBB program, whichever is later;

(b) The employee's first premium payment and applicable premium surcharges are due to the HCA no later than forty-five days after the election period ends as described in (a) of this subsection. Premiums and applicable premium surcharges associated with continuing PEBB medical must be made to the HCA as well as premiums associated with continuing PEBB dental. Premiums associated with continuing life insurance and accidental death and dismemberment insurance coverage must be made to the contracted vendor;

(c) Following the employee's first premium payment, the employee must pay the premium amounts associated with PEBB insurance coverage and applicable premium surcharges as premiums become due; and

(d) If the employee's monthly premium or applicable premium surcharges remain unpaid for sixty days from the original due date, the employee's PEBB insurance coverage will be terminated retroactive to the last day of the month for which the monthly premium and applicable premium surcharges were paid as described in WAC 182-08-180 (1)(c).

(2) If an employee is reverted due to a layoff, the employee may be eligible for the employer contribution toward PEBB benefits under the criteria of WAC 182-12-129. If determined not to be eligible under WAC 182-12-129, the employee may continue PEBB insurance coverage by self-paying the premium and applicable premium surcharges set by the HCA under WAC 182-12-133.

[Statutory Authority: RCW 41.05.021 and 41.05.160. WSR 20-16-062 (Admin #2020-03), § 182-12-141, filed 7/28/20, effective 1/1/21. Statutory Authority: RCW 41.05.021, 41.05.160, and PEBB policy resolutions. WSR 19-17-073 (Admin #2019-01), § 182-12-141, filed 8/20/19, effective 1/1/20; WSR 18-20-117 (Admin #2018-02), § 182-12-141, filed 10/3/18,

effective 1/1/19; WSR 17-19-077 (Order 2017-01), § 182-12-141, filed 9/15/17, effective 1/1/18. Statutory Authority: RCW 41.05.021, 41.05.160, 2016 c 67, and PEBB policy resolutions. WSR 16-20-080, § 182-12-141, filed 10/4/16, effective 1/1/17. Statutory Authority: RCW 41.05.160 and 2011 c 8. WSR 11-22-036 (Order 11-02), § 182-12-141, filed 10/26/11, effective 1/1/12. Statutory Authority: RCW 41.05.160. WSR 10-20-147 (Order 10-02), § 182-12-141, filed 10/6/10, effective 1/1/11; WSR 09-23-102 (Order 09-02), § 182-12-141, filed 11/17/09, effective 1/1/10; WSR 07-20-129 (Order 07-01), § 182-12-141, filed 10/3/07, effective 11/3/07. Statutory Authority: RCW 41.05.160 and 41.05.165. WSR 04-18-039, § 182-12-141, filed 8/26/04, effective 1/1/05.]

(Effective January 1, 2025)

WAC 182-12-141 If an employee reverts from an eligible position, what happens to their public employees benefits board (PEBB) insurance coverage?

(1) If an employee reverts for reasons other than a layoff and is not eligible for the employer contribution toward public employees benefits board (PEBB) benefits under this chapter, they may continue PEBB insurance coverage by self-paying the premium and applicable premium surcharge set by the health care authority (HCA) for up to 18 months under the same terms as an employee who is granted leave without pay under WAC 182-12-133(1):

(a) The employee's election must be received by the PEBB program no later than 60 days from the date the employee's PEBB health plan coverage ended or from the postmark date on the election notice sent by the PEBB program, whichever is later;

(b) The employee's first premium payment and applicable premium surcharges are due to the HCA no later than 45 days after the election period ends as described in (a) of this subsection, except as described in WAC 182-08-180 (1)(a). Premiums and applicable premium surcharges associated with continuing PEBB medical must be made to the HCA as well as premiums associated with continuing PEBB dental and PEBB vision. Premiums associated with continuing life insurance and accidental death and dismemberment insurance coverage must be made to the contracted vendor;

(c) Following the employee's first premium payment, the employee must pay the premium amounts associated with PEBB insurance coverage and applicable premium surcharges as premiums become due; and

(d) If the employee's monthly premium or applicable premium surcharges remain unpaid for 60 days from the original due date, the employee's PEBB insurance coverage will be terminated retroactive to the last day of the month for which the monthly premium and applicable premium surcharges were paid as described in WAC 182-08-180 (1)(c).

(2) If an employee is reverted due to a layoff, the employee may be eligible for the employer contribution toward PEBB benefits under the criteria of WAC 182-12-129. If determined not to be eligible under WAC 182-12-129, the employee may continue PEBB insurance coverage by self-paying the premium and applicable premium surcharges set by the HCA under WAC 182-12-133.

[Statutory Authority: RCW 41.05.021, 41.06.065 [41.05.065], and 41.05.160. WSR 24-18-076 (Admin #2024-01.01), § 182-12-141, filed 8/29/24, effective 1/1/25. Statutory Authority: RCW 41.05.021 and 41.05.160. WSR 20-16-062 (Admin #2020-03), § 182-12-141, filed

7/28/20, effective 1/1/21. Statutory Authority: RCW 41.05.021, 41.05.160, and PEBB policy resolutions. WSR 19-17-073 (Admin #2019-01), § 182-12-141, filed 8/20/19, effective 1/1/20; WSR 18-20-117 (Admin #2018-02), § 182-12-141, filed 10/3/18, effective 1/1/19; WSR 17-19-077 (Order 2017-01), § 182-12-141, filed 9/15/17, effective 1/1/18. Statutory Authority: RCW 41.05.021, 41.05.160, 2016 c 67, and PEBB policy resolutions. WSR 16-20-080, § 182-12-141, filed 10/4/16, effective 1/1/17. Statutory Authority: RCW 41.05.160 and 2011 c 8. WSR 11-22-036 (Order 11-02), § 182-12-141, filed 10/26/11, effective 1/1/12. Statutory Authority: RCW 41.05.160. WSR 10-20-147 (Order 10-02), § 182-12-141, filed 10/6/10, effective 1/1/11; WSR 09-23-102 (Order 09-02), § 182-12-141, filed 11/17/09, effective 1/1/10; WSR 07-20-129 (Order 07-01), § 182-12-141, filed 10/3/07, effective 11/3/07. Statutory Authority: RCW 41.05.160 and 41.05.165. WSR 04-18-039, § 182-12-141, filed 8/26/04, effective 1/1/05.]

(Effective until January 1, 2025)

WAC 182-12-142 What options for continuation coverage are available to faculty and seasonal employees who are between periods of eligibility? (1) **Faculty** may continue any combination of medical or dental, and may also continue life insurance and accidental death and dismemberment (AD&D) insurance by self-paying the premium and applicable premium surcharges set by the health care authority (HCA), with no contribution from the employer, for a maximum of twelve months between periods of eligibility. If life insurance or AD&D insurance is elected, both basic life and basic AD&D insurance must be continued. Employees who continue basic life insurance and basic AD&D insurance may also continue supplemental life and AD&D insurance:

(a) The employee's election must be received by the public employees benefits board (PEBB) program no later than sixty days from the date the employee's PEBB health plan coverage ended or from the postmark date on the election notice sent by the PEBB program, whichever is later;

(b) The employee's first premium payment and applicable premium surcharges are due to the HCA no later than forty-five days after the election period ends as described in (a) of this subsection. Premiums and applicable premium surcharges associated with continuing PEBB medical must be made to the HCA as well as premiums associated with continuing PEBB dental. Premiums associated with continuing life insurance and AD&D insurance coverage must be made to the contracted vendor;

(c) Following the employee's first premium payment, the employee must pay the premium amounts associated with PEBB insurance coverage and applicable premium surcharges as premiums become due; and

(d) If the employee's monthly premium or applicable premium surcharges remain unpaid for sixty days from the original due date, the employee's PEBB insurance coverage will be terminated retroactive to the last day of the month for which the monthly premium and applicable premium surcharges were paid as described in WAC 182-08-180 (1)(c).

(2) **Benefits-eligible seasonal employees** may continue any combination of medical or dental, and may also continue life insurance and AD&D insurance by self-paying the premium and applicable premium surcharges set by the HCA, with no contribution from the employer, for a maximum of twelve months between periods of eligibility. If life insurance or AD&D insurance is elected, both basic life and basic AD&D

insurance must be continued. Employees who continue basic life insurance and basic AD&D insurance may also continue supplemental life and AD&D insurance:

(a) The employee's election must be received by the PEBB program no later than sixty days from the date the employee's PEBB health plan coverage ended or from the postmark date on the election notice sent by the PEBB program, whichever is later;

(b) The employee's first premium payment and applicable premium surcharges are due to the HCA no later than forty-five days after the election period ends as described in (a) of this subsection. Premiums and applicable premium surcharges associated with continuing PEBB medical must be made to the HCA as well as premiums associated with continuing PEBB dental. Premiums associated with continuing life insurance and AD&D insurance coverage must be made to the contracted vendor;

(c) Following the employee's first premium payment, the employee must pay the premium amounts associated with PEBB insurance coverage and applicable premium surcharges as premiums become due; and

(d) If the employee's monthly premium or applicable premium surcharges remain unpaid for sixty days from the original due date, the employee's PEBB insurance coverage will be terminated retroactive to the last day of the month for which the monthly premium and applicable premium surcharges were paid as described in WAC 182-08-180 (1)(c).

(3) **COBRA.** An employee who is no longer eligible for continuation coverage as described in subsections (1) and (2) of this section, but who has not used the maximum number of months allowed under the federal Consolidated Omnibus Budget Reconciliation Act (COBRA), may continue medical, dental, or both for the remaining difference in months by self-paying the premium and applicable premium surcharges set by the HCA under COBRA as described in WAC 182-12-146. The number of months that a faculty or seasonal employee self-pays premiums under the criteria in subsection (1) or (2) of this section will count toward the total months of continuation coverage allowed under COBRA.

[Statutory Authority: RCW 41.05.021 and 41.05.160. WSR 20-16-062 (Admin #2020-03), § 182-12-142, filed 7/28/20, effective 1/1/21. Statutory Authority: RCW 41.05.021, 41.05.160, and PEBB policy resolutions. WSR 19-17-073 (Admin #2019-01), § 182-12-142, filed 8/20/19, effective 1/1/20; WSR 18-20-117 (Admin #2018-02), § 182-12-142, filed 10/3/18, effective 1/1/19; WSR 17-19-077 (Order 2017-01), § 182-12-142, filed 9/15/17, effective 1/1/18. Statutory Authority: RCW 41.05.021, 41.05.160, 2016 c 67, and PEBB policy resolutions. WSR 16-20-080, § 182-12-142, filed 10/4/16, effective 1/1/17. Statutory Authority: RCW 41.05.160. WSR 10-20-147 (Order 10-02), § 182-12-142, filed 10/6/10, effective 1/1/11; WSR 09-23-102 (Order 09-02), § 182-12-142, filed 11/17/09, effective 1/1/10.]

(Effective January 1, 2025)

WAC 182-12-142 What options for continuation coverage are available to faculty and seasonal employees who are between periods of eligibility? (1) **Faculty** may continue any combination of medical, dental, or vision, and may also continue life insurance and accidental death and dismemberment (AD&D) insurance by self-paying the premium and applicable premium surcharges set by the health care authority (HCA), with no contribution from the employer, for a maximum of 12

months between periods of eligibility. If life insurance or AD&D insurance is elected, both basic life and basic AD&D insurance must be continued. Employees who continue basic life insurance and basic AD&D insurance may also continue supplemental life and AD&D insurance:

(a) The employee's election must be received by the public employees benefits board (PEBB) program no later than 60 days from the date the employee's PEBB health plan coverage ended or from the postmark date on the election notice sent by the PEBB program, whichever is later;

(b) The employee's first premium payment and applicable premium surcharges are due to the HCA no later than 45 days after the election period ends as described in (a) of this subsection, except as described in WAC 182-08-180 (1)(a). Premiums and applicable premium surcharges associated with continuing PEBB medical must be made to the HCA as well as premiums associated with continuing PEBB dental and PEBB vision. Premiums associated with continuing life insurance and AD&D insurance coverage must be made to the contracted vendor;

(c) Following the employee's first premium payment, the employee must pay the premium amounts associated with PEBB insurance coverage and applicable premium surcharges as premiums become due; and

(d) If the employee's monthly premium or applicable premium surcharges remain unpaid for 60 days from the original due date, the employee's PEBB insurance coverage will be terminated retroactive to the last day of the month for which the monthly premium and applicable premium surcharges were paid as described in WAC 182-08-180 (1)(c).

(2) **Benefits-eligible seasonal employees** may continue any combination of medical, dental, or vision, and may also continue life insurance and AD&D insurance by self-paying the premium and applicable premium surcharges set by the HCA, with no contribution from the employer, for a maximum of 12 months between periods of eligibility. If life insurance or AD&D insurance is elected, both basic life and basic AD&D insurance must be continued. Employees who continue basic life insurance and basic AD&D insurance may also continue supplemental life and AD&D insurance:

(a) The employee's election must be received by the PEBB program no later than 60 days from the date the employee's PEBB health plan coverage ended or from the postmark date on the election notice sent by the PEBB program, whichever is later;

(b) The employee's first premium payment and applicable premium surcharges are due to the HCA no later than 45 days after the election period ends as described in (a) of this subsection, except as described in WAC 182-08-180 (1)(a). Premiums and applicable premium surcharges associated with continuing PEBB medical must be made to the HCA as well as premiums associated with continuing PEBB dental and PEBB vision. Premiums associated with continuing life insurance and AD&D insurance coverage must be made to the contracted vendor;

(c) Following the employee's first premium payment, the employee must pay the premium amounts associated with PEBB insurance coverage and applicable premium surcharges as premiums become due; and

(d) If the employee's monthly premium or applicable premium surcharges remain unpaid for 60 days from the original due date, the employee's PEBB insurance coverage will be terminated retroactive to the last day of the month for which the monthly premium and applicable premium surcharges were paid as described in WAC 182-08-180 (1)(c).

(3) **COBRA**. An employee who is no longer eligible for continuation coverage as described in subsections (1) and (2) of this section, but who has not used the maximum number of months allowed under the feder-

al Consolidated Omnibus Budget Reconciliation Act (COBRA), may continue medical, dental, vision, or any combination of these benefits for the remaining difference in months by self-paying the premium and applicable premium surcharges set by the HCA under COBRA as described in WAC 182-12-146. The number of months that a faculty or seasonal employee self-pays premiums under the criteria in subsection (1) or (2) of this section will count toward the total months of continuation coverage allowed under COBRA.

[Statutory Authority: RCW 41.05.021, 41.06.065 [41.05.065], and 41.05.160. WSR 24-18-076 (Admin #2024-01.01), § 182-12-142, filed 8/29/24, effective 1/1/25. Statutory Authority: RCW 41.05.021 and 41.05.160. WSR 20-16-062 (Admin #2020-03), § 182-12-142, filed 7/28/20, effective 1/1/21. Statutory Authority: RCW 41.05.021, 41.05.160, and PEBB policy resolutions. WSR 19-17-073 (Admin #2019-01), § 182-12-142, filed 8/20/19, effective 1/1/20; WSR 18-20-117 (Admin #2018-02), § 182-12-142, filed 10/3/18, effective 1/1/19; WSR 17-19-077 (Order 2017-01), § 182-12-142, filed 9/15/17, effective 1/1/18. Statutory Authority: RCW 41.05.021, 41.05.160, 2016 c 67, and PEBB policy resolutions. WSR 16-20-080, § 182-12-142, filed 10/4/16, effective 1/1/17. Statutory Authority: RCW 41.05.160. WSR 10-20-147 (Order 10-02), § 182-12-142, filed 10/6/10, effective 1/1/11; WSR 09-23-102 (Order 09-02), § 182-12-142, filed 11/17/09, effective 1/1/10.]

(Effective until January 1, 2025)

WAC 182-12-146 When is an enrollee eligible to continue public employees benefits board (PEBB) benefits under Consolidated Omnibus Budget Reconciliation Act (COBRA)? (1) An employee or an employee's dependent who loses eligibility for the employer contribution toward public employees benefits board (PEBB) benefits and who qualifies for continuation coverage under the federal Consolidated Omnibus Budget Reconciliation Act (COBRA) may continue coverage for PEBB medical, dental, or both.

(2) An employee or an employee's dependent who loses eligibility for continuation coverage described in WAC 182-12-133, 182-12-141, 182-12-142, or 182-12-148 but who has not used the maximum number of months allowed under COBRA may continue PEBB medical, dental, or both for the remaining difference in months.

(3) A retired employee who loses eligibility for PEBB retiree insurance coverage because an employer group ceases participation in PEBB insurance coverage may continue PEBB medical, dental, or both on the same terms and conditions as retirees who are eligible under COBRA.

(4) A retiree or a dependent of a retiree, who is no longer eligible as described in WAC 182-12-171, 182-12-180, or 182-12-260 may continue PEBB medical, dental, or both.

(5) A blind vendor who ceases to actively operate a facility as described in WAC 182-12-111 (4)(a) may continue enrollment in PEBB medical for the maximum number of months allowed under COBRA as described in this section.

(6) A board member who no longer qualifies as described in WAC 182-12-111 (4)(c) may continue enrollment in PEBB medical, dental, or both for the maximum number of months allowed under COBRA as described in this section.

(7) An enrollee may continue PEBB medical, dental, or both under COBRA by self-paying the premium and applicable premium surcharges set by the health care authority (HCA):

(a) The election must be received by the PEBB program no later than 60 days from the date the enrollee's PEBB health plan coverage ended or from the postmark date on the election notice sent by the PEBB program, whichever is later;

(b) The first premium payment under COBRA coverage and applicable premium surcharges are due to the HCA no later than 45 days after the election period ends as described in (a) of this subsection. Following the enrollee's first premium payment, premiums and applicable premium surcharges must be paid as described in WAC 182-08-180 (1)(c);

(c) COBRA continuation coverage enrollees who voluntarily terminate their COBRA coverage will not be eligible to reenroll in COBRA coverage unless they regain eligibility as described in WAC 182-12-114. Those who request to terminate their COBRA coverage must do so in writing. COBRA coverage will end on the last day of the month in which the PEBB program receives the termination request or on the last day of the month specified in the COBRA enrollee's termination request, whichever is later. If the termination request is received on the first day of the month, COBRA coverage will end on the last day of the previous month;

(d) An employee enrolled in a medical flexible spending arrangement (FSA) or limited purpose FSA and the employee's dependents will have an opportunity to continue making contributions to their medical FSA or limited purpose FSA by electing COBRA if on the date of the qualifying event, as described under 42 U.S.C. Sec. 300bb-3, the employee's medical FSA or limited purpose FSA has a greater amount in remaining benefits than remaining contribution payments for the current year. The election must be received by the contracted vendor no later than 60 days from the date the PEBB health plan coverage ended or from the postmark date on the election notice sent by the contracted vendor, whichever is later. The first premium payment under COBRA coverage is due to the contracted vendor no later than 45 days after the election period ends as described above.

(8) A subscriber's state registered domestic partner and the state registered domestic partner's children may continue PEBB medical, dental, or both on the same terms and conditions as spouses and other eligible dependents under COBRA as described under RCW 26.60.015.

(9) Medical and dental coverage under COBRA begin on the first day of the month following the day the COBRA enrollee loses eligibility for PEBB health plan coverage as described in WAC 182-12-131, 182-12-133, 182-12-141, 182-12-142, 182-12-148, 182-12-171, 182-12-180, 182-12-250, 182-12-260, or 182-12-265.

[Statutory Authority: RCW 41.05.021 and 41.05.160. WSR 23-14-015 (Admin #2023-01), § 182-12-146, filed 6/23/23, effective 1/1/24; WSR 22-13-158 (Admin #2022-01), § 182-12-146, filed 6/21/22, effective 1/1/23; WSR 20-16-062 (Admin #2020-03), § 182-12-146, filed 7/28/20, effective 1/1/21. Statutory Authority: RCW 41.05.021, 41.05.160, and PEBB policy resolutions. WSR 19-17-073 (Admin #2019-01), § 182-12-146, filed 8/20/19, effective 1/1/20; WSR 18-20-117 (Admin #2018-02), § 182-12-146, filed 10/3/18, effective 1/1/19; WSR 17-19-077 (Order 2017-01), § 182-12-146, filed 9/15/17, effective 1/1/18. Statutory Authority: RCW 41.05.021, 41.05.160, 2016 c 67, and PEBB policy resolutions. WSR 16-20-080, § 182-12-146, filed 10/4/16, effective 1/1/17.

Statutory Authority: RCW 41.05.160, 2015 c 116, and PEBB policy resolutions. WSR 15-22-099 (PEBB Admin # 2015-01 Rev 1), § 182-12-146, filed 11/4/15, effective 1/1/16. Statutory Authority: RCW 41.05.160 and 2012 2nd sp.s. c 3. WSR 13-22-019 (Admin 2013-01), § 182-12-146, filed 10/28/13, effective 1/1/14. Statutory Authority: RCW 41.05.160. WSR 12-20-022 (Order 2012-01), § 182-12-146, filed 9/25/12, effective 11/1/12; WSR 09-23-102 (Order 09-02), § 182-12-146, filed 11/17/09, effective 1/1/10; WSR 07-20-129 (Order 07-01), § 182-12-146, filed 10/3/07, effective 11/3/07. Statutory Authority: RCW 41.05.160 and 41.05.165. WSR 04-18-039, § 182-12-146, filed 8/26/04, effective 1/1/05.]

(Effective January 1, 2025)

WAC 182-12-146 When is an enrollee eligible to continue public employees benefits board (PEBB) benefits under Consolidated Omnibus Budget Reconciliation Act (COBRA)? (1) An employee or an employee's dependent who loses eligibility for the employer contribution toward public employees benefits board (PEBB) benefits and who qualifies for continuation coverage under the federal Consolidated Omnibus Budget Reconciliation Act (COBRA) may continue coverage for all or any combination of PEBB medical, dental, or vision.

(2) An employee or an employee's dependent who loses eligibility for continuation coverage described in WAC 182-12-133, 182-12-141, 182-12-142, or 182-12-148 but who has not used the maximum number of months allowed under COBRA may continue any combination of PEBB medical, dental, or vision for the remaining difference in months.

(3) A retired employee, a retired school employee, or survivor who loses eligibility for PEBB retiree insurance coverage because their employer group ceases participation with the authority may continue PEBB medical, dental, or vision as described in WAC 182-12-232.

(4) A dependent of a subscriber enrolled as described in WAC 182-12-232 who is no longer eligible as described in WAC 182-12-260 may continue any combination of PEBB medical, dental, or vision.

(5) A retiree or a dependent of a retiree, who is no longer eligible as described in WAC 182-12-171, 182-12-180, or 182-12-260 may continue any combination of PEBB medical, dental, or vision.

(6) A blind vendor who ceases to actively operate a facility as described in WAC 182-12-111 (4)(a) may continue enrollment in PEBB medical for the maximum number of months allowed under COBRA as described in this section.

(7) An enrollee may continue any combination of PEBB medical, dental, or vision under COBRA by self-paying the premium and applicable premium surcharges set by the health care authority (HCA):

(a) The election must be received by the PEBB program no later than 60 days from the date the enrollee's PEBB health plan coverage ended or from the postmark date on the election notice sent by the PEBB program, whichever is later;

(b) The first premium payment under COBRA coverage and applicable premium surcharges are due to the HCA no later than 45 days after the election period ends as described in (a) of this subsection, except as described in WAC 182-08-180 (1)(a). Following the enrollee's first premium payment, premiums and applicable premium surcharges must be paid as described in WAC 182-08-180 (1)(c);

(c) COBRA continuation coverage enrollees who voluntarily terminate their COBRA coverage will not be eligible to reenroll in COBRA

coverage unless they regain eligibility as described in WAC 182-12-114. Those who request to terminate their COBRA coverage must do so in writing. COBRA coverage will end on the last day of the month in which the PEBB program receives the termination request or on the last day of the month specified in the COBRA enrollee's termination request, whichever is later. If the termination request is received on the first day of the month, COBRA coverage will end on the last day of the previous month;

Exception: When a subscriber or their dependent is enrolled in a medicare advantage plan, a medicare advantage-prescription drug plan, or the Uniform Medical Plan Classic medicare plan, the enrollment will terminate on the last day of the month when the plan disenrollment form is received.

(d) An employee enrolled in a flexible spending arrangement (FSA) or limited purpose FSA and the employee's dependents will have an opportunity to continue making contributions to their FSA or limited purpose FSA by electing COBRA if on the date of the qualifying event, as described under 42 U.S.C. Sec. 300bb-3, the employee's FSA or limited purpose FSA has a greater amount in remaining benefits than remaining contribution payments for the current year. The election must be received by the contracted vendor no later than 60 days from the date the PEBB health plan coverage ended or from the postmark date on the election notice sent by the contracted vendor, whichever is later. The first premium payment under COBRA coverage is due to the contracted vendor no later than 45 days after the election period ends as described above.

(8) A subscriber's state registered domestic partner and the state registered domestic partner's children may continue any combination of PEBB medical, dental, or vision on the same terms and conditions as spouses and other eligible dependents under COBRA as described under RCW 26.60.015.

(9) Medical, dental, and vision coverage under COBRA begin on the first day of the month following the day the COBRA enrollee loses eligibility for PEBB health plan coverage as described in WAC 182-12-131, 182-12-133, 182-12-141, 182-12-142, 182-12-148, 182-12-171, 182-12-180, 182-12-250, 182-12-260, or 182-12-265.

[Statutory Authority: RCW 41.05.021, 41.05.065, 41.05.160, 2023 c 164 § 1, 2023 c 312 § 1, 2023 c 13 § 5, Policy Resolutions PEBB 2024-14, 2024-19, 2024-20, and 2024-21. WSR 24-18-081 (Admin #2024-01.05), § 182-12-146, filed 8/29/24, effective 1/1/25. Statutory Authority: RCW 41.05.021 and 41.05.160. WSR 23-14-015 (Admin #2023-01), § 182-12-146, filed 6/23/23, effective 1/1/24; WSR 22-13-158 (Admin #2022-01), § 182-12-146, filed 6/21/22, effective 1/1/23; WSR 20-16-062 (Admin #2020-03), § 182-12-146, filed 7/28/20, effective 1/1/21. Statutory Authority: RCW 41.05.021, 41.05.160, and PEBB policy resolutions. WSR 19-17-073 (Admin #2019-01), § 182-12-146, filed 8/20/19, effective 1/1/20; WSR 18-20-117 (Admin #2018-02), § 182-12-146, filed 10/3/18, effective 1/1/19; WSR 17-19-077 (Order 2017-01), § 182-12-146, filed 9/15/17, effective 1/1/18. Statutory Authority: RCW 41.05.021, 41.05.160, 2016 c 67, and PEBB policy resolutions. WSR 16-20-080, § 182-12-146, filed 10/4/16, effective 1/1/17. Statutory Authority: RCW 41.05.160, 2015 c 116, and PEBB policy resolutions. WSR 15-22-099 (PEBB Admin # 2015-01 Rev 1), § 182-12-146, filed 11/4/15, effective 1/1/16. Statutory Authority: RCW 41.05.160 and 2012 2nd sp.s. c 3. WSR 13-22-019 (Admin 2013-01), § 182-12-146, filed 10/28/13, effective 1/1/14. Statutory Authority: RCW 41.05.160. WSR 12-20-022 (Order 2012-01), § 182-12-146, filed 9/25/12, effective 11/1/12; WSR 09-23-102 (Order 09-02), § 182-12-146, filed 11/17/09, effective

1/1/10; WSR 07-20-129 (Order 07-01), § 182-12-146, filed 10/3/07, effective 11/3/07. Statutory Authority: RCW 41.05.160 and 41.05.165. WSR 04-18-039, § 182-12-146, filed 8/26/04, effective 1/1/05.]

(Effective until January 1, 2025)

WAC 182-12-148 What options for continuation coverage are available to employees during their appeal of dismissal? (1) Employees awaiting the hearing outcome of a dismissal action before any of the following may continue their public employees benefits board (PEBB) insurance coverage by self-paying the premium and applicable premium surcharges set by the health care authority (HCA), with no contribution from the employer, on the same terms as an employee who is granted leave as described in WAC 182-12-133:

- (a) The personnel resources board;
- (b) An arbitrator;
- (c) A grievance or appeals committee established under a collective bargaining agreement for union represented employees; or
- (d) A court.

(2) The employee must pay premium amounts and applicable premium surcharges associated with PEBB insurance coverage as premiums and applicable premium surcharges become due. If the monthly premium or applicable premium surcharges remain unpaid for sixty days from the original due date, PEBB insurance coverage will be terminated retroactive to the last day of the month for which the monthly premium and applicable premium surcharges were paid as described in WAC 182-08-180 (1) (c).

(3) If the dismissal is upheld, all PEBB insurance coverage will terminate at the end of the month in which the decision is entered, or the date to which premiums have been paid, whichever is later, with the exception described in subsection (4) of this section.

(4) If the dismissal is upheld and the employee is eligible under the federal Consolidated Omnibus Budget Reconciliation Act (COBRA), the employee may continue PEBB medical, dental, or both for the remaining months available under COBRA. See WAC 182-12-146 for information on COBRA. The number of months the employee self-paid premiums during the appeal will count toward the total number of months allowed under COBRA.

(5) If the board, arbitrator, committee, or court sustains the employee in the appeal and directs reinstatement of employer paid PEBB insurance coverage retroactively, the employing agency must forward to HCA the full employer contribution for the period directed by the board, arbitrator, committee, or court and collect from the employee the employee's share of premiums due, if any.

(a) When the employer contribution is reinstated, the HCA will refund to the employee any premiums and applicable premium surcharges the employee paid. In the alternative, at the request of the employee, HCA may deduct the employee's contribution amount for PEBB benefits from the refund of premiums and applicable premium surcharges self-paid by the employee during the appeal period.

(b) All supplemental life, supplemental accidental death and dismemberment, and employee-paid LTD insurance which was in force at the time of dismissal shall be reinstated retroactively only if the employee makes retroactive payment of premium for any such supplemental coverage and employee-paid LTD insurance which was not continued by self-payment during the appeal process. If the employee chooses not to

pay the retroactive premium, evidence of insurability will be required to enroll in such supplemental coverage and employee-paid LTD insurance.

[Statutory Authority: RCW 41.05.021, 41.05.160 and Policy resolutions PEBB 2021-11 and 2021-12. WSR 21-13-103 (Admin #2021-01.03), § 182-12-148, filed 6/18/21, effective 1/1/22. Statutory Authority: RCW 41.05.021 and 41.05.160. WSR 20-16-062 (Admin #2020-03), § 182-12-148, filed 7/28/20, effective 1/1/21. Statutory Authority: RCW 41.05.021, 41.05.160, and PEBB policy resolutions. WSR 19-17-073 (Admin #2019-01), § 182-12-148, filed 8/20/19, effective 1/1/20; WSR 18-20-117 (Admin #2018-02), § 182-12-148, filed 10/3/18, effective 1/1/19; WSR 17-19-077 (Order 2017-01), § 182-12-148, filed 9/15/17, effective 1/1/18. Statutory Authority: RCW 41.05.021, 41.05.160, 2016 c 67, and PEBB policy resolutions. WSR 16-20-080, § 182-12-148, filed 10/4/16, effective 1/1/17. Statutory Authority: RCW 41.05.160. WSR 12-20-022 (Order 2012-01), § 182-12-148, filed 9/25/12, effective 11/1/12; WSR 09-23-102 (Order 09-02), § 182-12-148, filed 11/17/09, effective 1/1/10; WSR 07-20-129 (Order 07-01), § 182-12-148, filed 10/3/07, effective 11/3/07. Statutory Authority: RCW 41.05.160, 41.05.350, and 41.05.165. WSR 05-16-046 (Order 05-01), § 182-12-148, filed 7/27/05, effective 8/27/05. Statutory Authority: RCW 41.05.160 and 41.05.165. WSR 04-18-039, § 182-12-148, filed 8/26/04, effective 1/1/05.]

(Effective January 1, 2025)

WAC 182-12-148 What options for continuation coverage are available to employees during their appeal of dismissal? (1) Employees awaiting the hearing outcome of a dismissal action before any of the following may continue their public employees benefits board (PEBB) insurance coverage by self-paying the premium and applicable premium surcharges set by the health care authority (HCA), with no contribution from the employer, on the same terms as an employee who is granted leave as described in WAC 182-12-133:

- (a) The personnel resources board;
- (b) An arbitrator;
- (c) A grievance or appeals committee established under a collective bargaining agreement for union represented employees; or
- (d) A court.

(2) The employee must pay premium amounts and applicable premium surcharges associated with PEBB insurance coverage as premiums and applicable premium surcharges become due. If the monthly premium or applicable premium surcharges remain unpaid for 60 days from the original due date, PEBB insurance coverage will be terminated retroactive to the last day of the month for which the monthly premium and applicable premium surcharges were paid as described in WAC 182-08-180 (1)(c).

(3) If the dismissal is upheld, all PEBB insurance coverage will terminate at the end of the month in which the decision is entered, or the date to which premiums have been paid, whichever is later, with the exception described in subsection (4) of this section.

(4) If the dismissal is upheld and the employee is eligible under the federal Consolidated Omnibus Budget Reconciliation Act (COBRA), the employee may continue any combination of PEBB medical, dental, or vision for the remaining months available under COBRA. See WAC

182-12-146 for information on COBRA. The number of months the employee self-paid premiums during the appeal will count toward the total number of months allowed under COBRA.

(5) If the board, arbitrator, committee, or court sustains the employee in the appeal and directs reinstatement of employer paid PEBB insurance coverage retroactively, the employing agency must forward to HCA the full employer contribution for the period directed by the board, arbitrator, committee, or court and collect from the employee the employee's share of premiums due, if any.

(a) When the employer contribution is reinstated, the HCA will refund to the employee any premiums and applicable premium surcharges the employee paid. In the alternative, at the request of the employee, HCA may deduct the employee's contribution amount for PEBB benefits from the refund of premiums and applicable premium surcharges self-paid by the employee during the appeal period.

(b) All supplemental life, supplemental accidental death and dismemberment, and employee-paid LTD insurance which was in force at the time of dismissal shall be reinstated retroactively only if the employee makes retroactive payment of premium for any such supplemental coverage and employee-paid LTD insurance which was not continued by self-payment during the appeal process. If the employee chooses not to pay the retroactive premium, evidence of insurability will be required to enroll in such supplemental coverage and employee-paid LTD insurance.

[Statutory Authority: RCW 41.05.021, 41.06.065 [41.05.065], and 41.05.160. WSR 24-18-076 (Admin #2024-01.01), § 182-12-148, filed 8/29/24, effective 1/1/25. Statutory Authority: RCW 41.05.021, 41.05.160 and Policy resolutions PEBB 2021-11 and 2021-12. WSR 21-13-103 (Admin #2021-01.03), § 182-12-148, filed 6/18/21, effective 1/1/22. Statutory Authority: RCW 41.05.021 and 41.05.160. WSR 20-16-062 (Admin #2020-03), § 182-12-148, filed 7/28/20, effective 1/1/21. Statutory Authority: RCW 41.05.021, 41.05.160, and PEBB policy resolutions. WSR 19-17-073 (Admin #2019-01), § 182-12-148, filed 8/20/19, effective 1/1/20; WSR 18-20-117 (Admin #2018-02), § 182-12-148, filed 10/3/18, effective 1/1/19; WSR 17-19-077 (Order 2017-01), § 182-12-148, filed 9/15/17, effective 1/1/18. Statutory Authority: RCW 41.05.021, 41.05.160, 2016 c 67, and PEBB policy resolutions. WSR 16-20-080, § 182-12-148, filed 10/4/16, effective 1/1/17. Statutory Authority: RCW 41.05.160. WSR 12-20-022 (Order 2012-01), § 182-12-148, filed 9/25/12, effective 11/1/12; WSR 09-23-102 (Order 09-02), § 182-12-148, filed 11/17/09, effective 1/1/10; WSR 07-20-129 (Order 07-01), § 182-12-148, filed 10/3/07, effective 11/3/07. Statutory Authority: RCW 41.05.160, 41.05.350, and 41.05.165. WSR 05-16-046 (Order 05-01), § 182-12-148, filed 7/27/05, effective 8/27/05. Statutory Authority: RCW 41.05.160 and 41.05.165. WSR 04-18-039, § 182-12-148, filed 8/26/04, effective 1/1/05.]

(Effective until January 1, 2025)

WAC 182-12-171 When is a retiring employee or a retiring school employee eligible to enroll in public employees benefits board (PEBB) retiree insurance coverage? A retiring employee or a retiring school employee is eligible to continue enrollment or defer enrollment in public employees benefits board (PEBB) insurance coverage as a retiree if they meet procedural and substantive eligibility requirements as

described in subsections (1), (2), and (3) of this section. An elected and full-time appointed official of the legislative and executive branch of state government is eligible as described in WAC 182-12-180.

(1) **Procedural requirements.** A retiring employee or a retiring school employee must enroll or defer enrollment in PEBB retiree insurance coverage as described in (a) through (d) of this subsection:

(a) To enroll in PEBB retiree insurance coverage, the required form must be received by the PEBB program no later than 60 days after the employee's or the school employee's own employer-paid coverage, Consolidated Omnibus Budget Reconciliation Act (COBRA) coverage, or continuation coverage ends. The effective date of PEBB retiree insurance coverage is the first day of the month after the employee's or the school employee's employer-paid coverage, COBRA coverage, or continuation coverage ends;

Note: Enrollment in the PEBB program's medicare advantage (MA) or medicare advantage-prescription drug (MA-PD) plan may not be retroactive. If a subscriber elects to enroll in a MA plan, and the required forms are received by the PEBB program after the date the PEBB retiree insurance coverage is to begin, the subscriber and their enrolled dependents will be enrolled in a plan with the same contracted vendor during the gap month(s) prior to when MA coverage begins. If a subscriber elects to enroll in a MA-PD plan, and the required forms are received by the PEBB program after the date the PEBB retiree insurance coverage is to begin, the subscriber and their enrolled dependents will be enrolled in Uniform Medical Plan (UMP) Classic during the gap month(s) prior to when the MA-PD coverage begins.

(b) The employee's or the school employee's first premium payment for PEBB retiree insurance coverage and applicable premium surcharges are due to the health care authority (HCA) no later than 45 days after the election period ends as described in (a) of this subsection. Following the employee's or the school employee's first premium payment, premiums and applicable premium surcharges must be paid as described in WAC 182-08-180 (1)(c); and

(c) If a retiring employee or a retiring school employee elects to enroll a dependent in PEBB health plan coverage, the dependent must be enrolled in the same PEBB medical and PEBB dental plan as the retiring employee or the retiring school employee;

Exception: If a retiring employee or a retiring school employee selects a medicare supplement plan or MA-PD plan, nonmedicare enrollees will be enrolled in the UMP Classic. If a retiring employee or a retiring school employee selects any other medicare plan, they must also select a nonmedicare plan with the same contracted vendor available to nonmedicare enrollees.

(d) To defer enrollment in PEBB retiree insurance coverage, the employee or the school employee must meet substantive eligibility requirements in subsection (2) of this section and defer enrollment as described in WAC 182-12-200 or 182-12-205.

(2) **Substantive eligibility requirements.**

An employee who is eligible for PEBB benefits through an employing agency, or a school employee who is eligible for SEBB benefits through a SEBB organization or basic benefits through an educational service district as defined in RCW 28A.400.270 who ends public employment may enroll or defer enrollment in PEBB retiree insurance coverage if they meet procedural and substantive eligibility requirements.

To be eligible to continue enrollment or defer enrollment in PEBB retiree insurance coverage, the employee or the school employee must be vested in and eligible to retire under a Washington state-sponsored retirement plan when the employee's or school employee's own employer-paid coverage, COBRA coverage, or continuation coverage ends. An exception to the requirement to be vested in and eligible to retire under a Washington state-sponsored retirement plan is provided for employees of an employer group in (c)(i) of this subsection. To satisfy the requirement to immediately begin to receive a monthly retirement plan payment as described in (a), (b), (c)(ii), and (d) of this subsection, the employee or school employee must begin receiving a monthly retirement plan payment no later than the first month following the

employee's or school employee's own employer-paid coverage, COBRA coverage, or continuation coverage ending.

(a) A retiring employee of a state agency must immediately begin to receive a monthly retirement plan payment, with exceptions described below:

(i) A retiring employee who receives a lump sum payment instead of a monthly retirement plan payment is only eligible if the department of retirement systems offered the employee the choice between a lump sum actuarially equivalent payment and the ongoing monthly payment, as allowed by the plan; or

(ii) A retiring employee who is a member of a Plan 3 retirement plan, also called a separated employee (defined in RCW 41.05.011(25)), must meet their Plan 3 retirement eligibility criteria. The employee does not have to receive a retirement plan payment to enroll in PEBB retiree insurance coverage.

(b) A retiring employee of a Washington higher education institution who is a member of a higher education retirement plan (HERP) must immediately begin to receive a monthly retirement plan payment, or meet their HERP plan's retirement eligibility criteria, or be at least age 55 with 10 years of state service;

(c) A retiring employee of an employer group participating in PEBB insurance coverage under contractual agreement with the authority must be eligible to retire as described in (c)(i) or (ii) of this subsection to be eligible to continue PEBB retiree insurance coverage.

(i) A retiring employee who is eligible to retire under a retirement plan sponsored by an employer group or tribal government that is not a Washington state-sponsored retirement plan must meet the same age and years of service requirements as if they were a member of public employees retirement system Plan 1, if their date of hire with that employer group or tribal government was before October 1, 1977, or Plan 2, if their date of hire with that employer group or tribal government was on or after October 1, 1977.

(ii) A retiring employee who is eligible to retire under a Washington state-sponsored retirement plan must immediately begin to receive a monthly retirement plan payment, with exceptions described in (a)(i) and (ii) of this subsection.

(iii) A retired employee of an employer group that ends participation in PEBB insurance coverage is no longer eligible to continue enrollment in PEBB retiree insurance coverage if they enrolled after September 15, 1991. Any retiree who loses eligibility for this reason may continue health plan enrollment as described in WAC 182-12-146.

(iv) A retired employee of a tribal government employer that ends participation in PEBB insurance coverage is no longer eligible to continue enrollment in PEBB retiree insurance coverage. Any retiree who loses eligibility for this reason may continue health plan enrollment as described in WAC 182-12-146.

(d) A retiring school employee must immediately begin to receive a monthly retirement plan payment, with exceptions described below:

(i) A retiring school employee who ends employment before October 1, 1993; or

(ii) A retiring school employee who receives a lump sum payment instead of a monthly retirement plan payment is only eligible if the department of retirement systems offered the school employee the choice between a lump sum actuarially equivalent payment and the ongoing monthly payment, as allowed by the plan, or the school employee enrolled before 1995; or

(iii) A retiring school employee who is a member of a Plan 3 retirement system, also called a separated employee (defined in RCW 41.05.011(25)), must meet their Plan 3 retirement eligibility criteria; or

(iv) A school employee who retired as of September 30, 1993, and began receiving a monthly retirement plan payment from a Washington state-sponsored retirement system (as defined in chapters 41.32, 41.35 or 41.40 RCW) is eligible if they enrolled in a PEBB health plan no later than the HCA's annual open enrollment period for the year beginning January 1, 1995.

(3) A retiring employee or a retiring school employee and their enrolled dependents who are eligible for medicare must enroll and maintain enrollment in both medicare Parts A and B if the employee or the school employee retired after July 1, 1991. If a retiree or an enrolled dependent becomes eligible for medicare after enrollment in PEBB retiree insurance coverage, they must enroll and maintain enrollment in medicare Parts A and B to remain enrolled in a PEBB retiree health plan. If an enrollee who is eligible for medicare does not meet this procedural requirement, the enrollee is no longer eligible for enrollment in a PEBB retiree health plan. The enrollee's eligibility will end as described in the termination notice sent by the PEBB program. The enrollee may continue PEBB health plan enrollment as described in WAC 182-12-146.

Note: For the exclusive purpose of medicare Part A as described in this subsection, "eligible" means the enrollee is eligible for medicare Part A without a monthly premium.

(4) Washington state-sponsored retirement plans include:

- (a) Higher education retirement plans;
- (b) Law enforcement officers' and firefighters' retirement system;
- (c) Public employees' retirement system;
- (d) Public safety employees' retirement system;
- (e) School employees' retirement system;
- (f) State judges/judicial retirement system;
- (g) Teachers' retirement system; and
- (h) State patrol retirement system.

(i) The two federal retirement systems, Civil Service Retirement System and Federal Employees' Retirement System, are considered Washington state-sponsored retirement systems for Washington State University Extension for an employee covered under PEBB benefits at the time of retirement.

[Statutory Authority: RCW 41.05.021 and 41.05.160. WSR 23-14-015 (Admin #2023-01), § 182-12-171, filed 6/23/23, effective 1/1/24. Statutory Authority: RCW 41.05.021, 41.05.160, and Policy Resolution PEBB 2022-03. WSR 22-13-160 (Admin #2022-02.03), § 182-12-171, filed 6/21/22, effective 1/1/23. Statutory Authority: RCW 41.05.021, 41.05.160, 42 C.F.R. § 422.62(b) and § 423.38(c) and PEBB policy resolution 2020-05. WSR 20-16-063 (Admin #2020-02), § 182-12-171, filed 7/28/20, effective 1/1/21. Statutory Authority: RCW 41.05.021, 41.05.160, and PEBB policy resolution. WSR 19-17-073 (Admin #2019-01), § 182-12-171, filed 8/20/19, effective 1/1/20; WSR 18-20-117 (Admin #2018-02), § 182-12-171, filed 10/3/18, effective 1/1/19; WSR 17-19-077 (Order 2017-01), § 182-12-171, filed 9/15/17, effective 1/1/18. Statutory Authority: RCW 41.05.021, 41.05.160, 2016 c 67, and PEBB policy resolutions. WSR 16-20-080, § 182-12-171, filed 10/4/16, effective 1/1/17. Statutory Authority: RCW 41.05.160, 2015 c 116, and PEBB policy resolutions. WSR 15-22-099 (PEBB Admin # 2015-01 Rev 1), §

182-12-171, filed 11/4/15, effective 1/1/16. Statutory Authority: RCW 41.05.160 and 2013 2nd sp.s. c 4. WSR 14-20-058 (PEBB Admin 2014-02), § 182-12-171, filed 9/25/14, effective 1/1/15. Statutory Authority: RCW 41.05.160 and 2012 2nd sp.s. c 3. WSR 13-22-019 (Admin. 2013-01), § 182-12-171, filed 10/28/13, effective 1/1/14. Statutory Authority: RCW 41.05.160. WSR 12-20-022 (Order 2012-01), § 182-12-171, filed 9/25/12, effective 11/1/12. Statutory Authority: RCW 41.05.160 and 2011 c 8. WSR 11-22-036 (Order 11-02), § 182-12-171, filed 10/26/11, effective 1/1/12. Statutory Authority: RCW 41.05.160. WSR 10-20-147 (Order 10-02), § 182-12-171, filed 10/6/10, effective 1/1/11; WSR 09-23-102 (Order 09-02), § 182-12-171, filed 11/17/09, effective 1/1/10; WSR 08-20-128 (Order 08-03), § 182-12-171, filed 10/1/08, effective 1/1/09; WSR 07-20-129 (Order 07-01), § 182-12-171, filed 10/3/07, effective 11/3/07; WSR 06-11-156 (Order 06-02), § 182-12-171, filed 5/24/06, effective 6/24/06. Statutory Authority: RCW 41.05.160, 41.05.350, and 41.05.165. WSR 05-16-046 (Order 05-01), § 182-12-171, filed 7/27/05, effective 8/27/05. Statutory Authority: RCW 41.05.160 and 41.05.165. WSR 04-18-039, § 182-12-171, filed 8/26/04, effective 1/1/05.]

(Effective January 1, 2025)

WAC 182-12-171 When is a retiring employee or a retiring school employee eligible to enroll in public employees benefits board (PEBB) retiree insurance coverage? A retiring employee or a retiring school employee is eligible to continue enrollment or defer enrollment in public employees benefits board (PEBB) insurance coverage as a retiree if they meet procedural and substantive eligibility requirements as described in subsections (1), (2), and (3) of this section. An elected and full-time appointed official of the legislative and executive branch of state government is eligible as described in WAC 182-12-180.

(1) **Procedural requirements.** A retiring employee or a retiring school employee must enroll or defer enrollment in PEBB retiree insurance coverage as described in (a) through (e) of this subsection:

(a) To enroll in PEBB retiree insurance coverage, the required form must be received by the PEBB program no later than 60 days after the employee's or the school employee's own employer-paid coverage, Consolidated Omnibus Budget Reconciliation Act (COBRA) coverage, or continuation coverage ends. The effective date of PEBB retiree insurance coverage is the first day of the month after the employee's or the school employee's employer-paid coverage, COBRA coverage, or continuation coverage ends;

Note: Enrollment in the PEBB program's medicare advantage (MA) plan, medicare advantage-prescription drug (MA-PD) plan, or the Uniform Medical Plan (UMP) Classic medicare plan may not be retroactive.

(1) If a subscriber elects to enroll in a MA plan, and the required forms are received by the PEBB program after the date the PEBB retiree insurance coverage is to begin, the subscriber and their enrolled dependents will be enrolled in a plan with the same contracted vendor during the gap month(s) prior to when MA coverage begins.

(2) If a subscriber elects to enroll in a MA-PD plan, and the required forms are received by the PEBB program after the date the PEBB retiree insurance coverage is to begin, the subscriber and their enrolled dependents will be enrolled in transitional coverage as designated by the director or designee during the gap month(s) prior to when the MA-PD coverage begins.

(3) If a subscriber elects to enroll in the UMP Classic medicare plan, and the required forms are received by the PEBB program after the date the PEBB retiree insurance coverage is to begin, the subscriber and their enrolled dependents will be enrolled in transitional UMP coverage during the gap month(s) prior to when the UMP Classic medicare plan begins.

(b) The employee's or the school employee's first premium payment for PEBB retiree insurance coverage and applicable premium surcharges are due to the health care authority (HCA) no later than 45 days after the election period ends as described in (a) of this subsection, except as described in WAC 182-08-180 (1)(a). Following the employee's or the school employee's first premium payment, premiums and applica-

ble premium surcharges must be paid as described in WAC 182-08-180 (1)(c); and

(c) If a retiring employee or a retiring school employee elects to enroll a dependent in PEBB health plan coverage, the dependent must be enrolled in the same PEBB medical and PEBB dental plan as the retiring employee or the retiring school employee;

Exceptions:

- (1) If a retiring employee or a retiring school employee selects a medicare supplement plan, a MA-PD plan, or the UMP Classic medicare plan, nonmedicare enrollees will be enrolled in the UMP Classic. If a retiring employee or a retiring school employee selects any other medicare plan, they must also select a nonmedicare plan with the same contracted vendor available to nonmedicare enrollees.
- (2) If a retiring employee or a retiring school employee selects a medicare supplement plan, MA-PD plan, or any other medicare plan, they may elect a PEBB vision plan available for any nonmedicare enrollees.

(d) A nonmedicare retiring employee or retiring school employee must enroll in PEBB medical to be able to enroll in PEBB dental, in PEBB vision, or in both PEBB dental and PEBB vision. Any nonmedicare dependents they elect to enroll must be enrolled in the same PEBB medical, PEBB dental, and PEBB vision plan.

(e) To defer enrollment in PEBB retiree insurance coverage, the employee or the school employee must meet substantive eligibility requirements in subsection (2) of this section and defer enrollment as described in WAC 182-12-200 or 182-12-205.

(2) Substantive eligibility requirements.

An employee who is eligible for PEBB benefits through an employing agency, or a school employee who is eligible for SEBB benefits through a SEBB organization, a SEBB participating employer group, or basic benefits through an educational service district as defined in RCW 28A.400.270 who ends public employment may enroll or defer enrollment in PEBB retiree insurance coverage if they meet procedural and substantive eligibility requirements.

To be eligible to continue enrollment or defer enrollment in PEBB retiree insurance coverage, the employee or the school employee must be vested in and eligible to retire under a Washington state-sponsored retirement plan when the employee's or school employee's own employer-paid coverage, COBRA coverage, or continuation coverage ends. An exception to the requirement to be vested in and eligible to retire under a Washington state-sponsored retirement plan is provided for employees of a PEBB participating employer group in (c)(i) of this subsection and for school employees of a SEBB participating employer group in (e)(i) of this subsection. To satisfy the requirement to immediately begin to receive a monthly retirement plan payment as described in (a), (b), (c)(ii), (d), and (e)(ii) of this subsection, the employee or school employee must begin receiving a monthly retirement plan payment no later than the first month following the employee's or school employee's own employer-paid coverage, COBRA coverage, or continuation coverage ending.

(a) A retiring employee of a state agency must immediately begin to receive a monthly retirement plan payment, with exceptions described below:

(i) A retiring employee who receives a lump sum payment instead of a monthly retirement plan payment is only eligible if the department of retirement systems offered the employee the choice between a lump sum actuarially equivalent payment and the ongoing monthly payment, as allowed by the plan; or

(ii) A retiring employee who is a member of the teachers' retirement system Plan 2, school employees' retirement system Plan 2, or public employees' retirement system Plan 2, also called a separated employee as defined in RCW 41.05.011 (25)(b), who separates from employment on or after January 1, 2024, and who is at least age 55 with at least 20 years of service; or

(iii) A retiring employee who is a member of a Plan 3 retirement plan, also called a separated employees as defined in RCW 41.05.011 (25)(a), who is at least age 55 with at least 10 years of service.

(b) A retiring employee of a Washington higher education institution who is a member of a higher education retirement plan (HERP) must immediately begin to receive a monthly retirement plan payment, or meet their HERP plan's retirement eligibility criteria, or be at least age 55 with 10 years of state service;

(c) A retiring employee of an employer group participating in PEBB insurance coverage under contractual agreement with the authority must be eligible to retire as described in (c)(i) or (ii) of this subsection to be eligible to continue PEBB retiree insurance coverage.

(i) A retiring employee who is eligible to retire under a retirement plan sponsored by an employer group or tribal government that is not a Washington state-sponsored retirement plan must meet the same age and years of service requirements as if they were a member of public employees retirement system Plan 1, if their date of hire with that employer group or tribal government was before October 1, 1977, or Plan 2, if their date of hire with that employer group or tribal government was on or after October 1, 1977.

(ii) A retiring employee who is eligible to retire under a Washington state-sponsored retirement plan must immediately begin to receive a monthly retirement plan payment, with exceptions described in (a)(i), (ii), or (iii) of this subsection.

(iii) A retired employee of an employer group that ends participation in PEBB insurance coverage is no longer eligible to continue enrollment in PEBB retiree insurance coverage if they enrolled after September 15, 1991. Any retiree who loses eligibility for this reason may continue health plan enrollment as described in WAC 182-12-232.

(iv) A retired employee of a tribal government employer that ends participation in PEBB insurance coverage is no longer eligible to continue enrollment in PEBB retiree insurance coverage. Any retiree who loses eligibility for this reason may continue health plan enrollment as described in WAC 182-12-232.

(d) A retiring school employee of a SEBB organization must immediately begin to receive a monthly retirement plan payment, with exceptions described below:

(i) A retiring school employee who ends employment before October 1, 1993; or

(ii) A retiring school employee who receives a lump sum payment instead of a monthly retirement plan payment is only eligible if the department of retirement systems offered the school employee the choice between a lump sum actuarially equivalent payment and the ongoing monthly payment, as allowed by the plan, or the school employee enrolled before 1995; or

(iii) A retiring school employee who is a member of the teachers' retirement system Plan 2, school employees' retirement system Plan 2, or public employees' retirement system Plan 2, also called a separated employee as defined in RCW 41.05.011 (25)(b), who separates from employment on or after January 1, 2024, and who is at least age 55 with at least 20 years of service; or

(iv) A retiring school employee who is a member of a Plan 3 retirement system, also called a separated employees as defined in RCW 41.05.011 (25)(a), who is at least age 55 with at least 10 years of service; or

(v) A school employee who retired as of September 30, 1993, and began receiving a monthly retirement plan payment from a Washington

state-sponsored retirement system (as defined in chapters 41.32, 41.35 or 41.40 RCW) is eligible if they enrolled in a PEBB health plan no later than the HCA's annual open enrollment period for the year beginning January 1, 1995.

(e) A retiring school employee of an employer group participating in SEBB insurance coverage under contractual agreement with the authority must be eligible to retire as described in (e)(i) or (ii) of this subsection to be eligible to continue PEBB retiree insurance coverage.

(i) A retiring school employee who is eligible to retire under a retirement plan sponsored by an employer group that is not a Washington state-sponsored retirement plan must meet the same age and years of service requirements as if they were a member of teachers retirement system Plan 1, if their date of hire with that employer group was before October 1, 1977, or Plan 2, if their date of hire with that employer group was on or after October 1, 1977.

(ii) A retiring school employee who is eligible to retire under a Washington state-sponsored retirement plan must immediately begin to receive a monthly retirement plan payment, with exceptions described in (d)(ii), (iii), or (iv) of this subsection.

(iii) A retired school employee of an employer group that ends participation in SEBB insurance coverage is no longer eligible to continue enrollment in PEBB retiree insurance coverage. Any retiree who loses eligibility for this reason may continue health plan enrollment as described in WAC 182-12-232.

(3) A retiring employee or a retiring school employee and their enrolled dependents who are eligible for medicare must enroll and maintain enrollment in both medicare Parts A and B if the employee or the school employee retired after July 1, 1991. If a retiree or an enrolled dependent becomes eligible for medicare after enrollment in PEBB retiree insurance coverage, they must enroll and maintain enrollment in medicare Parts A and B to remain enrolled in a PEBB retiree health plan. If an enrollee who is eligible for medicare does not meet this procedural requirement, the enrollee is no longer eligible for enrollment in a PEBB retiree health plan. The enrollee's eligibility will end as described in the termination notice sent by the PEBB program. The enrollee may continue PEBB health plan enrollment as described in WAC 182-12-146.

Note: For the exclusive purpose of medicare Part A as described in this subsection, "eligible" means the enrollee is eligible for medicare Part A without a monthly premium.

(4) Washington state-sponsored retirement plans include:

- (a) Higher education retirement plans;
- (b) Law enforcement officers' and firefighters' retirement system;
- (c) Public employees' retirement system;
- (d) Public safety employees' retirement system;
- (e) School employees' retirement system;
- (f) State judges/judicial retirement system;
- (g) Teachers' retirement system; and
- (h) State patrol retirement system.

(i) The two federal retirement systems, Civil Service Retirement System and Federal Employees' Retirement System, are considered Washington state-sponsored retirement systems for Washington State University Extension for an employee covered under PEBB benefits at the time of retirement.

[Statutory Authority: RCW 41.05.021, 41.05.065, and 41.05.160, 2023 c 164 § 1, 2023 c 312 § 1, 2023 c 13 § 5, Policy Resolutions PEBB 2024-14, 2024-19, 2024-20, and 2024-21. WSR 24-18-080 (Admin #2024-01.04), § 182-12-171, filed 8/29/24, effective 1/1/25. Statutory Authority: RCW 41.05.021 and 41.05.160. WSR 23-14-015 (Admin #2023-01), § 182-12-171, filed 6/23/23, effective 1/1/24. Statutory Authority: RCW 41.05.021, 41.05.160, and Policy Resolution PEBB 2022-03. WSR 22-13-160 (Admin #2022-02.03), § 182-12-171, filed 6/21/22, effective 1/1/23. Statutory Authority: RCW 41.05.021, 41.05.160, 42 C.F.R. § 422.62(b) and § 423.38(c) and PEBB policy resolution 2020-05. WSR 20-16-063 (Admin #2020-02), § 182-12-171, filed 7/28/20, effective 1/1/21. Statutory Authority: RCW 41.05.021, 41.05.160, and PEBB policy resolution. WSR 19-17-073 (Admin #2019-01), § 182-12-171, filed 8/20/19, effective 1/1/20; WSR 18-20-117 (Admin #2018-02), § 182-12-171, filed 10/3/18, effective 1/1/19; WSR 17-19-077 (Order 2017-01), § 182-12-171, filed 9/15/17, effective 1/1/18. Statutory Authority: RCW 41.05.021, 41.05.160, 2016 c 67, and PEBB policy resolutions. WSR 16-20-080, § 182-12-171, filed 10/4/16, effective 1/1/17. Statutory Authority: RCW 41.05.160, 2015 c 116, and PEBB policy resolutions. WSR 15-22-099 (PEBB Admin # 2015-01 Rev 1), § 182-12-171, filed 11/4/15, effective 1/1/16. Statutory Authority: RCW 41.05.160 and 2013 2nd sp.s. c 4. WSR 14-20-058 (PEBB Admin 2014-02), § 182-12-171, filed 9/25/14, effective 1/1/15. Statutory Authority: RCW 41.05.160 and 2012 2nd sp.s. c 3. WSR 13-22-019 (Admin. 2013-01), § 182-12-171, filed 10/28/13, effective 1/1/14. Statutory Authority: RCW 41.05.160. WSR 12-20-022 (Order 2012-01), § 182-12-171, filed 9/25/12, effective 11/1/12. Statutory Authority: RCW 41.05.160 and 2011 c 8. WSR 11-22-036 (Order 11-02), § 182-12-171, filed 10/26/11, effective 1/1/12. Statutory Authority: RCW 41.05.160. WSR 10-20-147 (Order 10-02), § 182-12-171, filed 10/6/10, effective 1/1/11; WSR 09-23-102 (Order 09-02), § 182-12-171, filed 11/17/09, effective 1/1/10; WSR 08-20-128 (Order 08-03), § 182-12-171, filed 10/1/08, effective 1/1/09; WSR 07-20-129 (Order 07-01), § 182-12-171, filed 10/3/07, effective 11/3/07; WSR 06-11-156 (Order 06-02), § 182-12-171, filed 5/24/06, effective 6/24/06. Statutory Authority: RCW 41.05.160, 41.05.350, and 41.05.165. WSR 05-16-046 (Order 05-01), § 182-12-171, filed 7/27/05, effective 8/27/05. Statutory Authority: RCW 41.05.160 and 41.05.165. WSR 04-18-039, § 182-12-171, filed 8/26/04, effective 1/1/05.]

(Effective until January 1, 2025)

WAC 182-12-180 When is an elected and full-time appointed official of the legislative and executive branch of state government, or their survivor eligible to continue enrollment in public employees benefits board (PEBB) retiree insurance coverage? (1) An elected and full-time appointed official of the legislative and executive branch of state government is eligible to continue enrollment or defer enrollment in public employees benefits board (PEBB) retiree insurance coverage under the same terms as an outgoing legislator, when they voluntarily or involuntarily leave public office. The following officials are eligible if they meet the procedural requirements as described in subsection (3) of this section:

- (a) A member of the state legislature;
- (b) A statewide elected official of the executive branch;

(c) An executive official appointed directly by the governor as the single head of an executive branch agency; or

(d) An official appointed directly by a state legislative committee as the single head of a legislative branch agency or an official appointed to secretary of the senate or chief clerk of the house of representatives.

(2) The spouse, state registered domestic partner, or child of an official described in subsection (1) of this section who loses eligibility due to the death of the official may enroll as a survivor under PEBB retiree insurance coverage as described in (a) and (b) of this subsection and must meet procedural requirements to enroll or defer enrollment as described in subsection (3) of this section.

(a) The official's spouse or state registered domestic partner may continue health plan enrollment until death.

(b) The official's child may continue health plan enrollment until they lose eligibility as described in WAC 182-12-260.

(3) **Procedural requirements.** An official described in subsection (1) of this section or their survivor described in subsection (2) of this section must enroll or defer enrollment in PEBB retiree insurance coverage as described in (a) through (d) of this subsection:

(a) For an official to enroll in PEBB retiree insurance coverage the required forms must be received by the PEBB program no later than 60 days after the official leaves public office. The effective date of PEBB retiree insurance coverage is the first day of the month after the official leaves public office;

For a survivor to enroll in PEBB retiree insurance coverage, the required forms must be received by the PEBB program no later than 60 days after the later of the date of the official's death or the date the survivor's PEBB insurance coverage ends. The effective date of PEBB retiree insurance coverage is the first day of the month after the date of the official's death or the first day of the month after the survivor's PEBB insurance coverage ends;

Note: Enrollment in the PEBB program's medicare advantage (MA) or medicare advantage-prescription drug (MA-PD) plan may not be retroactive. If a subscriber elects to enroll in a MA plan, and the required forms are received by the PEBB program after the date the PEBB retiree insurance coverage is to begin, the subscriber and their enrolled dependents will be enrolled in a plan with the same contracted vendor during the gap month(s) prior to when the MA coverage begins. If a subscriber elects to enroll in a MA-PD plan, and the required forms are received by the PEBB program after the date the PEBB retiree insurance coverage is to begin, the subscriber and their enrolled dependents will be enrolled in Uniform Medical Plan (UMP) Classic during the gap month(s) prior to when the MA-PD coverage begins.

(b) The official's or survivor's first premium payment and applicable premium surcharges are due to the health care authority (HCA) no later than 45 days after the official's or survivor's election period ends as described in (a) of this subsection. Following the official's or survivor's first premium payment, premiums and applicable premium surcharges must be paid as described in WAC 182-08-180 (1)(c);

(c) If an official or a survivor elects to enroll a dependent in PEBB health plan coverage, the dependent must be enrolled in the same PEBB medical and PEBB dental plan as the official or survivor;

Exception: If an official or a survivor selects a medicare supplement plan or MA-PD plan, nonmedicare enrollees will be enrolled in the UMP Classic. If an official or a survivor selects any other medicare plan, they must also select a nonmedicare plan with the same contracted vendor available to nonmedicare enrollees.

(d) To defer enrollment in PEBB retiree insurance coverage the official or the survivor must meet deferral enrollment requirements as described in WAC 182-12-200 or 182-12-205.

(4) If the official, an enrolled dependent, or their survivor is eligible for medicare or becomes eligible for medicare after enrollment in PEBB retiree insurance coverage, they must enroll and maintain enrollment in medicare Parts A and B to remain enrolled in a PEBB retiree health plan. If an enrollee who is eligible for medicare does

not meet this procedural requirement, the enrollee is no longer eligible for enrollment in a PEBB retiree health plan. The enrollee's eligibility will end as described in the termination notice sent by the PEBB program. The enrollee may continue PEBB health plan enrollment as described in WAC 182-12-146.

Note: For the exclusive purpose of medicare Part A as described in this subsection, "eligible" means the enrollee is eligible for medicare Part A without a monthly premium.

(5) An official described in subsection (1) of this section shall be included in the term "retiree" or "retiring employee" as used in chapters 182-08, 182-12, and 182-16 WAC.

[Statutory Authority: RCW 41.05.021, 41.05.160, and Policy Resolution PEBB 2022-03. WSR 22-13-160 (Admin #2022-02.03), § 182-12-180, filed 6/21/22, effective 1/1/23. Statutory Authority: RCW 41.05.021, 41.05.160, 42 C.F.R. § 422.62(b) and § 423.38(c) and PEBB policy resolution 2020-05. WSR 20-16-063 (Admin #2020-02), § 182-12-180, filed 7/28/20, effective 1/1/21. Statutory Authority: RCW 41.05.021, 41.05.160, and PEBB policy resolutions. WSR 19-17-073 (Admin #2019-01), § 182-12-180, filed 8/20/19, effective 1/1/20; WSR 18-20-117 (Admin #2018-02), § 182-12-180, filed 10/3/18, effective 1/1/19; WSR 17-19-077 (Order 2017-01), § 182-12-180, filed 9/15/17, effective 1/1/18.]

(Effective January 1, 2025)

WAC 182-12-180 When is an elected and full-time appointed official of the legislative and executive branch of state government, or their survivor eligible to continue enrollment in public employees benefits board (PEBB) retiree insurance coverage?

(1) An elected and full-time appointed official of the legislative and executive branch of state government is eligible to continue enrollment or defer enrollment in public employees benefits board (PEBB) retiree insurance coverage under the same terms as an outgoing legislator, when they voluntarily or involuntarily leave public office. The following officials are eligible if they meet the procedural requirements as described in subsection (3) of this section:

- (a) A member of the state legislature;
- (b) A statewide elected official of the executive branch;
- (c) An executive official appointed directly by the governor as the single head of an executive branch agency; or
- (d) An official appointed directly by a state legislative committee as the single head of a legislative branch agency or an official appointed to secretary of the senate or chief clerk of the house of representatives.

(2) The spouse, state registered domestic partner, or child of an official described in subsection (1) of this section who loses eligibility due to the death of the official may enroll as a survivor under PEBB retiree insurance coverage as described in (a) and (b) of this subsection and must meet procedural requirements to enroll or defer enrollment as described in subsection (3) of this section.

(a) The official's spouse or state registered domestic partner may continue health plan enrollment until death.

(b) The official's child may continue health plan enrollment until they lose eligibility as described in WAC 182-12-260.

(3) **Procedural requirements.** An official described in subsection (1) of this section or their survivor described in subsection (2) of

this section must enroll or defer enrollment in PEBB retiree insurance coverage as described in (a) through (e) of this subsection:

(a) For an official to enroll in PEBB retiree insurance coverage the required forms must be received by the PEBB program no later than 60 days after the official leaves public office. The effective date of PEBB retiree insurance coverage is the first day of the month after the official leaves public office;

For a survivor to enroll in PEBB retiree insurance coverage, the required forms must be received by the PEBB program no later than 60 days after the later of the date of the official's death or the date the survivor's PEBB insurance coverage ends. The effective date of PEBB retiree insurance coverage is the first day of the month after the date of the official's death or the first day of the month after the survivor's PEBB insurance coverage ends;

Note: Enrollment in the PEBB program's medicare advantage (MA) plan, medicare advantage-prescription drug (MA-PD) plan, or the Uniform Medical Plan (UMP) Classic medicare plan may not be retroactive.

(1) If a subscriber elects to enroll in a MA plan, and the required forms are received by the PEBB program after the date the PEBB retiree insurance coverage is to begin, the subscriber and their enrolled dependents will be enrolled in a plan with the same contracted vendor during the gap month(s) prior to when the MA coverage begins.

(2) If a subscriber elects to enroll in a MA-PD plan, and the required forms are received by the PEBB program after the date the PEBB retiree insurance coverage is to begin, the subscriber and their enrolled dependents will be enrolled in transitional coverage as designated by the director or designee during the gap month(s) prior to when the MA-PD coverage begins.

(3) If a subscriber elects to enroll in the UMP Classic medicare plan, and the required forms are received by the PEBB program after the date the PEBB retiree insurance coverage is to begin, the subscriber and their enrolled dependents will be enrolled in transitional UMP coverage during the gap month(s) prior to when the UMP Classic medicare plan begins.

(b) The official's or survivor's first premium payment and applicable premium surcharges are due to the health care authority (HCA) no later than 45 days after the official's or survivor's election period ends as described in (a) of this subsection, except as described in WAC 182-08-180 (1)(a). Following the official's or survivor's first premium payment, premiums and applicable premium surcharges must be paid as described in WAC 182-08-180 (1)(c);

(c) If an official or a survivor elects to enroll a dependent in PEBB health plan coverage, the dependent must be enrolled in the same PEBB medical and PEBB dental plan as the official or survivor;

Exceptions: (1) If an official or a survivor selects a medicare supplement plan, a MA-PD plan, or the UMP Classic medicare plan, nonmedicare enrollees will be enrolled in the UMP Classic. If an official or a survivor selects any other medicare plan, they must also select a nonmedicare plan with the same contracted vendor available to nonmedicare enrollees.

(2) If the official or survivor selects a medicare supplement plan, MA-PD plan, or any other medicare plan, they may elect a PEBB vision plan available for any nonmedicare enrollees.

(d) An official or survivor who is nonmedicare must enroll in PEBB medical to be able to enroll in PEBB dental, in PEBB vision, or in both dental and vision. Any nonmedicare dependents they elect to enroll must be enrolled in the same PEBB medical, PEBB dental, and PEBB vision plan.

(e) To defer enrollment in PEBB retiree insurance coverage the official or the survivor must meet deferral enrollment requirements as described in WAC 182-12-200 or 182-12-205.

(4) If the official, an enrolled dependent, or their survivor is eligible for medicare or becomes eligible for medicare after enrollment in PEBB retiree insurance coverage, they must enroll and maintain enrollment in medicare Parts A and B to remain enrolled in a PEBB retiree health plan. If an enrollee who is eligible for medicare does not meet this procedural requirement, the enrollee is no longer eligible for enrollment in a PEBB retiree health plan. The enrollee's eligibility will end as described in the termination notice sent by the PEBB program. The enrollee may continue PEBB health plan enrollment as described in WAC 182-12-146.

Note: For the exclusive purpose of medicare Part A as described in this subsection, "eligible" means the enrollee is eligible for medicare Part A without a monthly premium.

(5) An official described in subsection (1) of this section shall be included in the term "retiree" or "retiring employee" as used in chapters 182-08, 182-12, and 182-16 WAC.

[Statutory Authority: RCW 41.05.021, 41.06.065 [41.05.065], and 41.05.160. WSR 24-18-083 (Admin #2024-02), § 182-12-180, filed 8/29/24, effective 1/1/25. Statutory Authority: RCW 41.05.021, 41.05.160, and Policy Resolution PEBB 2022-03. WSR 22-13-160 (Admin #2022-02.03), § 182-12-180, filed 6/21/22, effective 1/1/23. Statutory Authority: RCW 41.05.021, 41.05.160, 42 C.F.R. § 422.62(b) and § 423.38(c) and PEBB policy resolution 2020-05. WSR 20-16-063 (Admin #2020-02), § 182-12-180, filed 7/28/20, effective 1/1/21. Statutory Authority: RCW 41.05.021, 41.05.160, and PEBB policy resolutions. WSR 19-17-073 (Admin #2019-01), § 182-12-180, filed 8/20/19, effective 1/1/20; WSR 18-20-117 (Admin #2018-02), § 182-12-180, filed 10/3/18, effective 1/1/19; WSR 17-19-077 (Order 2017-01), § 182-12-180, filed 9/15/17, effective 1/1/18.]

(Effective until January 1, 2025)

WAC 182-12-200 May a retiring employee, a retiring school employee, or a retiree enrolled as a dependent in a health plan sponsored by public employees benefits board (PEBB) or school employees benefits board (SEBB) defer enrollment under PEBB retiree insurance coverage?

(1) A retiring employee or a retiring school employee may defer enrollment in public employees benefits board (PEBB) retiree insurance coverage at retirement if they meet substantive eligibility requirements as described in WAC 182-12-171(2) or as described in WAC 182-12-180(1). An enrolled retiree may defer enrollment after enrolling in PEBB retiree insurance coverage. Enrollment in PEBB retiree insurance coverage may be deferred when they are enrolled as a dependent in a health plan sponsored by PEBB or school employees benefits board (SEBB), including such coverage under the Consolidated Omnibus Budget Reconciliation Act (COBRA) or continuation coverage.

(2) A retiring employee, a retiring school employee, or a retiree who defers enrollment in PEBB retiree insurance coverage defers enrollment in PEBB medical and PEBB dental. A retiree must be enrolled in PEBB medical to enroll in PEBB dental. A retiree who defers enrollment also defers enrollment for all eligible dependents. A retiree may only defer enrollment in PEBB retiree term life insurance as described in WAC 182-12-209 (3)(b).

(3) A retiring employee, a retiring school employee, or a retiree who defers enrollment as described in this section may later enroll themselves and their dependents in a PEBB health plan by submitting the required forms as described below and evidence of continuous enrollment in a health plan sponsored by PEBB or SEBB. Evidence of continuous enrollment in a health plan sponsored by a Washington state educational service district may be required if a retiring employee, a retiring school employee, or a retiree deferred enrollment under this section prior to January 1, 2024. A gap of 31 days or less is allowed between the date PEBB retiree insurance coverage is deferred and the start date of enrollment in a health plan sponsored by PEBB, a Washington state educational service district, or SEBB, and between each period of enrollment in qualifying coverages as described in WAC 182-12-205 (3)(a) through (e) during the deferral period:

(a) During the PEBB annual open enrollment period. The required form must be received by the PEBB program no later than the last day of the open enrollment period. PEBB health plan coverage begins January 1st of the following year; or

(b) When enrollment in a health plan sponsored by PEBB, a Washington state educational service district, or SEBB ends, or such coverage under COBRA or continuation coverage ends. The required forms to enroll must be received by the PEBB program no later than 60 days after coverage ends. PEBB health plan coverage begins the first day of the month following the date the other coverage ends. To continue in a deferred status, the retiree must defer enrollment as described in WAC 182-12-205.

Note: Enrollment in the PEBB program's medicare advantage (MA) or medicare advantage-prescription drug (MA-PD) plan may not be retroactive. If a subscriber elects to enroll in a MA plan, and the required forms are received by the PEBB program after the date the PEBB retiree insurance coverage is to begin, the subscriber and their enrolled dependents will be enrolled in a plan with the same contracted vendor during the gap month(s) prior to when the MA coverage begins. If a subscriber elects to enroll in a MA-PD plan, and the required forms are received by the PEBB program after the date the PEBB retiree insurance coverage is to begin, the subscriber and their enrolled dependents will be enrolled in Uniform Medical Plan (UMP) Classic during the gap month(s) prior to when the MA-PD coverage begins.

(c) If a retiree elects to enroll a dependent in PEBB health plan coverage as described in this subsection, the dependent must be enrolled in the same PEBB medical or PEBB dental plan as the retiree.

Exception: If a retiree selects a medicare supplement plan or MA-PD plan, nonmedicare enrollees will be enrolled in the UMP Classic. If a retiree selects any other medicare plan, they must also select a nonmedicare plan with the same contracted vendor available to nonmedicare enrollees.

[Statutory Authority: RCW 41.05.021 and 41.05.160. WSR 23-14-015 (Admin #2023-01), § 182-12-200, filed 6/23/23, effective 1/1/24. Statutory Authority: RCW 41.05.021, 41.05.160, and Policy Resolution PEBB 2022-03. WSR 22-13-160 (Admin #2022-02.03), § 182-12-200, filed 6/21/22, effective 1/1/23. Statutory Authority: RCW 41.05.021, 41.05.160 and Policy resolution PEBB 2021-14. WSR 21-13-104 (Admin #2021-01.04), § 182-12-200, filed 6/18/21, effective 1/1/22. Statutory Authority: RCW 41.05.021, 41.05.160, 42 C.F.R. § 422.62(b) and § 423.38(c) and PEBB policy resolution 2020-05. WSR 20-16-063 (Admin #2020-02), § 182-12-200, filed 7/28/20, effective 1/1/21. Statutory Authority: RCW 41.05.021, 41.05.160, and PEBB policy resolutions. WSR 19-17-073 (Admin #2019-01), § 182-12-200, filed 8/20/19, effective 1/1/20; WSR 18-20-117 (Admin #2018-02), § 182-12-200, filed 10/3/18, effective 1/1/19. Statutory Authority: RCW 41.05.021, 41.05.160, 2016 c 67, and PEBB policy resolutions. WSR 16-20-080, § 182-12-200, filed 10/4/16, effective 1/1/17. Statutory Authority: RCW 41.05.160, 2015 c 116, and PEBB policy resolutions. WSR 15-22-099 (PEBB Admin # 2015-01 Rev 1), § 182-12-200, filed 11/4/15, effective 1/1/16. Statutory Authority: RCW 41.05.160 and 2013 2nd sp.s. c 4. WSR 14-20-058 (PEBB Admin 2014-02), § 182-12-200, filed 9/25/14, effective 1/1/15. Statutory Authority: RCW 41.05.160. WSR 09-23-102 (Order 09-02), § 182-12-200, filed 11/17/09, effective 1/1/10; WSR 08-20-128 (Order 08-03), § 182-12-200, filed 10/1/08, effective 1/1/09; WSR 07-20-129 (Order 07-01), § 182-12-200, filed 10/3/07, effective 11/3/07. Statutory Authority: RCW 41.05.160 and 41.05.165. WSR 04-18-039, § 182-12-200, filed 8/26/04, effective 1/1/05. Statutory Authority: RCW 41.05.160. WSR 01-17-041 (Order 01-00), § 182-12-200, filed 8/9/01, effective 9/9/01; WSR 97-21-127, § 182-12-200, filed 10/21/97, effective 11/21/97. Statutory Authority: Chapter 41.05 RCW. WSR 96-08-043, § 182-12-200, filed 3/29/96, effective 4/29/96; Order 4-77, § 182-12-200, filed 11/17/77.]

(Effective January 1, 2025)

WAC 182-12-200 May a retiring employee, a retiring school employee, or a retiree enrolled as a dependent in a health plan sponsored by public employees benefits board (PEBB) or school employees benefits board (SEBB) defer enrollment under PEBB retiree insurance coverage?

(1) A retiring employee or a retiring school employee may defer enrollment in public employees benefits board (PEBB) retiree insurance coverage at retirement if they meet substantive eligibility requirements as described in WAC 182-12-171(2) or as described in WAC 182-12-180(1). An enrolled retiree may defer enrollment after enrolling in PEBB retiree insurance coverage. Enrollment in PEBB retiree insurance coverage may be deferred when they are enrolled as a dependent in a health plan sponsored by PEBB or school employees benefits board (SEBB), including such coverage under the Consolidated Omnibus Budget Reconciliation Act (COBRA) or continuation coverage.

(2) A retiring employee, a retiring school employee, or a retiree who defers enrollment in PEBB retiree insurance coverage defers enrollment in PEBB medical, PEBB dental, and PEBB vision. A retiree must be enrolled in PEBB medical to enroll in PEBB dental except for a non-medicare retiree must enroll in PEBB medical to be able to enroll in PEBB dental, in PEBB vision, or in both PEBB dental and PEBB vision. A retiree who defers enrollment also defers enrollment for all eligible dependents. A retiree may only defer enrollment in PEBB retiree term life insurance as described in WAC 182-12-209 (3)(b).

(3) A retiring employee, a retiring school employee, or a retiree who defers enrollment as described in this section may later enroll themselves and their dependents in a PEBB health plan by submitting the required forms as described below and evidence of continuous enrollment in a health plan sponsored by PEBB or SEBB. Evidence of continuous enrollment in a health plan sponsored by a Washington state educational service district may be required if a retiring employee, a retiring school employee, or a retiree deferred enrollment under this section prior to January 1, 2024. A gap of 31 days or less is allowed between the date PEBB retiree insurance coverage is deferred and the start date of enrollment in a health plan sponsored by PEBB, a Washington state educational service district, or SEBB, and between each period of enrollment in qualifying coverages as described in WAC 182-12-205 (3)(a) through (e) during the deferral period:

(a) During the PEBB annual open enrollment period. The required form must be received by the PEBB program no later than the last day of the open enrollment period. PEBB health plan coverage begins January 1st of the following year; or

(b) When enrollment in a health plan sponsored by PEBB, or SEBB ends, or such coverage under COBRA or continuation coverage ends. The required forms to enroll must be received by the PEBB program no later than 60 days after coverage ends. PEBB health plan coverage begins the first day of the month following the date the other coverage ends. To continue in a deferred status, the retiree must defer enrollment as described in WAC 182-12-205.

Note: Enrollment in the PEBB program's medicare advantage (MA) plan, medicare advantage-prescription drug (MA-PD) plan, or the Uniform Medical Plan (UMP) Classic medicare plan may not be retroactive.
(1) If a subscriber elects to enroll in a MA plan, and the required forms are received by the PEBB program after the date the PEBB retiree insurance coverage is to begin, the subscriber and their enrolled dependents will be enrolled in a plan with the same contracted vendor during the gap month(s) prior to when the MA coverage begins.
(2) If a subscriber elects to enroll in a MA-PD plan, and the required forms are received by the PEBB program after the date the PEBB retiree insurance coverage is to begin, the subscriber and their enrolled dependents will be enrolled in transitional coverage as designated by the director or designee during the gap month(s) prior to when the MA-PD coverage begins.
(3) If a subscriber elects to enroll in the UMP Classic medicare plan, and the required forms are received by the PEBB program after the date the PEBB retiree insurance coverage is to begin, the subscriber and their enrolled dependents will be enrolled in transitional UMP coverage during the gap month(s) prior to when the UMP Classic medicare plan begins.

(c) If a retiree elects to enroll a dependent in PEBB health plan coverage as described in this subsection, the dependent must be enrolled in the same PEBB medical or PEBB dental plan as the retiree.

Exceptions: (1) If a retiree selects a medicare supplement plan, a MA-PD plan, or the UMP Classic medicare plan, nonmedicare enrollees will be enrolled in the UMP Classic. If a retiree selects any other medicare plan, they must also select a nonmedicare plan with the same contracted vendor available to nonmedicare enrollees.
(2) If a retiree selects a medicare supplement plan, MA-PD plan, or any other medicare plan, they may elect a PEBB vision plan available for any nonmedicare enrollees.

(d) A nonmedicare retiree must enroll in PEBB medical to be able to enroll in PEBB dental, in PEBB vision, or in both PEBB dental and PEBB vision. Any nonmedicare dependents they elect to enroll must be enrolled in the same PEBB medical, PEBB dental, and PEBB vision plan.

[Statutory Authority: RCW 41.05.021, 41.06.065 [41.05.065], and 41.05.160. WSR 24-18-083 (Admin #2024-02), § 182-12-200, filed 8/29/24, effective 1/1/25. Statutory Authority: RCW 41.05.021 and 41.05.160. WSR 23-14-015 (Admin #2023-01), § 182-12-200, filed 6/23/23, effective 1/1/24. Statutory Authority: RCW 41.05.021, 41.05.160, and Policy Resolution PEBB 2022-03. WSR 22-13-160 (Admin #2022-02.03), § 182-12-200, filed 6/21/22, effective 1/1/23. Statutory Authority: RCW 41.05.021, 41.05.160 and Policy resolution PEBB 2021-14. WSR 21-13-104 (Admin #2021-01.04), § 182-12-200, filed 6/18/21, effective 1/1/22. Statutory Authority: RCW 41.05.021, 41.05.160, 42 C.F.R. § 422.62(b) and § 423.38(c) and PEBB policy resolution 2020-05. WSR 20-16-063 (Admin #2020-02), § 182-12-200, filed 7/28/20, effective 1/1/21. Statutory Authority: RCW 41.05.021, 41.05.160, and PEBB policy resolutions. WSR 19-17-073 (Admin #2019-01), § 182-12-200, filed 8/20/19, effective 1/1/20; WSR 18-20-117 (Admin #2018-02), § 182-12-200, filed 10/3/18, effective 1/1/19. Statutory Authority: RCW 41.05.021, 41.05.160, 2016 c 67, and PEBB policy resolutions. WSR 16-20-080, § 182-12-200, filed 10/4/16, effective 1/1/17. Statutory Authority: RCW 41.05.160, 2015 c 116, and PEBB policy resolutions. WSR 15-22-099 (PEBB Admin # 2015-01 Rev 1), § 182-12-200, filed 11/4/15, effective 1/1/16. Statutory Authority: RCW 41.05.160 and 2013 2nd sp.s. c 4. WSR 14-20-058 (PEBB Admin 2014-02), § 182-12-200, filed 9/25/14, effective 1/1/15. Statutory Authority: RCW 41.05.160. WSR 09-23-102 (Order 09-02), § 182-12-200, filed 11/17/09, effective 1/1/10; WSR 08-20-128 (Order 08-03), § 182-12-200, filed 10/1/08, effective 1/1/09; WSR 07-20-129 (Order 07-01), § 182-12-200, filed 10/3/07, effective 11/3/07. Statutory Authority: RCW 41.05.160 and 41.05.165. WSR 04-18-039, § 182-12-200, filed 8/26/04, effective 1/1/05. Statutory Authority: RCW 41.05.160. WSR 01-17-041 (Order 01-00), § 182-12-200, filed 8/9/01, effective 9/9/01; WSR 97-21-127, § 182-12-200, filed 10/21/97, effective 11/21/97. Statutory Authority: Chapter 41.05 RCW. WSR 96-08-043, § 182-12-200, filed 3/29/96, effective 4/29/96; Order 4-77, § 182-12-200, filed 11/17/77.]

(Effective until January 1, 2025)

WAC 182-12-205 May a retiree or a survivor defer enrollment or voluntarily terminate enrollment under public employees benefits board (PEBB) retiree insurance coverage? (1) The following individuals may defer enrollment in public employees benefits board (PEBB) retiree insurance coverage:

(a) A retiring employee or a retiring school employee;

(b) A dependent becoming eligible as a survivor; or

(c) A retiree or a survivor enrolled in PEBB retiree insurance coverage.

(2) A subscriber described in subsection (1) of this section who defers enrollment in PEBB retiree insurance coverage also defers enrollment for all eligible dependents, except as described in subsection (3)(c) of this section.

(3) A subscriber described in subsection (1) of this section who chooses to defer enrollment in PEBB retiree insurance coverage must maintain continuous enrollment in one or more qualifying coverages as described in this subsection or WAC 182-12-200. A gap of 31 days or less is allowed between the date PEBB retiree insurance coverage is deferred and the start date of a qualifying coverage, and between each period of enrollment in qualifying coverages during the deferral period. A subscriber who chooses to defer enrollment, defers enrollment in PEBB medical and PEBB dental. A subscriber must be enrolled in PEBB medical to enroll in PEBB dental. A retiree may only defer enrollment in PEBB retiree term life insurance as described in WAC 182-12-209 (3)(b).

(a) Beginning January 1, 2001, enrollment in PEBB retiree insurance coverage may be deferred when the subscriber is enrolled in employer-based group medical as an employee or the dependent of an employee, or such medical insurance continued under Consolidated Omnibus Budget Reconciliation Act (COBRA) coverage or continuation coverage.

(b) Beginning January 1, 2001, enrollment in PEBB retiree insurance coverage may be deferred when the subscriber is enrolled as a retiree or the dependent of a retiree in a federal retiree medical plan.

(c) Beginning January 1, 2006, enrollment in PEBB retiree insurance coverage may be deferred when the subscriber is enrolled in medicare Parts A and B and a medicaid program that provides creditable coverage as defined in WAC 182-12-109. Dependents may continue their PEBB health plan enrollment if they meet PEBB eligibility criteria and are not eligible for creditable coverage under a medicaid program.

(d) Beginning January 1, 2014, subscribers who are not eligible for Parts A and B of medicare may defer enrollment in PEBB retiree insurance coverage when the subscriber is enrolled in exchange coverage.

(e) Beginning July 17, 2018, enrollment in PEBB retiree insurance coverage may be deferred when the subscriber is enrolled in the Civilian Health and Medical Program of the Department of Veterans Affairs (CHAMPVA).

(4) To defer enrollment in PEBB retiree insurance coverage, the required forms must be submitted to the PEBB program.

(a) For a retiring employee or a retiring school employee who meets the substantive eligibility requirements as described in WAC 182-12-171(2), enrollment will be deferred the first of the month following the date their own employer-paid coverage, COBRA coverage, or continuation coverage ends. The forms must be received by the PEBB program no later than 60 days after their own employer-paid coverage, COBRA coverage, or continuation coverage ends.

(b) For an official leaving public office who meets the requirements as described in WAC 182-12-180(1), enrollment will be deferred

the first of the month following the date the official leaves public office. The forms must be received by the PEBB program no later than 60 days after the official leaves public office.

(c) For an employee or a school employee determined to be retroactively eligible for disability retirement who meets the requirements as described in WAC 182-12-211 (1)(a) through (c), enrollment will be deferred as described in WAC 182-12-211 (2) or (3). The forms and formal determination letter must be received by the PEBB program no later than 60 days after the date on the determination letter.

(d) For an eligible survivor, the dependent must meet the requirements described below and the forms must be received by the PEBB program within the time described:

(i) For a survivor of an employee or a school employee who meets the requirements as described in WAC 182-12-265 (1) or (3), enrollment will be deferred the first of the month following the later of the date of the employee's or the school employee's death or the date the survivor's PEBB insurance coverage, educational service district coverage, or school employees benefits board (SEBB) insurance coverage ends. The forms must be received by the PEBB program no later than 60 days after the later of the date of the employee's or the school employee's death or the date the survivor's PEBB insurance coverage, educational service district coverage, or SEBB insurance coverage ends.

(ii) For a survivor of an official who meets the requirements as described in WAC 182-12-180(2), enrollment will be deferred the first of the month following the later of the date of the official's death or the date the survivor's PEBB insurance coverage ends. The forms must be received by the PEBB program no later than 60 days after the later of the date of the official's death or the date the survivor's PEBB insurance coverage ends.

(iii) For a survivor of a retiree who meets the requirements as described in WAC 182-12-265(2), enrollment will be deferred the first of the month following the date of the retiree's death. The forms must be received by the PEBB program no later than 60 days after the retiree's death.

(iv) For a survivor of an emergency service personnel killed in the line of duty who meets the requirements as described in WAC 182-12-250, enrollment will be deferred the first of the month following the later of one of the events described in WAC 182-12-250 (5)(a) through (d). The forms must be received by the PEBB program no later than 180 days after the later of one of the events described in WAC 182-12-250 (5)(a) through (d).

(e) For an enrolled retiree or survivor who submits the required forms to defer enrollment in PEBB retiree insurance coverage, enrollment will be deferred effective the first of the month following the date the required forms are received by the PEBB program. If the forms are received on the first day of the month, enrollment will be deferred effective that day.

Exception: When a subscriber or their dependent is enrolled in a medicare advantage plan (MA), then enrollment in PEBB retiree insurance coverage will be deferred effective the first of the month following the date the MA plan disenrollment form is received.

(5) A retiree who meets substantive eligibility requirements in WAC 182-12-171(2) and whose own employer-paid coverage, COBRA coverage, or continuation coverage ended between January 1, 2001, and December 31, 2001, was not required to have submitted the deferral form at that time, but must meet all procedural requirements as stated in this section, WAC 182-12-171, and 182-12-200.

(6) A subscriber described in subsection (1) of this section who defers enrollment while enrolled in qualifying coverage as described

in subsection (3)(a) through (e) of this section may later enroll themselves and their dependents in a PEBB health plan by submitting the required forms as described below and evidence of continuous enrollment in one or more qualifying coverages as described in subsection (3)(a) through (e) of this section. A gap of 31 days or less is allowed between the date PEBB retiree insurance coverage is deferred and the start date of a qualifying coverage, and between each period of enrollment in qualifying coverages during the deferral period:

(a) A subscriber who defers enrollment while enrolled in employer-based group medical or such medical insurance continued under COBRA coverage or continuation coverage may enroll in a PEBB health plan by submitting the required forms and evidence of continuous enrollment to the PEBB program:

(i) During the PEBB annual open enrollment period. The required forms must be received by the PEBB program no later than the last day of the open enrollment period. PEBB health plan coverage begins January 1st of the following year; or

(ii) When their employer-based group medical or such coverage under COBRA coverage or continuation coverage ends. The required forms and evidence of continuous enrollment must be received by the PEBB program no later than 60 days after coverage ends. PEBB health plan coverage begins the first day of the month after the employer-based group medical coverage, COBRA coverage, or continuation coverage ends.

Note: Enrollment in the PEBB program's MA or medicare advantage-prescription drug (MA-PD) plan may not be retroactive. If a subscriber elects to enroll in a MA plan, and the required forms are received by the PEBB program after the date the PEBB retiree insurance coverage is to begin, the subscriber and their enrolled dependents will be enrolled in a plan with the same contracted vendor during the gap month(s) prior to when the MA coverage begins. If a subscriber elects to enroll in a MA-PD plan, and the required forms are received by the PEBB program after the date the PEBB retiree insurance coverage is to begin, the subscriber and their enrolled dependents will be enrolled in Uniform Medical Plan (UMP) Classic during the gap month(s) prior to when the MA-PD coverage begins.

(b) A subscriber who defers enrollment while enrolled as a retiree or dependent of a retiree in a federal retiree medical plan will have a one-time opportunity to enroll in a PEBB health plan by submitting the required forms and evidence of continuous enrollment to the PEBB program:

(i) During the PEBB annual open enrollment period. The required forms must be received by the PEBB program no later than the last day of the open enrollment period. PEBB health plan coverage begins January 1st of the following year; or

(ii) When the federal retiree medical plan coverage ends. The required forms and evidence of continuous enrollment must be received by the PEBB program no later than 60 days after coverage ends. PEBB health plan coverage begins the first day of the month after coverage under the federal retiree medical plan ends.

Note: Enrollment in the PEBB program's MA or MA-PD plan may not be retroactive. If a subscriber elects to enroll in a MA plan, and the required forms are received by the PEBB program after the date the PEBB retiree insurance coverage is to begin, the subscriber and their enrolled dependents will be enrolled in a plan with the same contracted vendor during the gap month(s) prior to when the MA coverage begins. If a subscriber elects to enroll in a MA-PD plan, and the required forms are received by the PEBB program after the date the PEBB retiree insurance coverage is to begin, the subscriber and their enrolled dependents will be enrolled in UMP Classic during the gap month(s) prior to when the MA-PD coverage begins.

(c) A subscriber who defers enrollment while enrolled in medicare Parts A and B and a medicaid program that provides creditable coverage as defined in WAC 182-12-109 may enroll in a PEBB health plan by submitting the required forms and evidence of continuous enrollment to the PEBB program:

(i) During the PEBB annual open enrollment period. The required forms must be received by the PEBB program no later than the last day of the open enrollment period. PEBB health plan coverage begins January 1st of the following year; or

(ii) When their medicaid coverage ends. The required forms and evidence of continuous enrollment must be received by the PEBB program no later than 60 days after coverage ends. PEBB health plan coverage begins the first day of the month after the medicaid coverage ends; or

Note: Enrollment in the PEBB program's MA or MA-PD plan may not be retroactive. If a subscriber elects to enroll in a MA plan, and the required forms are received by the PEBB program after the date the PEBB retiree insurance coverage is to begin, the subscriber and their enrolled dependents will be enrolled in a plan with the same contracted vendor during the gap month(s) prior to when the MA coverage begins. If a subscriber elects to enroll in a MA-PD plan, and the required forms are received by the PEBB program after the date the PEBB retiree insurance coverage is to begin, the subscriber and their enrolled dependents will be enrolled in UMP Classic during the gap month(s) prior to when the MA-PD coverage begins.

(iii) No later than the end of the calendar year when their medicaid coverage ends if the retiree or survivor was also determined eligible under 42 U.S.C. § 1395w-114 and subsequently enrolled in a medicare Part D plan. Enrollment in the PEBB health plan will begin January 1st following the end of the calendar year when the medicaid coverage ends. The required forms must be received by the PEBB program no later than the last day of the calendar year in which the medicaid coverage ends.

(d) A subscriber who defers enrollment while enrolled in exchange coverage will have a one-time opportunity to enroll or reenroll in a PEBB health plan by submitting the required forms and evidence of continuous enrollment to the PEBB program:

(i) During the PEBB annual open enrollment period. The required forms must be received by the PEBB program no later than the last day of the open enrollment period. PEBB health plan coverage begins January 1st of the following year; or

(ii) When exchange coverage ends. The required forms and evidence of continuous enrollment must be received by the PEBB program no later than 60 days after coverage ends. PEBB health plan coverage begins the first day of the month after exchange coverage ends.

Note: Enrollment in the PEBB program's MA or MA-PD plan may not be retroactive. If a subscriber elects to enroll in a MA plan, and the required forms are received by the PEBB program after the date the PEBB retiree insurance coverage is to begin, the subscriber and their enrolled dependents will be enrolled in a plan with the same contracted vendor during the gap month(s) prior to when the MA coverage begins. If a subscriber elects to enroll in a MA-PD plan, and the required forms are received by the PEBB program after the date the PEBB retiree insurance coverage is to begin, the subscriber and their enrolled dependents will be enrolled in UMP Classic during the gap month(s) prior to when the MA-PD coverage begins.

(e) A subscriber who defers enrollment while enrolled in CHAMPVA will have a one-time opportunity to enroll in a PEBB health plan by submitting the required forms and evidence of continuous enrollment to the PEBB program:

(i) During the PEBB annual open enrollment period. The required forms must be received by the PEBB program no later than the last day of the open enrollment period. PEBB health plan coverage begins January 1st of the following year; or

(ii) When CHAMPVA coverage ends. The required forms and evidence of continuous enrollment must be received by the PEBB program no later than 60 days after coverage ends. PEBB health plan coverage begins the first day of the month after CHAMPVA coverage ends.

Note: Enrollment in the PEBB program's MA or MA-PD plan may not be retroactive. If a subscriber elects to enroll in a MA plan, and the required forms are received by the PEBB program after the date the PEBB retiree insurance coverage is to begin, the subscriber and their enrolled dependents will be enrolled in a plan with the same contracted vendor during the gap month(s) prior to when the MA coverage begins. If a subscriber elects to enroll in a MA-PD plan, and the required forms are received by the PEBB program after the date the PEBB retiree insurance coverage is to begin, the subscriber and their enrolled dependents will be enrolled in UMP Classic during the gap month(s) prior to when the MA-PD coverage begins.

(7) A subscriber described in subsection (1) of this section who defers enrollment while enrolled in qualifying coverage as described in subsection (3)(a) through (e) of this section may later enroll themselves and their dependents in a PEBB health plan if they receive formal notice that the authority has determined it is more cost-effective to enroll them or their eligible dependents in PEBB medical than a medical assistance program.

(8) If a subscriber elects to enroll a dependent in PEBB health plan coverage as described in subsection (6) or (7) of this section, the dependent must be enrolled in the same PEBB medical and PEBB dental plan as the subscriber.

Exception: If a subscriber selects a medicare supplement plan or MA-PD plan, nonmedicare enrollees will be enrolled in the UMP Classic. If a subscriber selects any other medicare plan, they must also select a nonmedicare plan with the same contracted vendor available to nonmedicare enrollees.

(9) An enrolled retiree or a survivor who requests to voluntarily terminate their enrollment in PEBB retiree insurance coverage must do so in writing. The written termination request must be received by the PEBB program. A retiree or a survivor who voluntarily terminates their enrollment in a PEBB health plan also terminates enrollment for all eligible dependents. Once coverage is terminated, a retiree or a survivor may not enroll again in the future unless they reestablish eligibility for PEBB insurance coverage by becoming newly eligible. Enrollment in a PEBB health plan will terminate on the last day of the month in which the PEBB program receives the termination request. If the termination request is received on the first day of the month, enrollment will terminate on the last day of the previous month.

Exception: When a subscriber or their dependent is enrolled in a MA plan, then enrollment will terminate on the last day of the month when the MA plan disenrollment form is received.

(10) When a retiree becomes eligible for the employer contribution toward PEBB benefits, PEBB retiree insurance coverage will be automatically deferred. The subscriber will be exempt from the deferral form requirement.

Note: When the subscriber is no longer eligible for the employer contribution toward PEBB benefits, they may enroll in PEBB retiree insurance coverage as described in WAC 182-12-171 or continue in a deferred status if they meet the requirements described in WAC 182-12-200 or this section.

[Statutory Authority: RCW 41.05.021 and 41.05.160. WSR 23-14-015 (Admin #2023-01), § 182-12-205, filed 6/23/23, effective 1/1/24. Statutory Authority: RCW 41.05.021, 41.05.160, and Policy Resolutions PEBB 2022-03 and 2022-04. WSR 22-13-165 (Admin #2022-02.04), § 182-12-205, filed 6/21/22, effective 1/1/23. Statutory Authority: RCW 41.05.021, 41.05.160 and Policy resolution PEBB 2021-14. WSR 21-13-104 (Admin #2021-01.04), § 182-12-205, filed 6/18/21, effective 1/1/22. Statutory Authority: RCW 41.05.021, 41.05.160, 42 C.F.R. § 422.62(b) and § 423.38(c) and PEBB policy resolution 2020-05. WSR 20-16-063 (Admin #2020-02), § 182-12-205, filed 7/28/20, effective 1/1/21. Statutory Authority: RCW 41.05.021, 41.05.160, and PEBB policy resolutions. WSR 19-17-073 (Admin #2019-01), § 182-12-205, filed 8/20/19, effective 1/1/20; WSR 18-20-117 (Admin #2018-02), § 182-12-205, filed 10/3/18, effective 1/1/19. Statutory Authority: RCW 41.05.021, 41.05.160, 2016 c 67, and PEBB policy resolutions. WSR 16-20-080, § 182-12-205, filed 10/4/16, effective 1/1/17. Statutory Authority: RCW 41.05.160, 2015 c 116, and PEBB policy resolutions. WSR 15-22-099 (PEBB Admin # 2015-01 Rev 1), § 182-12-205, filed 11/4/15, effective 1/1/16. Statutory Authority: RCW 41.05.160 and 2013 2nd sp.s. c 4. WSR 14-20-058 (PEBB Admin 2014-02), § 182-12-205, filed 9/25/14, effective 1/1/15. Statutory Authority: RCW 41.05.160 and 2012 2nd sp.s. c 3. WSR 13-22-019 (Admin. 2013-01), § 182-12-205, filed 10/28/13, effective 1/1/14. Statutory Authority: RCW 41.05.160. WSR 12-20-022 (Order 2012-01), § 182-12-205, filed 9/25/12, effective 11/1/12. Statutory Authority: RCW 41.05.160 and 2011 c 8. WSR 11-22-036 (Order 11-02), § 182-12-205, filed 10/26/11, effective 1/1/12. Statutory Authority: RCW 41.05.160. WSR 10-20-147 (Order 10-02), § 182-12-205, filed 10/6/10, effective 1/1/11; WSR 09-23-102 (Order 09-02), § 182-12-205, filed 11/17/09, ef-

fective 1/1/10; WSR 08-20-128 (Order 08-03), § 182-12-205, filed 10/1/08, effective 1/1/09; WSR 08-09-027 (Order 08-01), § 182-12-205, filed 4/8/08, effective 4/9/08; WSR 07-20-129 (Order 07-01), § 182-12-205, filed 10/3/07, effective 11/3/07. Statutory Authority: RCW 41.05.160 and 41.05.068. WSR 06-23-165 (Order 06-09), § 182-12-205, filed 11/22/06, effective 12/23/06. Statutory Authority: RCW 41.05.160, 41.05.350, and 41.05.165. WSR 05-16-046 (Order 05-01), § 182-12-205, filed 7/27/05, effective 8/27/05. Statutory Authority: RCW 41.05.160 and 41.05.165. WSR 04-18-039, § 182-12-205, filed 8/26/04, effective 1/1/05.]

(Effective January 1, 2025)

WAC 182-12-205 May a retiree or a survivor defer enrollment or voluntarily terminate enrollment under public employees benefits board (PEBB) retiree insurance coverage? (1) The following individuals may defer enrollment in public employees benefits board (PEBB) retiree insurance coverage:

- (a) A retiring employee or a retiring school employee;
- (b) A dependent becoming eligible as a survivor; or

(c) A retiree or a survivor enrolled in PEBB retiree insurance coverage.

(2) A subscriber described in subsection (1) of this section who defers enrollment in PEBB retiree insurance coverage also defers enrollment for all eligible dependents, except as described in subsection (3)(c) of this section.

(3) When a subscriber described in subsection (1) of this section chooses to defer enrollment in PEBB retiree insurance coverage as described in (a) through (e) of this subsection, they must maintain continuous enrollment in one or more qualifying coverages as described in (a) through (e) of this subsection or WAC 182-12-200. A gap of 31 days or less is allowed between the date PEBB retiree insurance coverage is deferred and the start date of a qualifying coverage, and between each period of enrollment in qualifying coverages during the deferral period. When a subscriber chooses to defer enrollment in PEBB retiree insurance coverage as described in (f) of this subsection; evidence of continuous enrollment in a qualified coverage is waived as described in subsection (6)(f) of this section.

A subscriber who chooses to defer enrollment, defers enrollment in PEBB medical, PEBB dental, and PEBB vision. A subscriber must be enrolled in PEBB medical to enroll in PEBB dental except for a nonmedicare retiree must enroll in PEBB medical to be able to enroll in PEBB dental, in PEBB vision, or in both PEBB dental and PEBB vision. A retiree may only defer enrollment in PEBB retiree term life insurance as described in WAC 182-12-209 (3)(b).

(a) Beginning January 1, 2001, enrollment in PEBB retiree insurance coverage may be deferred when the subscriber is enrolled in employer-based group medical as an employee or the dependent of an employee, or such medical insurance continued under Consolidated Omnibus Budget Reconciliation Act (COBRA) coverage or continuation coverage.

(b) Beginning January 1, 2001, enrollment in PEBB retiree insurance coverage may be deferred when the subscriber is enrolled as a retiree or the dependent of a retiree in a federal retiree medical plan.

(c) Beginning January 1, 2006, enrollment in PEBB retiree insurance coverage may be deferred when the subscriber is enrolled in medicare Parts A and B and a medicaid program that provides creditable

coverage as defined in WAC 182-12-109. Dependents may continue their PEBB health plan enrollment if they meet PEBB eligibility criteria and are not eligible for creditable coverage under a medicaid program.

(d) Beginning January 1, 2014, subscribers who are not eligible for Parts A and B of medicare may defer enrollment in PEBB retiree insurance coverage when the subscriber is enrolled in exchange coverage.

(e) Beginning July 17, 2018, enrollment in PEBB retiree insurance coverage may be deferred when the subscriber is enrolled in the Civilian Health and Medical Program of the Department of Veterans Affairs (CHAMPVA).

(f) Beginning January 1, 2025, subscribers who are enrolled in medicare may defer enrollment in PEBB retiree insurance coverage when they permanently live in a location outside of the United States.

(4) To defer enrollment in PEBB retiree insurance coverage, the required forms must be submitted to the PEBB program.

(a) For a retiring employee or a retiring school employee who meets the substantive eligibility requirements as described in WAC 182-12-171(2), enrollment will be deferred the first of the month following the date their own employer-paid coverage, COBRA coverage, or continuation coverage ends. The forms must be received by the PEBB program no later than 60 days after their own employer-paid coverage, COBRA coverage, or continuation coverage ends.

(b) For an official leaving public office who meets the requirements as described in WAC 182-12-180(1), enrollment will be deferred the first of the month following the date the official leaves public office. The forms must be received by the PEBB program no later than 60 days after the official leaves public office.

(c) For an employee or a school employee determined to be retroactively eligible for disability retirement who meets the requirements as described in WAC 182-12-211 (1)(a) through (c), enrollment will be deferred as described in WAC 182-12-211 (2) or (3). The forms and formal determination letter must be received by the PEBB program no later than 60 days after the date on the determination letter.

(d) For an eligible survivor, the dependent must meet the requirements described below and the forms must be received by the PEBB program within the time described:

(i) For a survivor of an employee or a school employee who meets the requirements as described in WAC 182-12-265 (1) or (3), enrollment will be deferred the first of the month following the later of the date of the employee's or the school employee's death or the date the survivor's PEBB insurance coverage or school employees benefits board (SEBB) insurance coverage ends. The forms must be received by the PEBB program no later than 60 days after the later of the date of the employee's or the school employee's death or the date the survivor's PEBB insurance coverage or SEBB insurance coverage ends.

(ii) For a survivor of an official who meets the requirements as described in WAC 182-12-180(2), enrollment will be deferred the first of the month following the later of the date of the official's death or the date the survivor's PEBB insurance coverage ends. The forms must be received by the PEBB program no later than 60 days after the later of the date of the official's death or the date the survivor's PEBB insurance coverage ends.

(iii) For a survivor of a retiree who meets the requirements as described in WAC 182-12-265(2), enrollment will be deferred the first of the month following the date of the retiree's death. The forms must be received by the PEBB program no later than 60 days after the retiree's death.

(iv) For a survivor of an emergency service personnel killed in the line of duty who meets the requirements as described in WAC 182-12-250, enrollment will be deferred the first of the month following the later of one of the events described in WAC 182-12-250 (5)(a) through (d). The forms must be received by the PEBB program no later than 180 days after the later of one of the events described in WAC 182-12-250 (5)(a) through (d).

(e) For an enrolled retiree or survivor who submits the required forms to defer enrollment in PEBB retiree insurance coverage, enrollment will be deferred effective the first of the month following the date the required forms are received by the PEBB program. If the forms are received on the first day of the month, enrollment will be deferred effective that day.

Exception: When a subscriber or their dependent is enrolled in a medicare advantage (MA) plan, a medicare advantage-prescription drug (MA-PD) plan, or the Uniform Medical Plan (UMP) Classic medicare plan, the enrollment in PEBB retiree insurance coverage will be deferred effective the first of the month following the date the plan disenrollment form is received.

(5) A retiree who meets substantive eligibility requirements in WAC 182-12-171(2) and whose own employer-paid coverage, COBRA coverage, or continuation coverage ended between January 1, 2001, and December 31, 2001, was not required to have submitted the deferral form at that time, but must meet all procedural requirements as stated in this section, WAC 182-12-171, and 182-12-200.

(6) A subscriber described in subsection (1) of this section who defers enrollment as described in subsection (3)(a) through (f) of this section may later enroll themselves and their dependents in a PEBB health plan by submitting the required forms as described below. A subscriber who defers enrollment as described in subsection (3)(a) through (e) of this section must provide evidence of continuous enrollment in one or more qualifying coverages as described in subsection (3)(a) through (e) of this section. A gap of 31 days or less is allowed between the date PEBB retiree insurance coverage is deferred and the start date of a qualifying coverage, and between each period of enrollment in qualifying coverages during the deferral period. A subscriber who defers enrollment as described in subsection (3)(f) of this section must provide proof of enrollment in medicare parts A and B; evidence of continuous enrollment in a qualified coverage is waived as described in (f) of this subsection:

(a) A subscriber who defers enrollment while enrolled in employer-based group medical or such medical insurance continued under COBRA coverage or continuation coverage may enroll in a PEBB health plan by submitting the required forms and evidence of continuous enrollment to the PEBB program:

(i) During the PEBB annual open enrollment period. The required forms must be received by the PEBB program no later than the last day of the open enrollment period. PEBB health plan coverage begins January 1st of the following year; or

(ii) When their employer-based group medical or such coverage under COBRA coverage or continuation coverage ends. The required forms and evidence of continuous enrollment must be received by the PEBB program no later than 60 days after coverage ends. PEBB health plan coverage begins the first day of the month after the employer-based group medical coverage, COBRA coverage, or continuation coverage ends.

Note: Enrollment in the PEBB program's MA plan, MA-PD plan, or the UMP Classic medicare plan may not be retroactive.
(1) If a subscriber elects to enroll in a MA plan, and the required forms are received by the PEBB program after the date the PEBB retiree insurance coverage is to begin, the subscriber and their enrolled dependents will be enrolled in a plan with the same contracted vendor during the gap month(s) prior to when the MA coverage begins.
(2) If a subscriber elects to enroll in a MA-PD plan, and the required forms are received by the PEBB program after the date the PEBB retiree insurance coverage is to begin, the subscriber and their enrolled dependents will be enrolled in transitional coverage as designated by the director or designee during the gap month(s) prior to when the MA-PD coverage begins.
(3) If a subscriber elects to enroll in the UMP Classic medicare plan, and the required forms are received by the PEBB program after the date the PEBB retiree insurance coverage is to begin, the subscriber and their enrolled dependents will be enrolled in transitional UMP coverage during the gap month(s) prior to when the UMP Classic medicare plan begins.

(b) A subscriber who defers enrollment while enrolled as a retiree or dependent of a retiree in a federal retiree medical plan will have a one-time opportunity to enroll in a PEBB health plan by submitting the required forms and evidence of continuous enrollment to the PEBB program:

(i) During the PEBB annual open enrollment period. The required forms must be received by the PEBB program no later than the last day of the open enrollment period. PEBB health plan coverage begins January 1st of the following year; or

(ii) When the federal retiree medical plan coverage ends. The required forms and evidence of continuous enrollment must be received by the PEBB program no later than 60 days after coverage ends. PEBB health plan coverage begins the first day of the month after coverage under the federal retiree medical plan ends.

Note: Enrollment in the PEBB program's MA plan, MA-PD plan, or the UMP Classic medicare plan may not be retroactive.
(1) If a subscriber elects to enroll in a MA plan, and the required forms are received by the PEBB program after the date the PEBB retiree insurance coverage is to begin, the subscriber and their enrolled dependents will be enrolled in a plan with the same contracted vendor during the gap month(s) prior to when the MA coverage begins.
(2) If a subscriber elects to enroll in a MA-PD plan, and the required forms are received by the PEBB program after the date the PEBB retiree insurance coverage is to begin, the subscriber and their enrolled dependents will be enrolled in transitional coverage as designated by the director or designee during the gap month(s) prior to when the MA-PD coverage begins.
(3) If a subscriber elects to enroll in the UMP Classic medicare plan, and the required forms are received by the PEBB program after the date the PEBB retiree insurance coverage is to begin, the subscriber and their enrolled dependents will be enrolled in transitional UMP coverage during the gap month(s) prior to when the UMP Classic medicare plan begins.

(c) A subscriber who defers enrollment while enrolled in medicare Parts A and B and a medicaid program that provides creditable coverage as defined in WAC 182-12-109 may enroll in a PEBB health plan by submitting the required forms and evidence of continuous enrollment to the PEBB program:

(i) During the PEBB annual open enrollment period. The required forms must be received by the PEBB program no later than the last day of the open enrollment period. PEBB health plan coverage begins January 1st of the following year; or

(ii) When their medicaid coverage ends. The required forms and evidence of continuous enrollment must be received by the PEBB program no later than 60 days after coverage ends. PEBB health plan coverage begins the first day of the month after the medicaid coverage ends; or

Note: Enrollment in the PEBB program's MA plan, MA-PD plan, or the UMP Classic medicare plan may not be retroactive.
(1) If a subscriber elects to enroll in a MA plan, and the required forms are received by the PEBB program after the date the PEBB retiree insurance coverage is to begin, the subscriber and their enrolled dependents will be enrolled in a plan with the same contracted vendor during the gap month(s) prior to when the MA coverage begins.
(2) If a subscriber elects to enroll in a MA-PD plan, and the required forms are received by the PEBB program after the date the PEBB retiree insurance coverage is to begin, the subscriber and their enrolled dependents will be enrolled in transitional coverage as designated by the director or designee during the gap month(s) prior to when the MA-PD coverage begins.
(3) If a subscriber elects to enroll in the UMP Classic medicare plan, and the required forms are received by the PEBB program after the date the PEBB retiree insurance coverage is to begin, the subscriber and their enrolled dependents will be enrolled in transitional UMP coverage during the gap month(s) prior to when the UMP Classic medicare plan begins.

(iii) No later than the end of the calendar year when their medicaid coverage ends if the retiree or survivor was also determined eligible under 42 U.S.C. § 1395w-114 and subsequently enrolled in a medicare Part D plan. Enrollment in the PEBB health plan will begin January 1st following the end of the calendar year when the medicaid coverage ends. The required forms must be received by the PEBB program no later than the last day of the calendar year in which the medicaid coverage ends.

(d) A subscriber who defers enrollment while enrolled in exchange coverage will have a one-time opportunity to enroll or reenroll in a PEBB health plan by submitting the required forms and evidence of continuous enrollment to the PEBB program:

(i) During the PEBB annual open enrollment period. The required forms must be received by the PEBB program no later than the last day of the open enrollment period. PEBB health plan coverage begins January 1st of the following year; or

(ii) When exchange coverage ends. The required forms and evidence of continuous enrollment must be received by the PEBB program no later than 60 days after coverage ends. PEBB health plan coverage begins the first day of the month after exchange coverage ends.

Note: Enrollment in the PEBB program's MA plan, MA-PD plan, or the UMP Classic medicare plan may not be retroactive.

(1) If a subscriber elects to enroll in a MA plan, and the required forms are received by the PEBB program after the date the PEBB retiree insurance coverage is to begin, the subscriber and their enrolled dependents will be enrolled in a plan with the same contracted vendor during the gap month(s) prior to when the MA coverage begins.

(2) If a subscriber elects to enroll in a MA-PD plan, and the required forms are received by the PEBB program after the date the PEBB retiree insurance coverage is to begin, the subscriber and their enrolled dependents will be enrolled in transitional coverage as designated by the director or designee during the gap month(s) prior to when the MA-PD coverage begins.

(3) If a subscriber elects to enroll in the UMP Classic medicare plan, and the required forms are received by the PEBB program after the date the PEBB retiree insurance coverage is to begin, the subscriber and their enrolled dependents will be enrolled in transitional UMP coverage during the gap month(s) prior to when the UMP Classic medicare plan begins.

(e) A subscriber who defers enrollment while enrolled in CHAMPVA will have a one-time opportunity to enroll in a PEBB health plan by submitting the required forms and evidence of continuous enrollment to the PEBB program:

(i) During the PEBB annual open enrollment period. The required forms must be received by the PEBB program no later than the last day of the open enrollment period. PEBB health plan coverage begins January 1st of the following year; or

(ii) When CHAMPVA coverage ends. The required forms and evidence of continuous enrollment must be received by the PEBB program no later than 60 days after coverage ends. PEBB health plan coverage begins the first day of the month after CHAMPVA coverage ends.

Note: Enrollment in the PEBB program's MA plan, MA-PD plan, or the UMP Classic medicare plan may not be retroactive.

(1) If a subscriber elects to enroll in a MA plan, and the required forms are received by the PEBB program after the date the PEBB retiree insurance coverage is to begin, the subscriber and their enrolled dependents will be enrolled in a plan with the same contracted vendor during the gap month(s) prior to when the MA coverage begins.

(2) If a subscriber elects to enroll in a MA-PD plan, and the required forms are received by the PEBB program after the date the PEBB retiree insurance coverage is to begin, the subscriber and their enrolled dependents will be enrolled in transitional coverage as designated by the director or designee during the gap month(s) prior to when the MA-PD coverage begins.

(3) If a subscriber elects to enroll in the UMP Classic medicare plan, and the required forms are received by the PEBB program after the date the PEBB retiree insurance coverage is to begin, the subscriber and their enrolled dependents will be enrolled in transitional UMP coverage during the gap month(s) prior to when the UMP Classic medicare plan begins.

(f) A subscriber enrolled in medicare who defers enrollment while permanently living outside of the United States may enroll in a PEBB health plan by submitting the required forms and proof of enrollment in medicare parts A and B. Evidence of continuous enrollment in a qualified coverage is waived while a subscriber enrolled in medicare lives outside of the United States:

(i) During the PEBB annual open enrollment period. The required forms must be received by the PEBB program no later than the last day of the open enrollment period. PEBB health plan coverage begins January 1st of the following year; or

(ii) When the subscriber permanently moved back to the United States. The required forms and proof of enrollment in medicare parts A and B must be received by the PEBB program no later than 60 days after the date of the permanent move or the date the subscriber provides notification of such move, whichever is later. PEBB health plan coverage begins the first day of the month after the permanent move or the date the subscriber provides notification of such move, whichever is later.

Note: Enrollment in the PEBB program's MA plan, MA-PD plan, or the UMP Classic medicare plan may not be retroactive.
(1) If a subscriber elects to enroll in a MA plan, and the required forms are received by the PEBB program after the date the PEBB retiree insurance coverage is to begin, the subscriber and their enrolled dependents will be enrolled in a plan with the same contracted vendor during the gap month(s) prior to when the MA coverage begins.
(2) If a subscriber elects to enroll in a MA-PD plan, and the required forms are received by the PEBB program after the date the PEBB retiree insurance coverage is to begin, the subscriber and their enrolled dependents will be enrolled in transitional coverage as designated by the director or designee during the gap month(s) prior to when the MA-PD coverage begins.
(3) If a subscriber elects to enroll in the UMP Classic medicare plan, and the required forms are received by the PEBB program after the date the PEBB retiree insurance coverage is to begin, the subscriber and their enrolled dependents will be enrolled in transitional UMP coverage during the gap month(s) prior to when the UMP Classic medicare plan begins.

(7) A subscriber described in subsection (1) of this section who defers enrollment as described in subsection (3)(a) through (f) of this section may later enroll themselves and their dependents in a PEBB health plan if they receive formal notice that the authority has determined it is more cost-effective to enroll them or their eligible dependents in PEBB medical than a medical assistance program.

(8) If a subscriber elects to enroll a dependent in PEBB health plan coverage as described in subsection (6) or (7) of this section, the dependent must be enrolled in the same PEBB medical and PEBB dental plan as the subscriber.

Exceptions: (1) If a subscriber selects a medicare supplement plan, a MA-PD plan, or the UMP Classic medicare plan, nonmedicare enrollees will be enrolled in the UMP Classic. If a subscriber selects any other medicare plan, they must also select a nonmedicare plan with the same contracted vendor available to nonmedicare enrollees.
(2) If a subscriber selects a medicare supplement plan, MA-PD plan, or any other medicare plan, they may elect a PEBB vision plan available for any nonmedicare enrollees.

(9) A nonmedicare subscriber must enroll in PEBB medical to be able to enroll in PEBB dental, in PEBB vision, or in both PEBB dental and PEBB vision. Any nonmedicare dependents they elect to enroll must be enrolled in the same PEBB medical, PEBB dental, and PEBB vision plan.

(10) An enrolled retiree or a survivor who requests to voluntarily terminate their enrollment in PEBB retiree insurance coverage must do so in writing. The written termination request must be received by the PEBB program. A retiree or a survivor who voluntarily terminates their enrollment in a PEBB health plan also terminates enrollment for all eligible dependents. Once coverage is terminated, a retiree or a survivor may not enroll again in the future unless they reestablish eligibility for PEBB insurance coverage by becoming newly eligible. Enrollment in a PEBB health plan will terminate on the last day of the month in which the PEBB program receives the termination request. If the termination request is received on the first day of the month, enrollment will terminate on the last day of the previous month.

Exception: When a subscriber or their dependent is enrolled in a MA plan, a MA-PD plan, or the UMP Classic medicare plan, the enrollment will terminate on the last day of the month when the plan disenrollment form is received.

(11) When a retiree becomes eligible for the employer contribution toward PEBB or SEBB benefits, PEBB retiree insurance coverage will be automatically deferred. The subscriber will be exempt from the deferral form requirement.

Note: When the subscriber is no longer eligible for the employer contribution toward PEBB or SEBB benefits, they may enroll in PEBB retiree insurance coverage as described in WAC 182-12-171 or continue in a deferred status if they meet the requirements described in WAC 182-12-200 or this section.

[Statutory Authority: RCW 41.05.021, 41.06.065 [41.05.065], and 41.05.160. WSR 24-18-083 (Admin #2024-02), § 182-12-205, filed 8/29/24, effective 1/1/25. Statutory Authority: RCW 41.05.021 and 41.05.160. WSR 23-14-015 (Admin #2023-01), § 182-12-205, filed 6/23/23, effective 1/1/24. Statutory Authority: RCW 41.05.021, 41.05.160, and Policy Resolutions PEBB 2022-03 and 2022-04. WSR 22-13-165 (Admin #2022-02.04), § 182-12-205, filed 6/21/22, effective 1/1/23. Statutory Authority: RCW 41.05.021, 41.05.160 and Policy resolution PEBB 2021-14. WSR 21-13-104 (Admin #2021-01.04), § 182-12-205,

filed 6/18/21, effective 1/1/22. Statutory Authority: RCW 41.05.021, 41.05.160, 42 C.F.R. § 422.62(b) and § 423.38(c) and PEBB policy resolution 2020-05. WSR 20-16-063 (Admin #2020-02), § 182-12-205, filed 7/28/20, effective 1/1/21. Statutory Authority: RCW 41.05.021, 41.05.160, and PEBB policy resolutions. WSR 19-17-073 (Admin #2019-01), § 182-12-205, filed 8/20/19, effective 1/1/20; WSR 18-20-117 (Admin #2018-02), § 182-12-205, filed 10/3/18, effective 1/1/19. Statutory Authority: RCW 41.05.021, 41.05.160, 2016 c 67, and PEBB policy resolutions. WSR 16-20-080, § 182-12-205, filed 10/4/16, effective 1/1/17. Statutory Authority: RCW 41.05.160, 2015 c 116, and PEBB policy resolutions. WSR 15-22-099 (PEBB Admin # 2015-01 Rev 1), § 182-12-205, filed 11/4/15, effective 1/1/16. Statutory Authority: RCW 41.05.160 and 2013 2nd sp.s. c 4. WSR 14-20-058 (PEBB Admin 2014-02), § 182-12-205, filed 9/25/14, effective 1/1/15. Statutory Authority: RCW 41.05.160 and 2012 2nd sp.s. c 3. WSR 13-22-019 (Admin. 2013-01), § 182-12-205, filed 10/28/13, effective 1/1/14. Statutory Authority: RCW 41.05.160. WSR 12-20-022 (Order 2012-01), § 182-12-205, filed 9/25/12, effective 11/1/12. Statutory Authority: RCW 41.05.160 and 2011 c 8. WSR 11-22-036 (Order 11-02), § 182-12-205, filed 10/26/11, effective 1/1/12. Statutory Authority: RCW 41.05.160. WSR 10-20-147 (Order 10-02), § 182-12-205, filed 10/6/10, effective 1/1/11; WSR 09-23-102 (Order 09-02), § 182-12-205, filed 11/17/09, effective 1/1/10; WSR 08-20-128 (Order 08-03), § 182-12-205, filed 10/1/08, effective 1/1/09; WSR 08-09-027 (Order 08-01), § 182-12-205, filed 4/8/08, effective 4/9/08; WSR 07-20-129 (Order 07-01), § 182-12-205, filed 10/3/07, effective 11/3/07. Statutory Authority: RCW 41.05.160 and 41.05.068. WSR 06-23-165 (Order 06-09), § 182-12-205, filed 11/22/06, effective 12/23/06. Statutory Authority: RCW 41.05.160, 41.05.350, and 41.05.165. WSR 05-16-046 (Order 05-01), § 182-12-205, filed 7/27/05, effective 8/27/05. Statutory Authority: RCW 41.05.160 and 41.05.165. WSR 04-18-039, § 182-12-205, filed 8/26/04, effective 1/1/05.]

WAC 182-12-207 When can a retiree or an eligible dependent's public employees benefits board (PEBB) insurance coverage be terminated by the health care authority (HCA)? A retiree or an eligible dependent's public employees benefits board (PEBB) insurance coverage can be terminated by the health care authority (HCA) for the following reasons:

(1) Failure to comply with the PEBB program's procedural requirements, including failure to provide information or documentation requested by the due date in written requests from the PEBB program;

(2) Knowingly providing false information;

(3) Failure to pay the monthly premium or applicable premium surcharges when due as described in WAC 182-08-180 (1)(c);

(4) Misconduct. If a retiree's PEBB insurance coverage is terminated for misconduct, PEBB retiree insurance coverage will not be reinstated at a later date. Examples of such termination include, but are not limited to the following:

(a) Fraud, intentional misrepresentation or withholding of information the subscriber knew or should have known was material or necessary to accurately determine eligibility or the correct premium; or

(b) Abusive or threatening conduct repeatedly directed to an HCA employee, a health plan or other HCA contracted vendor providing PEBB insurance coverage on behalf of the HCA, its employees, or other persons.

If a retiree's PEBB insurance coverage is terminated by HCA for the above reasons, PEBB insurance coverage for all of the retiree's eligible dependents is also terminated.

[Statutory Authority: RCW 41.05.021 and 41.05.160. WSR 20-16-062 (Admin #2020-03), § 182-12-207, filed 7/28/20, effective 1/1/21. Statutory Authority: RCW 41.05.021, 41.05.160, and PEBB policy resolutions. WSR 19-17-073 (Admin #2019-01), § 182-12-207, filed 8/20/19, effective 1/1/20; WSR 18-20-117 (Admin #2018-02), § 182-12-207, filed 10/3/18, effective 1/1/19; WSR 17-19-077 (Order 2017-01), § 182-12-207, filed 9/15/17, effective 1/1/18. Statutory Authority: RCW 41.05.021, 41.05.160, 2016 c 67, and PEBB policy resolutions. WSR 16-20-080, § 182-12-207, filed 10/4/16, effective 1/1/17. Statutory Authority: RCW 41.05.160. WSR 09-23-102 (Order 09-02), § 182-12-207, filed 11/17/09, effective 1/1/10; WSR 07-20-129 (Order 07-01), § 182-12-207, filed 10/3/07, effective 11/3/07.]

WAC 182-12-209 Who is eligible for retiree term life insurance?

Eligible employees who participate in public employees benefits board (PEBB) life insurance as an employee and eligible school employees who participate in school employees benefits board (SEBB) life insurance as an employee and meet qualifications for PEBB retiree insurance coverage as provided in WAC 182-12-171 or 182-12-180, are eligible for retiree term life insurance. They must submit the required forms to the PEBB program. Forms for a retiring employee or a retiring school employee as described in WAC 182-12-171, must be received by the PEBB program no later than sixty days after the date their PEBB or SEBB employee basic life insurance ends. Forms for an official leaving public office as described in WAC 182-12-180, must be received by the PEBB program no later than sixty days after the official leaves public office.

(1) Employees or school employees whose life insurance premiums are being waived under the terms of the life insurance contract are not eligible for retiree term life insurance until their waiver of premium benefit ends.

(2) Retirees may not defer enrollment in retiree term life insurance, except as allowed in subsection (3)(b) of this section.

(3) If a retiree returns to active employment status and becomes eligible for the employer contribution toward PEBB or SEBB employee basic life insurance, they may choose:

(a) To continue to self-pay premiums and keep retiree term life insurance, the employee or the school employee must pay retiree term life insurance premiums directly to the contracted vendor during the period they are eligible for PEBB or SEBB employee basic life insurance; or

(b) To stop self-paying retiree term life insurance premiums during the period they are eligible for PEBB or SEBB employee basic life insurance and elect retiree term life insurance when PEBB or SEBB employee basic life insurance ends.

[Statutory Authority: RCW 41.05.021 and 41.05.160. WSR 20-16-062 (Admin #2020-03), § 182-12-209, filed 7/28/20, effective 1/1/21. Statutory Authority: RCW 41.05.021, 41.05.160, and PEBB policy resolutions. WSR 19-17-073 (Admin #2019-01), § 182-12-209, filed 8/20/19, effective 1/1/20; WSR 18-20-117 (Admin #2018-02), § 182-12-209, filed 10/3/18, effective 1/1/19; WSR 17-19-077 (Order 2017-01), § 182-12-209, filed

9/15/17, effective 1/1/18. Statutory Authority: RCW 41.05.160 and 2013 2nd sp.s. c 4. WSR 14-20-058 (PEBB Admin 2014-02), § 182-12-209, filed 9/25/14, effective 1/1/15. Statutory Authority: RCW 41.05.160 and 2012 2nd sp.s. c 3. WSR 13-22-019 (Admin. 2013-01), § 182-12-209, filed 10/28/13, effective 1/1/14. Statutory Authority: RCW 41.05.160 and 2011 c 8. WSR 11-22-036 (Order 11-02), § 182-12-209, filed 10/26/11, effective 1/1/12. Statutory Authority: RCW 41.05.160. WSR 09-23-102 (Order 09-02), § 182-12-209, filed 11/17/09, effective 1/1/10; WSR 08-20-128 (Order 08-03), § 182-12-209, filed 10/1/08, effective 1/1/09; WSR 07-20-129 (Order 07-01), § 182-12-209, filed 10/3/07, effective 11/3/07.]

(Effective until January 1, 2025)

WAC 182-12-211 May an employee or a school employee who is determined to be retroactively eligible for disability retirement enroll or defer enrollment in public employees benefits board (PEBB) retiree insurance coverage?

(1) An employee or a school employee who is determined to be retroactively eligible for a disability retirement is eligible to enroll or defer enrollment (as described in WAC 182-12-200 or 182-12-205) in public employees benefits board (PEBB) retiree insurance coverage if:

(a) The employee or the school employee submits the required form and a copy of the formal determination letter they received from the Washington state department of retirement systems (DRS) or the appropriate higher education authority;

(b) The employee's or the school employee's form and a copy of their Washington state-sponsored retirement system's formal determination letter are received by the PEBB program no later than 60 days after the date on the determination letter; and

(c) The employee or the school employee immediately begins to receive a monthly pension benefit or a supplemental retirement plan benefit under their higher education retirement plan (HERP), with exceptions described below from WAC 182-12-171(2):

(i) A retiring employee of a state agency, an employer group participating under a Washington state sponsored retirement plan, or a retiring school employee who receives a lump sum payment instead of a monthly retirement plan payment is only eligible if the department of retirement systems offered the employee the choice between a lump sum actuarially equivalent payment and the ongoing monthly payment, as allowed by the plan; or

(ii) A retiring employee of a state agency, an employer group participating under a Washington state sponsored retirement plan, or a retiring school employee who is a member of a Plan 3 retirement plan, also called a separated employee (defined in RCW 41.05.011(25)), must meet their Plan 3 retirement eligibility criteria. The employee or the school employee does not have to receive a retirement plan payment to enroll in PEBB retiree insurance coverage; or

(iii) A retiring employee of a Washington higher education institution who is a member of a higher education retirement plan (HERP) must immediately begin to receive a monthly retirement plan payment, or meet their HERP plan's retirement eligibility criteria, or be at least age 55 with 10 years of state service.

(2) The employee or the school employee, at their option, must indicate the date of enrollment or deferment in PEBB retiree insurance

coverage on the form. The employee or the school employee may choose from the following dates:

(a) The retirement date as stated in the formal determination letter; or

(b) The first day of the month following the date the formal determination letter was written.

Note: Enrollment in the PEBB program's medicare advantage (MA) or medicare advantage-prescription drug (MA-PD) plan may not be retroactive. If a subscriber elects to enroll in a MA plan, and the required forms are received by the PEBB program after the date the PEBB retiree insurance coverage is to begin, the subscriber and their enrolled dependents will be enrolled in a plan with the same contracted vendor during the gap month(s) prior to when the MA coverage begins. If a subscriber elects to enroll in a MA-PD plan, and the required forms are received by the PEBB program after the date the PEBB retiree insurance coverage is to begin, the subscriber and their enrolled dependents will be enrolled in Uniform Medical Plan (UMP) Classic during the gap month(s) prior to when the MA-PD coverage begins.

(3) The director may make an exception to the date of PEBB retiree insurance coverage described in subsection (2)(a) and (b) of this section; however, such request must demonstrate extraordinary circumstances beyond the control of the retiree.

(4) Premiums and applicable premium surcharges are due from the effective date of enrollment in PEBB retiree insurance coverage.

(5) If a retiring employee or a retiring school employee elects to enroll a dependent in PEBB health plan coverage, the dependent must be enrolled in the same PEBB medical and PEBB dental plan as the retiring employee or the retiring school employee.

Exception: If a retiring employee or a retiring school employee selects a medicare supplement plan or MA-PD plan, nonmedicare enrollees will be enrolled in the UMP Classic. If a retiring employee or a retiring school employee selects any other medicare plan, they must also select a nonmedicare plan with the same contracted vendor available to nonmedicare enrollees.

[Statutory Authority: RCW 41.05.021, 41.05.160, and Policy Resolution PEBB 2022-03. WSR 22-13-160 (Admin #2022-02.03), § 182-12-211, filed 6/21/22, effective 1/1/23. Statutory Authority: RCW 41.05.021, 41.05.160, 42 C.F.R. § 422.62(b) and § 423.38(c) and PEBB policy resolution 2020-05. WSR 20-16-063 (Admin #2020-02), § 182-12-211, filed 7/28/20, effective 1/1/21. Statutory Authority: RCW 41.05.021, 41.05.160, and PEBB policy resolutions. WSR 19-17-073 (Admin #2019-01), § 182-12-211, filed 8/20/19, effective 1/1/20; WSR 18-20-117 (Admin #2018-02), § 182-12-211, filed 10/3/18, effective 1/1/19; WSR 17-19-077 (Order 2017-01), § 182-12-211, filed 9/15/17, effective 1/1/18. Statutory Authority: RCW 41.05.160, 2015 c 116, and PEBB policy resolutions. WSR 15-22-099 (PEBB Admin # 2015-01 Rev 1), § 182-12-211, filed 11/4/15, effective 1/1/16. Statutory Authority: RCW 41.05.160 and 2013 2nd sp.s. c 4. WSR 14-20-058 (PEBB Admin 2014-02), § 182-12-211, filed 9/25/14, effective 1/1/15. Statutory Authority: RCW 41.05.160 and 2012 2nd sp.s. c 3. WSR 13-22-019 (Admin. 2013-01), § 182-12-211, filed 10/28/13, effective 1/1/14. Statutory Authority: RCW 41.05.160 and 2011 c 8. WSR 11-22-036 (Order 11-02), § 182-12-211, filed 10/26/11, effective 1/1/12. Statutory Authority: RCW 41.05.160. WSR 09-23-102 (Order 09-02), § 182-12-211, filed 11/17/09, effective 1/1/10; WSR 07-20-129 (Order 07-01), § 182-12-211, filed 10/3/07, effective 11/3/07. Statutory Authority: RCW 41.05.160 and 41.05.165. WSR 04-18-039, § 182-12-211, filed 8/26/04, effective 1/1/05.]

(Effective January 1, 2025)

WAC 182-12-211 May an employee or a school employee who is determined to be retroactively eligible for disability retirement enroll or defer enrollment in public employees benefits board (PEBB) retiree insurance coverage? (1) An employee or a school employee who is determined to be retroactively eligible for a disability retirement is

eligible to enroll or defer enrollment (as described in WAC 182-12-200 or 182-12-205) in public employees benefits board (PEBB) retiree insurance coverage if:

(a) The employee or the school employee submits the required form and a copy of the formal determination letter they received from the Washington state department of retirement systems (DRS) or the appropriate higher education authority;

(b) The employee's or the school employee's form and a copy of their Washington state-sponsored retirement system's formal determination letter are received by the PEBB program no later than 60 days after the date on the determination letter; and

(c) The employee or the school employee immediately begins to receive a monthly pension benefit or a supplemental retirement plan benefit under their higher education retirement plan (HERP), with exceptions described below from WAC 182-12-171(2):

(i) A retiring employee of a state agency, a retiring school employee of a school employees benefits board (SEBB) organization, or a retiring employee or a retiring school employee of an employer group participating under a Washington state sponsored retirement plan who receives a lump sum payment instead of a monthly retirement plan payment is only eligible if the department of retirement systems offered the employee the choice between a lump sum actuarially equivalent payment and the ongoing monthly payment, as allowed by the plan; or

(ii) A retiring employee of a state agency, a retiring school employee of a SEBB organization, or a retiring employee or retiring school employee of an employer group participating under a Washington state sponsored retirement plan who is a member of the teachers' retirement system Plan 2, school employees' retirement system Plan 2, or public employees' retirement system Plan 2, also called a separated employee as defined in RCW 41.05.011 (25)(b), who separates from employment on or after January 1, 2024, and who is at least age 55 with at least 20 years of service; or

(iii) A retiring employee of a state agency, a retiring school employee of a SEBB organization, or a retiring employee or a retiring school employee of an employer group participating under a Washington state sponsored retirement plan who is a member of a Plan 3 retirement plan, also called a separated employee as defined in RCW 41.05.011 (25)(a), who is at least age 55 with at least 10 years of service; or

(iv) A retiring employee of a Washington higher education institution who is a member of a higher education retirement plan (HERP) must immediately begin to receive a monthly retirement plan payment, or meet their HERP plan's retirement eligibility criteria, or be at least age 55 with 10 years of state service.

(2) The employee or the school employee, at their option, must indicate the date of enrollment or deferment in PEBB retiree insurance coverage on the form. The employee or the school employee may choose from the following dates:

(a) The retirement date as stated in the formal determination letter; or

(b) The first day of the month following the date the formal determination letter was written.

Note: Enrollment in the PEBB program's medicare advantage (MA) plan, medicare advantage-prescription drug (MA-PD) plan, or the Uniform Medical Plan (UMP) Classic medicare plan may not be retroactive.
(1) If a subscriber elects to enroll in a MA plan, and the required forms are received by the PEBB program after the date the PEBB retiree insurance coverage is to begin, the subscriber and their enrolled dependents will be enrolled in a plan with the same contracted vendor during the gap month(s) prior to when the MA coverage begins.
(2) If a subscriber elects to enroll in a MA-PD plan, and the required forms are received by the PEBB program after the date the PEBB retiree insurance coverage is to begin, the subscriber and their enrolled dependents will be enrolled in transitional coverage as designated by the director or designee during the gap month(s) prior to when the MA-PD coverage begins.
(3) If a subscriber elects to enroll in the UMP Classic medicare plan, and the required forms are received by the PEBB program after the date the PEBB retiree insurance coverage is to begin, the subscriber and their enrolled dependents will be enrolled in transitional UMP coverage during the gap month(s) prior to when the UMP Classic medicare plan begins.

(3) The director may make an exception to the date of PEBB retiree insurance coverage described in subsection (2)(a) and (b) of this section; however, such request must demonstrate extraordinary circumstances beyond the control of the retiree.

(4) Premiums and applicable premium surcharges are due from the effective date of enrollment in PEBB retiree insurance coverage.

(5) If a retiring employee or a retiring school employee elects to enroll a dependent in PEBB health plan coverage, the dependent must be enrolled in the same PEBB medical and PEBB dental plan as the retiring employee or the retiring school employee.

Exceptions: (1) If a retiring employee or a retiring school employee selects a medicare supplement plan, MA-PD plan, or the UMP Classic medicare plan, nonmedicare enrollees will be enrolled in the UMP Classic. If a retiring employee or a retiring school employee selects any other medicare plan, they must also select a nonmedicare plan with the same contracted vendor available to nonmedicare enrollees.
(2) If a retiring employee or a retiring school employee selects a medicare supplement plan, MA-PD plan, or any other medicare plan, they may elect a PEBB vision plan available for any nonmedicare enrollees.

(6) A nonmedicare retiring employee or retiring school employee must enroll in PEBB medical to be able to enroll in PEBB dental, in PEBB vision, or in both PEBB dental and PEBB vision. Any nonmedicare dependents they elect to enroll must be enrolled in the same PEBB medical, PEBB dental, and PEBB vision plan.

[Statutory Authority: RCW 41.05.021, 41.05.065, and 41.05.160, 2023 c 164 § 1, 2023 c 312 § 1, 2023 c 13 § 5, Policy Resolutions PEBB 2024-14, 2024-19, 2024-20, and 2024-21. WSR 24-18-080 (Admin #2024-01.04), § 182-12-211, filed 8/29/24, effective 1/1/25. Statutory Authority: RCW 41.05.021, 41.05.160, and Policy Resolution PEBB 2022-03. WSR 22-13-160 (Admin #2022-02.03), § 182-12-211, filed 6/21/22, effective 1/1/23. Statutory Authority: RCW 41.05.021, 41.05.160, 42 C.F.R. § 422.62(b) and § 423.38(c) and PEBB policy resolution 2020-05. WSR 20-16-063 (Admin #2020-02), § 182-12-211, filed 7/28/20, effective 1/1/21. Statutory Authority: RCW 41.05.021, 41.05.160, and PEBB policy resolutions. WSR 19-17-073 (Admin #2019-01), § 182-12-211, filed 8/20/19, effective 1/1/20; WSR 18-20-117 (Admin #2018-02), § 182-12-211, filed 10/3/18, effective 1/1/19; WSR 17-19-077 (Order 2017-01), § 182-12-211, filed 9/15/17, effective 1/1/18. Statutory Authority: RCW 41.05.160, 2015 c 116, and PEBB policy resolutions. WSR 15-22-099 (PEBB Admin # 2015-01 Rev 1), § 182-12-211, filed 11/4/15, effective 1/1/16. Statutory Authority: RCW 41.05.160 and 2013 2nd sp.s. c 4. WSR 14-20-058 (PEBB Admin 2014-02), § 182-12-211, filed 9/25/14, effective 1/1/15. Statutory Authority: RCW 41.05.160 and 2012 2nd sp.s. c 3. WSR 13-22-019 (Admin. 2013-01), § 182-12-211, filed 10/28/13, effective 1/1/14. Statutory Authority: RCW 41.05.160 and 2011 c 8. WSR 11-22-036 (Order 11-02), § 182-12-211, filed 10/26/11, effective 1/1/12. Statutory Authority: RCW 41.05.160. WSR 09-23-102 (Order 09-02), § 182-12-211, filed 11/17/09, effective 1/1/10; WSR 07-20-129 (Order 07-01), § 182-12-211, filed 10/3/07, effective 11/3/07. Statutory Authority: RCW 41.05.160 and 41.05.165. WSR 04-18-039, § 182-12-211, filed 8/26/04, effective 1/1/05.]

(Effective January 1, 2025)

WAC 182-12-232 What options for continuing health plan enrollment are available to a retiree of an employer group that ended participation in public employees benefits board (PEBB) or school employees benefits board (SEBB) insurance coverage? (1) A retired employee, a retired school employee, or an eligible survivor of an employee, school employee, or retiree of an employer group as defined in WAC 182-12-109 who loses eligibility for public employees benefits board (PEBB) retiree insurance coverage due to the employer group ending participation in PEBB or school employees benefits board (SEBB) insurance coverage may continue enrollment in PEBB health plan coverage by self-paying the premium and applicable premium surcharges set by the health care authority (HCA). A retired employee, a retired school employee, or a survivor enrolled under this section is not eligible for any subsidy provided under RCW 41.05.085.

(2) A retired employee, a retired school employee, or a survivor as described in subsection (1) of this section may enroll in PEBB medical, dental, or vision.

(a) The required forms must be received by the PEBB program no later than 60 days after the employer group's date of termination. The effective date of enrollment in PEBB health plan coverage will be the first day of the month following the day eligibility for PEBB retiree insurance coverage ended.

Note: Enrollment in the PEBB program's medicare advantage (MA) plan, medicare advantage prescription-drug (MA-PD) plan, or the Uniform Medical Plan (UMP) Classic medicare plan may not be retroactive.

(1) If a subscriber elects to enroll in a MA plan, and the required forms are received by the PEBB program after the date the PEBB health plan coverage is to begin, the subscriber and their enrolled dependents will be enrolled in a plan with the same contracted vendor during the gap month(s) prior to when the MA coverage begins.

(2) If a subscriber elects to enroll in a MA-PD plan, and the required forms are received by the PEBB program after the date the PEBB health plan coverage is to begin, the subscriber and their enrolled dependents will be enrolled in transitional coverage as designated by the director or designee during the gap month(s) prior to when the MA-PD coverage begins.

(3) If a subscriber elects to enroll in the UMP Classic medicare plan, and the required forms are received by the PEBB program after the date the PEBB health plan coverage is to begin, the subscriber and their enrolled dependents will be enrolled in transitional UMP coverage during the gap month(s) prior to when the UMP Classic medicare plan begins.

(b) The first premium payment and applicable premium surcharges are due to HCA no later than 45 days after the election period ends as described in (a) of this subsection. Following the first premium payment, premiums and applicable premium surcharges must be paid as described in WAC 182-08-180 (1)(c).

Note: An employer group as defined in WAC 182-12-109 that enters into a contractual agreement with the HCA on or after May 4, 2023, and whose contractual agreement is subsequently terminated, shall make a one-time payment to the HCA for each of the employer group's retired or disabled employees who continue participation under this section as described in RCW 41.05.083.

(c) If a retired employee, a retired school employee, or a survivor elects to enroll a dependent in PEBB health plan coverage, the dependent must be enrolled in the same PEBB medical and PEBB dental plan as the retired employee, retired school employee, or survivor.

Exceptions: (1) If a retired employee, a retired school employee, or a survivor selects a medicare supplement plan, a MA-PD plan, or the UMP Classic medicare plan, nonmedicare enrollees will be enrolled in the UMP classic. If a retired employee, a retired school employee, or a survivor selects any other medicare plan, they must also select a nonmedicare plan with the same contracted vendor available to nonmedicare enrollees.

(2) If a retired employee, a retired school employee, or a survivor selects a medicare supplement plan, MA-PD plan, or any other medicare plan, they may elect a PEBB vision plan available for any nonmedicare enrollees.

(3) A subscriber enrolled under this section may continue PEBB health plan coverage until they request to terminate enrollment as described in subsection (4) of this section, or premiums and applicable premium surcharges are no longer paid as described in WAC 182-08-180 (1)(c). If PEBB health plan coverage is terminated for these reasons, the subscriber and their enrolled dependents will not be eligible to reenroll under this section.

(4) A subscriber enrolled under this section who requests to voluntarily terminate their PEBB health plan coverage must do so in writing. PEBB health plan coverage will end on the last day of the month in which the PEBB program receives the termination request or on the last day of the month specified in the subscriber's termination request, whichever is later. If the termination request is received on the first day of the month, PEBB health plan coverage will end on the last day of the previous month.

Exception: When a subscriber or their dependent is enrolled in a MA plan, a MA-PD plan, or the UMP Classic medicare plan, the enrollment in PEBB health plan coverage will terminate on the last day of the month when the plan disenrollment form is received.

[Statutory Authority: RCW 41.05.021, 41.05.065, 41.05.160, 2023 c 164 § 1, 2023 c 312 § 1, 2023 c 13 § 5, Policy Resolutions PEBB 2024-14, 2024-19, 2024-20, and 2024-21. WSR 24-18-081 (Admin #2024-01.05), § 182-12-232, filed 8/29/24, effective 1/1/25.]

(Effective until January 1, 2025)

WAC 182-12-250 Public employees benefits board (PEBB) insurance coverage eligibility for survivors of emergency service personnel killed in the line of duty. Surviving spouses, state registered domestic partners, and dependent children of emergency service personnel who are killed in the line of duty are eligible to enroll or defer enrollment in public employees benefits board (PEBB) retiree insurance coverage.

(1) This section applies to the surviving spouse, the surviving state registered domestic partner, and dependent children of emergency service personnel "killed in the line of duty" as determined by the Washington state department of labor and industries.

(2) "Emergency service personnel" means law enforcement officers and firefighters as defined in RCW 41.26.030, members of the Washington state patrol retirement fund as defined in RCW 43.43.120, and reserve officers and firefighters as defined in RCW 41.24.010.

(3) "Surviving spouse, state registered domestic partner, and dependent children" means:

(a) A lawful spouse;

(b) An ex-spouse as defined in RCW 41.26.162;

(c) A state registered domestic partner as defined in RCW 26.60.020(1); and

(d) Children. The term "children" includes children of the emergency service worker up to age 26. Children with disabilities as defined in RCW 41.26.030(6) are eligible at any age. "Children" is defined as:

(i) Biological children (including the emergency service worker's posthumous children);

(ii) Stepchildren or children of a state registered domestic partner;

(iii) Legally adopted children;

(iv) Children for whom the subscriber has assumed a legal obligation for total or partial support in anticipation of adoption of the child;

(v) Children specified in a court order or divorce decree; or

(vi) Children as defined in RCW 26.26A.100.

(4) Surviving spouses, state registered domestic partners, and children who are eligible for medicare must enroll in both Parts A and B of medicare.

Note: For the exclusive purpose of medicare Part A as described in this subsection, "eligible" means the enrollee is eligible for medicare Part A without a monthly premium.

(5) The survivor (or agent acting on their behalf) must submit the required forms to the PEBB program to either enroll or defer enrollment in PEBB retiree insurance coverage as described in subsection (7) of this section. The forms must be received by the PEBB program no later than 180 days after the later of:

(a) The death of the emergency service worker;
(b) The date on the letter from the department of retirement systems or the board for volunteer firefighters and reserve officers that informs the survivor that they are determined to be an eligible survivor;

(c) The last day the surviving spouse, state registered domestic partner, or child was covered under any health plan through the emergency service worker's employer; or

(d) The last day the surviving spouse, state registered domestic partner, or child was covered under the Consolidated Omnibus Budget Reconciliation Act (COBRA) coverage from the emergency service worker's employer.

(6) Survivors who do not choose to defer enrollment in PEBB retiree insurance coverage may choose among the following options for when their enrollment in a PEBB health plan will begin:

(a) June 1, 2006, for survivors whose required forms are received by the PEBB program no later than September 1, 2006;

(b) The first of the month that is not earlier than 60 days before the date that the PEBB program receives the required forms (for example, if the PEBB program receives the required forms on August 29th, the survivor may request health plan enrollment to begin on July 1st); or

(c) The first of the month after the date that the PEBB program receives the required forms.

Note: Enrollment in the PEBB program's medicare advantage (MA) or medicare advantage-prescription drug (MA-PD) plan may not be retroactive. If a subscriber elects to enroll in a MA plan, and the required forms are received by the PEBB program after the date the PEBB retiree insurance coverage is to begin, the subscriber and their enrolled dependents will be enrolled in a plan with the same contracted vendor during the gap month(s) prior to when the MA coverage begins. If a subscriber elects to enroll in a MA-PD plan, and the required forms are received by the PEBB program after the date the PEBB retiree insurance coverage is to begin, the subscriber and their enrolled dependents will be enrolled in Uniform Medical Plan (UMP) Classic during the gap month(s) prior to when the MA-PD coverage begins.

For surviving spouses, state registered domestic partners, and children who enroll, monthly health plan premiums and applicable premium surcharges must be paid by the survivor as described in WAC 182-08-180 (1)(c) except as provided in RCW 41.26.510(5) and 43.43.285 (2)(b).

(7) Survivors must choose one of the following two options to maintain eligibility for PEBB retiree insurance coverage:

(a) Enroll in a PEBB health plan:

(i) Enroll in medical; or

(ii) Enroll in medical and dental.

(iii) Dental only is not an option.

(b) Defer enrollment:

(i) Survivors may defer enrollment in PEBB retiree insurance coverage if continuously enrolled in qualifying coverage as described in WAC 182-12-205(3).

(ii) Survivors may enroll in a PEBB health plan as described in WAC 182-12-205(6). Survivors must provide evidence that they were continuously enrolled in one or more qualifying coverages as described in WAC 182-12-205 (3)(a) through (e) when enrolling in a PEBB health plan.

Note: Enrollment in the PEBB program's MA or MA-PD plan may not be retroactive. If a subscriber elects to enroll in a MA plan, and the required forms are received by the PEBB program after the date the PEBB retiree insurance coverage is to begin, the subscriber and their enrolled dependents will be enrolled in a plan with the same contracted vendor during the gap month(s) prior to when the MA coverage begins. If a subscriber elects to enroll in a MA-PD plan, and the required forms are received by the PEBB program after the date the PEBB retiree insurance coverage is to begin, the subscriber and their enrolled dependents will be enrolled in UMP Classic during the gap month(s) prior to when the MA-PD coverage begins.

(iii) PEBB health plan enrollment and premiums will begin the first day of the month following the day that the other coverage ended for eligible spouses and children who enroll.

(8) Survivors may change their health plan during the annual open enrollment. In addition to the annual open enrollment, survivors may change health plans as described in WAC 182-08-198.

(9) Survivors will lose their right to enroll in PEBB retiree insurance coverage if they:

(a) Do not apply to enroll or defer enrollment within the timelines as described in subsection (5) of this section; or

(b) Do not maintain continuous enrollment in other qualifying coverage during the deferral period, as described in subsection (7) (b) (i) of this section.

[Statutory Authority: RCW 41.05.021, 41.05.160, and Policy Resolution PEBB 2022-03. WSR 22-13-160 (Admin #2022-02.03), § 182-12-250, filed 6/21/22, effective 1/1/23. Statutory Authority: RCW 41.05.021, 41.05.160 and Policy resolution PEBB 2021-01. WSR 21-13-101 (Admin #2021-01.01), § 182-12-250, filed 6/18/21, effective 1/1/22. Statutory Authority: RCW 41.05.021 and 41.05.160. WSR 20-16-062 (Admin #2020-03), § 182-12-250, filed 7/28/20, effective 1/1/21. Statutory Authority: RCW 41.05.021, 41.05.160 and PEBB policy resolutions. WSR 18-20-117 (Admin #2018-02), § 182-12-250, filed 10/3/18, effective 1/1/19; WSR 17-19-077 (Order 2017-01), § 182-12-250, filed 9/15/17, effective 1/1/18. Statutory Authority: RCW 41.05.021, 41.05.160, 2016 c 67, and PEBB policy resolutions. WSR 16-20-080, § 182-12-250, filed 10/4/16, effective 1/1/17. Statutory Authority: RCW 41.05.160, 2015 c 116, and PEBB policy resolutions. WSR 15-22-099 (PEBB Admin # 2015-01 Rev 1), § 182-12-250, filed 11/4/15, effective 1/1/16. Statutory Authority: RCW 41.05.160 and 2013 2nd sp.s. c 4. WSR 14-20-058 (PEBB Admin 2014-02), § 182-12-250, filed 9/25/14, effective 1/1/15. Statutory Authority: RCW 41.05.160 and 2012 2nd sp.s. c 3. WSR 13-22-019 (Admin. 2013-01), § 182-12-250, filed 10/28/13, effective 1/1/14. Statutory Authority: RCW 41.05.160. WSR 12-20-022 (Order 2012-01), § 182-12-250, filed 9/25/12, effective 11/1/12. Statutory Authority: RCW 41.05.160 and 2011 c 8. WSR 11-22-036 (Order 11-02), § 182-12-250, filed 10/26/11, effective 1/1/12. Statutory Authority: RCW 41.05.160. WSR 10-20-147 (Order 10-02), § 182-12-250, filed 10/6/10, effective 1/1/11; WSR 09-23-102 (Order 09-02), § 182-12-250, filed 11/17/09, effective 1/1/10; WSR 08-20-128 (Order 08-03), § 182-12-250, filed 10/1/08, effective 1/1/09; WSR 07-20-129 (Order 07-01), § 182-12-250, filed 10/3/07, effective 11/3/07. Statutory Authority: RCW 41.05.160 and 41.05.080. WSR 06-20-099 (Order 06-08), § 182-12-250, filed 10/3/06, effective 11/3/06. Statutory Authority: RCW 41.05.160 and 41.05.165. WSR 04-18-039, § 182-12-250, filed 8/26/04, effective 1/1/05.]

(Effective January 1, 2025)

WAC 182-12-250 Public employees benefits board (PEBB) insurance coverage eligibility for survivors of emergency service personnel kil-

led in the line of duty. Surviving spouses, state registered domestic partners, and dependent children of emergency service personnel who are killed in the line of duty are eligible to enroll or defer enrollment in public employees benefits board (PEBB) retiree insurance coverage.

(1) This section applies to the surviving spouse, the surviving state registered domestic partner, and dependent children of emergency service personnel "killed in the line of duty" as determined by the Washington state department of labor and industries.

(2) "Emergency service personnel" means law enforcement officers and firefighters as defined in RCW 41.26.030, members of the Washington state patrol retirement fund as defined in RCW 43.43.120, and reserve officers and firefighters as defined in RCW 41.24.010.

(3) "Surviving spouse, state registered domestic partner, and dependent children" means:

(a) A lawful spouse;

(b) An ex-spouse as defined in RCW 41.26.162;

(c) A state registered domestic partner as defined in RCW 26.60.020(1); and

(d) Children. The term "children" includes children of the emergency service worker up to age 26. Children with disabilities as defined in RCW 41.26.030(6) are eligible at any age. "Children" is defined as:

(i) Biological children (including the emergency service worker's posthumous children);

(ii) Stepchildren or children of a state registered domestic partner;

(iii) Legally adopted children;

(iv) Children for whom the subscriber has assumed a legal obligation for total or partial support in anticipation of adoption of the child;

(v) Children specified in a court order or divorce decree; or

(vi) Children as defined in RCW 26.26A.100.

(4) Surviving spouses, state registered domestic partners, and children who are eligible for medicare must enroll in both Parts A and B of medicare.

Note: For the exclusive purpose of medicare Part A as described in this subsection, "eligible" means the enrollee is eligible for medicare Part A without a monthly premium.

(5) The survivor (or agent acting on their behalf) must submit the required forms to the PEBB program to either enroll or defer enrollment in PEBB retiree insurance coverage as described in subsection (7) of this section. The forms must be received by the PEBB program no later than 180 days after the later of:

(a) The death of the emergency service worker;

(b) The date on the letter from the department of retirement systems or the board for volunteer firefighters and reserve officers that informs the survivor that they are determined to be an eligible survivor;

(c) The last day the surviving spouse, state registered domestic partner, or child was covered under any health plan through the emergency service worker's employer; or

(d) The last day the surviving spouse, state registered domestic partner, or child was covered under the Consolidated Omnibus Budget Reconciliation Act (COBRA) coverage from the emergency service worker's employer.

(6) Survivors who do not choose to defer enrollment in PEBB retiree insurance coverage may choose among the following options for when their enrollment in a PEBB health plan will begin:

(a) June 1, 2006, for survivors whose required forms are received by the PEBB program no later than September 1, 2006;

(b) The first of the month that is not earlier than 60 days before the date that the PEBB program receives the required forms (for example, if the PEBB program receives the required forms on August 29th, the survivor may request health plan enrollment to begin on July 1st); or

(c) The first of the month after the date that the PEBB program receives the required forms.

Note: Enrollment in the PEBB program's medicare advantage (MA) plan, medicare advantage-prescription drug (MA-PD) plan, or the Uniform Medical Plan (UMP) Classic medicare plan may not be retroactive.

(1) If a subscriber elects to enroll in a MA plan, and the required forms are received by the PEBB program after the date the PEBB retiree insurance coverage is to begin, the subscriber and their enrolled dependents will be enrolled in a plan with the same contracted vendor during the gap month(s) prior to when the MA coverage begins.

(2) If a subscriber elects to enroll in a MA-PD plan, and the required forms are received by the PEBB program after the date the PEBB retiree insurance coverage is to begin, the subscriber and their enrolled dependents will be enrolled in transitional coverage as designated by the director or designee during the gap month(s) prior to when the MA-PD coverage begins.

(3) If a subscriber elects to enroll in the UMP Classic medicare plan, and the required forms are received by the PEBB program after the date the PEBB retiree insurance coverage is to begin, the subscriber and their enrolled dependents will be enrolled in transitional UMP coverage during the gap month(s) prior to when the UMP Classic medicare plan begins.

For surviving spouses, state registered domestic partners, and children who enroll, monthly health plan premiums and applicable premium surcharges must be paid by the survivor as described in WAC 182-08-180 (1)(c) except as provided in RCW 41.26.510(5) and 43.43.285 (2)(b).

(7) Survivors must choose one of the following two options to maintain eligibility for PEBB retiree insurance coverage:

(a) Enroll in a PEBB health plan. Any of the following enrollment applies to survivors who are not enrolled in medicare. The enrollment described in (a)(i) and (ii) of this subsection applies to survivors enrolled in medicare:

(i) Enroll in PEBB medical;

(ii) Enroll in PEBB medical and PEBB dental;

(iii) Enroll in PEBB medical and PEBB vision; or

(iv) Enroll in PEBB medical, PEBB dental, and PEBB vision.

(b) Defer enrollment:

(i) Survivors may defer enrollment in PEBB retiree insurance coverage as described in WAC 182-12-205(3).

(ii) Survivors may enroll in a PEBB health plan as described in WAC 182-12-205(6). Survivors who defer enrollment as described in WAC 182-12-205 (3)(a) through (e) must provide evidence that they were continuously enrolled in one or more qualifying coverages as described in WAC 182-12-205 (3)(a) through (e) when enrolling in a PEBB health plan. Survivors who defer enrollment as described in WAC 182-12-205 (3)(f) must provide proof of enrollment in medicare parts A and B; evidence of continuous enrollment in a qualified coverage is waived if the deferment is based on WAC 182-12-205 (3)(f).

Note: Enrollment in the PEBB program's MA plan, MA-PD plan, or the UMP Classic medicare plan may not be retroactive.

(1) If a subscriber elects to enroll in a MA plan, and the required forms are received by the PEBB program after the date the PEBB retiree insurance coverage is to begin, the subscriber and their enrolled dependents will be enrolled in a plan with the same contracted vendor during the gap month(s) prior to when the MA coverage begins.

(2) If a subscriber elects to enroll in a MA-PD plan, and the required forms are received by the PEBB program after the date the PEBB retiree insurance coverage is to begin, the subscriber and their enrolled dependents will be enrolled in transitional coverage as designated by the director or designee during the gap month(s) prior to when the MA-PD coverage begins.

(3) If a subscriber elects to enroll in the UMP Classic medicare plan, and the required forms are received by the PEBB program after the date the PEBB retiree insurance coverage is to begin, the subscriber and their enrolled dependents will be enrolled in transitional UMP coverage during the gap month(s) prior to when the UMP Classic medicare plan begins.

(iii) PEBB health plan enrollment and premiums will begin the first day of the month following the day that the other coverage ended for eligible spouses and children who enroll.

(8) Survivors may change their health plan during the annual open enrollment. In addition to the annual open enrollment, survivors may change health plans as described in WAC 182-08-198.

(9) Survivors will lose their right to enroll in PEBB retiree insurance coverage if they:

(a) Do not apply to enroll or defer enrollment within the timelines as described in subsection (5) of this section; or

(b) Do not meet the requirements to defer enrollment as described in subsection (7)(b) of this section.

[Statutory Authority: RCW 41.05.021, 41.06.065 [41.05.065], and 41.05.160. WSR 24-18-083 (Admin #2024-02), § 182-12-250, filed 8/29/24, effective 1/1/25. Statutory Authority: RCW 41.05.021, 41.05.160, and Policy Resolution PEBB 2022-03. WSR 22-13-160 (Admin #2022-02.03), § 182-12-250, filed 6/21/22, effective 1/1/23. Statutory Authority: RCW 41.05.021, 41.05.160 and Policy resolution PEBB 2021-01. WSR 21-13-101 (Admin #2021-01.01), § 182-12-250, filed 6/18/21, effective 1/1/22. Statutory Authority: RCW 41.05.021 and 41.05.160. WSR 20-16-062 (Admin #2020-03), § 182-12-250, filed 7/28/20, effective 1/1/21. Statutory Authority: RCW 41.05.021, 41.05.160 and PEBB policy resolutions. WSR 18-20-117 (Admin #2018-02), § 182-12-250, filed 10/3/18, effective 1/1/19; WSR 17-19-077 (Order 2017-01), § 182-12-250, filed 9/15/17, effective 1/1/18. Statutory Authority: RCW 41.05.021, 41.05.160, 2016 c 67, and PEBB policy resolutions. WSR 16-20-080, § 182-12-250, filed 10/4/16, effective 1/1/17. Statutory Authority: RCW 41.05.160, 2015 c 116, and PEBB policy resolutions. WSR 15-22-099 (PEBB Admin # 2015-01 Rev 1), § 182-12-250, filed 11/4/15, effective 1/1/16. Statutory Authority: RCW 41.05.160 and 2013 2nd sp.s. c 4. WSR 14-20-058 (PEBB Admin 2014-02), § 182-12-250, filed 9/25/14, effective 1/1/15. Statutory Authority: RCW 41.05.160 and 2012 2nd sp.s. c 3. WSR 13-22-019 (Admin. 2013-01), § 182-12-250, filed 10/28/13, effective 1/1/14. Statutory Authority: RCW 41.05.160. WSR 12-20-022 (Order 2012-01), § 182-12-250, filed 9/25/12, effective 11/1/12. Statutory Authority: RCW 41.05.160 and 2011 c 8. WSR 11-22-036 (Order 11-02), § 182-12-250, filed 10/26/11, effective 1/1/12. Statutory Authority: RCW 41.05.160. WSR 10-20-147 (Order 10-02), § 182-12-250, filed 10/6/10, effective 1/1/11; WSR 09-23-102 (Order 09-02), § 182-12-250, filed 11/17/09, effective 1/1/10; WSR 08-20-128 (Order 08-03), § 182-12-250, filed 10/1/08, effective 1/1/09; WSR 07-20-129 (Order 07-01), § 182-12-250, filed 10/3/07, effective 11/3/07. Statutory Authority: RCW 41.05.160 and 41.05.080. WSR 06-20-099 (Order 06-08), § 182-12-250, filed 10/3/06, effective 11/3/06. Statutory Authority: RCW 41.05.160 and 41.05.165. WSR 04-18-039, § 182-12-250, filed 8/26/04, effective 1/1/05.]

WAC 182-12-260 Who are eligible dependents? To be enrolled in PEBB health plan coverage, a dependent must be eligible under this section and the subscriber must comply with enrollment procedures outlined in WAC 182-12-262.

The public employees benefits board (PEBB) program verifies the eligibility of all dependents and will request documents from subscribers that provide evidence of a dependent's eligibility. The PEBB program reserves the right to review a dependent's eligibility at any

time. The PEBB program will remove a subscriber's enrolled dependents from health plan coverage if the PEBB program is unable to verify a dependent's eligibility. A dependent will not be enrolled in PEBB health plan coverage if the PEBB program or the employing agency is unable to verify the dependent's eligibility within the PEBB program enrollment timelines.

The subscriber must provide notice, in writing, when their dependent is not eligible under this section as described in WAC 182-12-262 (2) (a).

The following are eligible as dependents:

(1) Legal spouse. A former spouse is not an eligible dependent upon finalization of a divorce or annulment, even if a court order requires the subscriber to provide health insurance for the former spouse;

(2) State registered domestic partner. A former state registered domestic partner is not an eligible dependent upon dissolution or termination of a partnership, even if a court order requires the subscriber to provide health insurance for the former partner;

(3) Children. Children are eligible through the last day of the month in which their twenty-sixth birthday occurred except as described in (g) of this subsection. Children are defined as the subscriber's:

(a) Children based on establishment of a parent-child relationship as described in RCW 26.26A.100, except when parental rights have been terminated;

(b) Children of the subscriber's spouse, based on the spouse's establishment of a parent-child relationship, except when parental rights have been terminated. The stepchild's relationship to the subscriber (and eligibility as a dependent) ends on the same date the marriage with the spouse ends through divorce, annulment, dissolution, termination, or death;

(c) Children for whom the subscriber has assumed a legal obligation for total or partial support in anticipation of adoption of the child;

(d) Children of the subscriber's state registered domestic partner, based on the state registered domestic partner's establishment of a parent-child relationship, except when parental rights have been terminated. The child's relationship to the subscriber (and eligibility as a dependent) ends on the same date the subscriber's legal relationship with the state registered domestic partner ends through divorce, annulment, dissolution, termination, or death;

(e) Children specified in a court order or divorce decree for whom the subscriber has a legal obligation to provide support or health care coverage;

(f) Extended dependent in the legal custody or legal guardianship of the subscriber, the subscriber's spouse, or subscriber's state registered domestic partner. The legal responsibility is demonstrated by a valid court order and the child's official residence with the custodian or guardian. Extended dependent child does not include a foster child unless the subscriber, the subscriber's spouse, or the subscriber's state registered domestic partner has assumed a legal obligation for total or partial support in anticipation of adoption; and

(g) Children of any age with a developmental or physical disability that renders the child incapable of self-sustaining employment and chiefly dependent upon the subscriber for support and maintenance provided such condition occurs before the age of twenty-six:

(i) The subscriber must provide proof of the disability and dependency within sixty days of the child's attainment of age twenty-six;

(ii) The subscriber must notify the PEBB program, in writing, when the child is no longer eligible under this subsection as described in WAC 182-12-262 (2)(a);

(iii) A child with a developmental or physical disability who becomes self-supporting is not eligible under this subsection as of the last day of the month in which they become capable of self-support;

(iv) A child with a developmental or physical disability age twenty-six and older who becomes capable of self-support does not regain eligibility if they later become incapable of self-support; and

(v) The PEBB program with input from the applicable contracted vendor will periodically verify the eligibility of a dependent child with a disability beginning at age twenty-six, but no more frequently than annually after the two-year period following the child's twenty-sixth birthday. Verification will require renewed proof of disability and dependence from the subscriber.

[Statutory Authority: RCW 41.05.021 and 41.05.160. WSR 20-16-062 (Admin #2020-03), § 182-12-260, filed 7/28/20, effective 1/1/21. Statutory Authority: RCW 41.05.021, 41.05.160, and PEBB policy resolutions. WSR 19-17-073 (Admin #2019-01), § 182-12-260, filed 8/20/19, effective 1/1/20; WSR 18-20-117 (Admin #2018-02), § 182-12-260, filed 10/3/18, effective 1/1/19; WSR 17-19-077 (Order 2017-01), § 182-12-260, filed 9/15/17, effective 1/1/18. Statutory Authority: RCW 41.05.021, 41.05.160, 2016 c 67, and PEBB policy resolutions. WSR 16-20-080, § 182-12-260, filed 10/4/16, effective 1/1/17. Statutory Authority: RCW 41.05.160, 2015 c 116, and PEBB policy resolutions. WSR 15-22-099 (PEBB Admin # 2015-01 Rev 1), § 182-12-260, filed 11/4/15, effective 1/1/16. Statutory Authority: RCW 41.05.160 and 2013 2nd sp.s. c 4s. WSR 14-20-058 (PEBB Admin 2014-02), § 182-12-260, filed 9/25/14, effective 1/1/15. Statutory Authority: RCW 41.05.160 and 2012 2nd sp.s. c 3. WSR 13-22-019 (Admin. 2013-01), § 182-12-260, filed 10/28/13, effective 1/1/14. Statutory Authority: RCW 41.05.160. WSR 12-20-022 (Order 2012-01), § 182-12-260, filed 9/25/12, effective 11/1/12. Statutory Authority: RCW 41.05.160 and 2011 c 8. WSR 11-22-036 (Order 11-02), § 182-12-260, filed 10/26/11, effective 1/1/12. Statutory Authority: RCW 41.05.160. WSR 10-20-147 (Order 10-02), § 182-12-260, filed 10/6/10, effective 1/1/11; WSR 09-23-102 (Order 09-02), § 182-12-260, filed 11/17/09, effective 1/1/10; WSR 08-20-128 (Order 08-03), § 182-12-260, filed 10/1/08, effective 1/1/09; WSR 07-20-129 (Order 07-01), § 182-12-260, filed 10/3/07, effective 11/3/07. Statutory Authority: RCW 41.05.160, 41.05.350, and 41.05.165. WSR 05-16-046 (Order 05-01), § 182-12-260, filed 7/27/05, effective 8/27/05. Statutory Authority: RCW 41.05.160 and 41.05.165. WSR 04-18-039, § 182-12-260, filed 8/26/04, effective 1/1/05.]

(Effective until January 1, 2025)

WAC 182-12-262 When may subscribers enroll or remove eligible dependents? (1) **Enrolling dependents in public employees benefits board (PEBB) health plan coverage, supplemental dependent life insurance, and accidental death and dismemberment (AD&D) insurance.** A dependent must be enrolled in the same health plan coverage as the subscriber except as described in WAC 182-12-171 (1)(c). The subscriber

must be enrolled in health plan coverage to enroll their dependent in health plan coverage except as provided in WAC 182-12-205 (3)(c). A dependent with more than one source of eligibility for enrollment in the PEBB and school employees benefits board (SEBB) programs is limited to a single enrollment in medical, dental, and vision plans in either the PEBB or SEBB program. Subscribers must satisfy the enrollment requirements as described in subsection (4) of this section and may enroll eligible dependents at the following times:

(a) **When the subscriber becomes eligible** and enrolls in PEBB benefits. If eligibility is verified the dependent's effective date will be as follows:

(i) PEBB health plan coverage will be the same as the subscriber's effective date;

(ii) Supplemental dependent life insurance or AD&D insurance, if elected, will be effective the first day of the month following the date the contracted vendor receives the required form or approves the enrollment. A newly born child must be at least 14 days old before supplemental dependent life insurance or AD&D insurance coverage is effective.

(b) **During the annual open enrollment.** PEBB health plan coverage begins January 1st of the following year;

(c) **During special open enrollment.** Subscribers may enroll dependents during a special open enrollment as described in subsection (3) of this section;

(d) **When a National Medical Support Notice (NMSN)** requires a subscriber to cover a dependent child in health plan coverage as described in WAC 182-12-263; or

(e) **Any time during the calendar year for supplemental dependent life insurance or AD&D insurance** by submitting the required form to the contracted vendor for approval. Evidence of insurability may be required for supplemental dependent life insurance but will not be required for supplemental AD&D insurance. Supplemental dependent life insurance or AD&D insurance will be effective the first day of the month following the date the contracted vendor receives the required form or approves the enrollment. A newly born child must be at least 14 days old before supplemental dependent life insurance or AD&D insurance coverage is effective.

(2) **Removing dependents from a subscriber's PEBB health plan coverage or supplemental dependent life insurance or AD&D insurance.**

(a) **A dependent's eligibility for enrollment in PEBB health plan coverage or supplemental dependent life insurance or AD&D insurance ends the last day of the month the dependent** meets the eligibility criteria as described in WAC 182-12-250 or 182-12-260. Subscribers must provide notice when a dependent is no longer eligible due to divorce, annulment, dissolution, or qualifying event of a dependent ceasing to be eligible as a dependent child, as described in WAC 182-12-260(3). For supplemental dependent life insurance or AD&D insurance, subscribers must notify the contracted vendor on the required form, in writing, or by telephone when a dependent is no longer eligible. Contact information for the contracted vendor may be found at hca.wa.gov/employees-contact-plan. For PEBB health plan coverage, the notice must be received within 60 days of the last day of the month the dependent loses eligibility. Employees must notify their employing agency when a dependent is no longer eligible for PEBB health plan coverage, except as required under WAC 182-12-260 (3)(g)(ii). All other subscribers must notify the PEBB program. Consequences for not sub-

mitting notice within the required 60 days include, but are not limited to:

(i) The dependent may lose eligibility to continue PEBB medical or dental under one of the continuation coverage options described in WAC 182-12-270;

(ii) The subscriber may be billed for claims paid by the health plan for services that were rendered after the dependent lost eligibility as described in WAC 182-12-270;

(iii) The subscriber may not be able to recover subscriber-paid insurance premiums for dependents that lost their eligibility; and

(iv) The subscriber may be responsible for premiums paid by the state for the dependent's health plan coverage after the dependent lost eligibility.

(b) **Employees have the opportunity to remove eligible dependents:**

(i) During the annual open enrollment. The dependent will be removed from PEBB health plan coverage the last day of December;

(ii) During a special open enrollment as described in subsections (3) and (4)(f) of this section;

(iii) When a NMSN requires a spouse, former spouse, or other individual to provide health plan coverage for a dependent who is already enrolled in PEBB coverage, and that health plan coverage is in fact provided as described in WAC 182-12-263(2); or

(iv) Any time during the calendar year from supplemental dependent life insurance or AD&D insurance by submitting a request to the contracted vendor on the required form, in writing, or by telephone. Contact information for the contracted vendor may be found at hca.wa.gov/employees-contact-plan.

(c) **Retirees (see WAC 182-12-171, 182-12-180, or 182-12-211), survivors (see WAC 182-12-180, 182-12-250, or 182-12-265), and PEBB continuation coverage enrollees (see WAC 182-12-133, 182-12-141, 182-12-142, 182-12-146, or 182-12-148) may remove dependents** from their PEBB health plan coverage outside of the annual open enrollment or a special open enrollment by providing written notice to the PEBB program. The dependent will be removed from the subscriber's PEBB health plan coverage prospectively. PEBB health plan coverage will end on the last day of the month in which the written notice is received by the PEBB program or on the last day of the month specified in the subscriber's written notice, whichever is later. If the written notice is received on the first day of the month, PEBB health plan coverage will end on the last day of the previous month. PEBB continuation coverage enrollees may remove dependents from supplemental dependent life insurance or AD&D insurance any time during the calendar year by submitting a request to the contracted vendor on the required form, in writing, or by telephone. Contact information for the contracted vendor may be found at hca.wa.gov/employees-contact-plan.

(3) **Special open enrollment.**

(a) Subscribers may enroll or remove their eligible dependents outside of the annual open enrollment if a special open enrollment event occurs. The change in enrollment must be allowable under the Internal Revenue Code and Treasury Regulations, and correspond to and be consistent with the event that creates the special open enrollment for the subscriber, the subscriber's dependents, or both. To disenroll from a medicare advantage (MA) or medicare advantage-prescription drug (MA-PD) plan, the change in enrollment must be allowable under 42 C.F.R. Secs. 422.62(b) and 423.38(c).

(i) PEBB health plan coverage will begin the first of the month following the later of the event date or the date the required form is

received. If that day is the first of the month, the change in enrollment begins on that day except for a MA or MA-PD plan which will begin the first day of the month following the date the form is received.

(ii) PEBB health plan coverage for an extended dependent or a dependent with a disability will begin the first day of the month following the later of the event date or eligibility certification.

(iii) The dependent will be removed from the subscriber's PEBB health plan coverage the last day of the month following the later of the event date or the date the required form and proof of the event is received. If that day is the first of the month, the change in enrollment will be made the last day of the previous month.

(iv) If the special open enrollment is due to the birth or adoption of a child, or when the subscriber has assumed a legal obligation for total or partial support in anticipation of adoption of a child, PEBB health plan coverage will begin or end as follows:

- For the newly born child, PEBB health plan coverage will begin the date of birth;

- For a newly adopted child, PEBB health plan coverage will begin on the date of placement or the date a legal obligation is assumed in anticipation of adoption, whichever is earlier;

- For a spouse or state registered domestic partner of a subscriber, PEBB health plan coverage will begin the first day of the month in which the event occurs. The spouse or state registered domestic partner will be removed from PEBB health plan coverage the last day of the month in which the event occurred.

(v) Supplemental dependent life insurance or AD&D insurance will begin the first day of the month following the date the contracted vendor receives the required form or approves the enrollment. A newly born child must be at least 14 days old before supplemental dependent life insurance or AD&D insurance coverage is effective.

(b) The events described in this subsection (3)(b)(i) of this section create a special open enrollment to enroll eligible dependents in supplemental dependent life insurance or AD&D insurance. Any one of the following events may create a special open enrollment to enroll or remove eligible dependents from PEBB health plan coverage:

(i) Subscriber acquires a new dependent due to:

- Marriage or registering a state registered domestic partnership;

- Birth, adoption, or when a subscriber has assumed a legal obligation for total or partial support in anticipation of adoption; or

- A child becoming eligible as an extended dependent through legal custody or legal guardianship.

(ii) Subscriber or a subscriber's dependent loses other coverage under a group health plan or through health insurance coverage, as defined by the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA);

(iii) Subscriber has a change in employment status that affects the subscriber's eligibility for their employer contribution toward their employer-based group health plan;

(iv) The subscriber's dependent has a change in their own employment status that affects their eligibility or their dependent's eligibility for the employer contribution under their employer-based group health plan;

Note: As used in (iv) of this subsection, "employer contribution" means contributions made by the dependent's current or former employer toward health coverage as described in Treasury Regulation 54.9801-6.

(v) Subscriber or a subscriber's dependent has a change in enrollment under an employer-based group health plan during its annual

open enrollment that does not align with the PEBB program's annual open enrollment;

(vi) Subscriber's dependent has a change in residence from outside of the United States to within the United States, or from within the United States to outside of the United States and that change in residence resulted in the dependent losing their health insurance;

(vii) A court order requires the subscriber or any other individual to provide insurance coverage for an eligible dependent of the subscriber (a former spouse or former state registered domestic partner is not an eligible dependent);

(viii) Subscriber or a subscriber's dependent enrolls in coverage under medicaid or a state children's health insurance program (CHIP), or the subscriber or a subscriber's dependent loses eligibility for coverage under medicaid or CHIP;

(ix) Subscriber or a subscriber's dependent becomes eligible for state premium assistance subsidy for PEBB health plan coverage from medicaid or CHIP;

(x) Subscriber's dependent enrolls in medicare, or loses eligibility for medicare.

(4) Enrollment requirements. A subscriber must submit the required forms within the time frames described in this subsection. For PEBB health plan coverage, an employee must submit the required forms to their employing agency, a subscriber on continuation coverage or PEBB retiree insurance coverage must submit the required forms to the PEBB program. In addition to the required forms indicating dependent enrollment, the subscriber must provide the required documents as evidence of the dependent's eligibility; or as evidence of the event that created the special open enrollment. All required forms and documents must be received within the required time frames. An employee enrolling a dependent in supplemental dependent life insurance or AD&D insurance must submit the required form to the contracted vendor for approval within the required time frames.

Note: When enrolling a state registered domestic partner or a state registered domestic partner's child, a subscriber must certify that the state registered domestic partner or state registered domestic partner's child is a tax dependent on the required form; otherwise, the PEBB program will assume the state registered domestic partner or state registered domestic partner's child is not a tax dependent.

(a) If a subscriber wants to enroll their eligible dependents in PEBB health plan coverage when the subscriber becomes eligible to enroll in PEBB benefits, the subscriber must include the dependent's enrollment information on the required forms and submit them within the required time frame described in WAC 182-08-197, 182-12-171, 182-12-180, 182-12-211, or 182-12-250. If an employee enrolls a dependent in supplemental dependent life insurance or AD&D insurance, the required form must be submitted within the required time frame described in WAC 182-08-197.

(b) If a subscriber wants to enroll eligible dependents in PEBB health plan coverage during the PEBB annual open enrollment period, the required forms must be received no later than the last day of the annual open enrollment.

(c) If a subscriber wants to enroll newly eligible dependents, the required forms must be received no later than 60 days after the dependent becomes eligible. An employee enrolling a dependent in supplemental dependent life insurance or AD&D insurance must submit the required form to the contracted vendor for approval. An employee may enroll a dependent in supplemental dependent life insurance up to the guaranteed issue coverage amount without evidence of insurability if the required form is submitted to the contracted vendor as required. Evidence of insurability will be required for supplemental dependent

life insurance over the guaranteed issue coverage amount. Evidence of insurability is not required for supplemental AD&D insurance.

(d) If a subscriber wants to enroll a newborn or child whom the subscriber has adopted or has assumed a legal obligation for total or partial support in anticipation of adoption in PEBB health plan coverage, the subscriber should notify the PEBB program by submitting the required forms as soon as possible to ensure timely payment of claims. If adding the child increases the premium, the required forms must be received no later than 60 days after the date of the birth, adoption, or the date the legal obligation is assumed for total or partial support in anticipation of adoption. An employee enrolling a dependent in supplemental dependent life insurance or AD&D insurance must submit the required form to the contracted vendor for approval no later than 60 days after the date of the birth, adoption, or the date the legal obligation is assumed for total or partial support in anticipation of adoption. A newly born child must be at least 14 days old before supplemental dependent life insurance or AD&D insurance coverage can become effective.

(e) If the subscriber wants to enroll a child age 26 or older as a child with a disability in PEBB health plan coverage, the required forms must be received no later than 60 days after the child reaches age 26 or within the relevant time frame described in (a), (b), and (f) of this subsection. To recertify an enrolled child with a disability, the required forms must be received by the PEBB program or the contracted vendor by the child's scheduled PEBB health plan coverage termination date.

(f) If the subscriber wants to change a dependent's enrollment status in PEBB health plan coverage during a special open enrollment, the required forms must be received no later than 60 days after the event that creates the special open enrollment.

Exception: If the subscriber wants to change a dependent's enrollment or disenrollment in a medicare advantage or medicare advantage-prescription drug plan, the required forms must be received during a special enrollment period as allowed under 42 C.F.R. Secs. 422.62(b) and 423.38(c).

(g) An employee may enroll a dependent in supplemental dependent life insurance or AD&D insurance at any time during the calendar year by submitting the required form to the contracted vendor for approval. Evidence of insurability may be required for supplemental dependent life insurance but will not be required for supplemental AD&D insurance.

[Statutory Authority: RCW 41.05.021 and 41.05.160. WSR 23-14-015 (Admin #2023-01), § 182-12-262, filed 6/23/23, effective 1/1/24; WSR 22-13-158 (Admin #2022-01), § 182-12-262, filed 6/21/22, effective 1/1/23; WSR 21-13-106 (Admin #2021-01.06), § 182-12-262, filed 6/18/21, effective 1/1/22; WSR 20-16-062 (Admin #2020-03), § 182-12-262, filed 7/28/20, effective 1/1/21. Statutory Authority: RCW 41.05.021, 41.05.160, and PEBB policy resolutions. WSR 19-17-073 (Admin #2019-01), § 182-12-262, filed 8/20/19, effective 1/1/20; WSR 18-20-117 (Admin #2018-02), § 182-12-262, filed 10/3/18, effective 1/1/19; WSR 17-19-077 (Order 2017-01), § 182-12-262, filed 9/15/17, effective 1/1/18. Statutory Authority: RCW 41.05.021, 41.05.160, 2016 c 67, and PEBB policy resolutions. WSR 16-20-080, § 182-12-262, filed 10/4/16, effective 1/1/17. Statutory Authority: RCW 41.05.160, 2015 c 116, and PEBB policy resolutions. WSR 15-22-099 (PEBB Admin # 2015-01 Rev 1), § 182-12-262, filed 11/4/15, effective 1/1/16. Statutory Authority: RCW 41.05.160 and 2013 2nd sp.s. c 4. WSR 14-20-058 (PEBB Admin 2014-02), § 182-12-262, filed 9/25/14, effective 1/1/15. Statutory

Authority: RCW 41.05.160, 2013 2nd sp.s. c 4 and PEBB policy resolutions. WSR 14-08-040, § 182-12-262, filed 3/26/14, effective 4/26/14. Statutory Authority: RCW 41.05.160 and 2012 2nd sp.s. c 3. WSR 13-22-019 (Admin. 2013-01), § 182-12-262, filed 10/28/13, effective 1/1/14. Statutory Authority: RCW 41.05.160. WSR 12-20-022 (Order 2012-01), § 182-12-262, filed 9/25/12, effective 11/1/12. Statutory Authority: RCW 41.05.160 and 2011 c 8. WSR 11-22-036 (Order 11-02), § 182-12-262, filed 10/26/11, effective 1/1/12. Statutory Authority: RCW 41.05.160. WSR 10-20-147 (Order 10-02), § 182-12-262, filed 10/6/10, effective 1/1/11; WSR 09-23-102 (Order 09-02), § 182-12-262, filed 11/17/09, effective 1/1/10; WSR 08-20-128 (Order 08-03), § 182-12-262, filed 10/1/08, effective 1/1/09; WSR 08-09-027 (Order 08-01), § 182-12-262, filed 4/8/08, effective 4/9/08.]

(Effective January 1, 2025)

WAC 182-12-262 When may subscribers enroll or remove eligible dependents? (1) **Enrolling dependents in public employees benefits board (PEBB) health plan coverage, supplemental dependent life insurance, and accidental death and dismemberment (AD&D) insurance.** A dependent must be enrolled in the same health plan coverage as the subscriber unless otherwise described in the Washington Administrative Code applicable to the subscriber. The subscriber must be enrolled in health plan coverage to enroll their dependent in health plan coverage except as provided in WAC 182-12-205 (3)(c). A dependent with more than one source of eligibility for enrollment in the PEBB and school employees benefits board (SEBB) programs is limited to a single enrollment in medical, dental, and vision plans in either the PEBB or SEBB program. Subscribers must satisfy the enrollment requirements as described in subsection (4) of this section and may enroll eligible dependents at the following times:

(a) **When the subscriber becomes eligible** and enrolls in PEBB benefits. If eligibility is verified the dependent's effective date will be as follows:

(i) PEBB health plan coverage will be the same as the subscriber's effective date;

(ii) Supplemental dependent life insurance or AD&D insurance, if elected, will be effective the first day of the month following the date the contracted vendor receives the required form or approves the enrollment. A newly born child must be at least 14 days old before supplemental dependent life insurance or AD&D insurance coverage is effective.

(b) **During the annual open enrollment.** PEBB health plan coverage begins January 1st of the following year;

(c) **During special open enrollment.** Subscribers may enroll dependents during a special open enrollment as described in subsection (3) of this section;

(d) **When a National Medical Support Notice (NMSN)** requires a subscriber to cover a dependent child in health plan coverage as described in WAC 182-12-263; or

(e) **Any time during the calendar year for supplemental dependent life insurance or AD&D insurance** by submitting the required form to the contracted vendor for approval. Evidence of insurability may be required for supplemental dependent life insurance but will not be required for supplemental AD&D insurance. Supplemental dependent life insurance or AD&D insurance will be effective the first day of the

month following the date the contracted vendor receives the required form or approves the enrollment. A newly born child must be at least 14 days old before supplemental dependent life insurance or AD&D insurance coverage is effective.

(2) Removing dependents from a subscriber's PEBB health plan coverage or supplemental dependent life insurance or AD&D insurance.

(a) A dependent's eligibility for enrollment in PEBB health plan coverage or supplemental dependent life insurance or AD&D insurance ends the last day of the month the dependent meets the eligibility criteria as described in WAC 182-12-250 or 182-12-260. Subscribers must provide notice when a dependent is no longer eligible due to divorce, annulment, dissolution, or qualifying event of a dependent ceasing to be eligible as a dependent child, as described in WAC 182-12-260(3). For supplemental dependent life insurance or AD&D insurance, subscribers must notify the contracted vendor on the required form, in writing, or by telephone when a dependent is no longer eligible. Contact information for the contracted vendor may be found at hca.wa.gov/employees-contact-plan. For PEBB health plan coverage, the notice must be received within 60 days of the last day of the month the dependent loses eligibility. Employees must notify their employing agency when a dependent is no longer eligible for PEBB health plan coverage, except as required under WAC 182-12-260 (3)(g)(ii). All other subscribers must notify the PEBB program. Consequences for not submitting notice within the required 60 days include, but are not limited to:

(i) The dependent may lose eligibility to continue PEBB medical, dental, or vision under one of the continuation coverage options described in WAC 182-12-270;

(ii) The subscriber may be billed for claims paid by the health plan for services that were rendered after the dependent lost eligibility as described in WAC 182-12-270;

(iii) The subscriber may not be able to recover subscriber-paid insurance premiums for dependents that lost their eligibility; and

(iv) The subscriber may be responsible for premiums paid by the state for the dependent's health plan coverage after the dependent lost eligibility.

(b) Employees have the opportunity to remove eligible dependents:

(i) During the annual open enrollment. The dependent will be removed from PEBB health plan coverage the last day of December;

(ii) During a special open enrollment as described in subsections (3) and (4)(f) of this section;

(iii) When a NMSN requires a spouse, former spouse, or other individual to provide health plan coverage for a dependent who is already enrolled in PEBB coverage, and that health plan coverage is in fact provided as described in WAC 182-12-263(2); or

(iv) Any time during the calendar year from supplemental dependent life insurance or AD&D insurance by submitting a request to the contracted vendor on the required form, in writing, or by telephone. Contact information for the contracted vendor may be found at hca.wa.gov/employees-contact-plan.

(c) Retirees (see WAC 182-12-171, 182-12-180, or 182-12-211), survivors (see WAC 182-12-180, 182-12-250, or 182-12-265), PEBB continuation coverage enrollees (see WAC 182-12-133, 182-12-141, 182-12-142, 182-12-146, or 182-12-148), and retired employees, retired school employees, or survivors continuing PEBB health plan coverage after their employer group ceased participation (see WAC 182-12-232) may remove dependents from their PEBB health plan coverage outside of

the annual open enrollment or a special open enrollment by providing written notice to the PEBB program. The dependent will be removed from the subscriber's PEBB health plan coverage prospectively. PEBB health plan coverage will end on the last day of the month in which the written notice is received by the PEBB program or on the last day of the month specified in the subscriber's written notice, whichever is later. If the written notice is received on the first day of the month, PEBB health plan coverage will end on the last day of the previous month. PEBB continuation coverage enrollees may remove dependents from supplemental dependent life insurance or AD&D insurance any time during the calendar year by submitting a request to the contracted vendor on the required form, in writing, or by telephone. Contact information for the contracted vendor may be found at hca.wa.gov/employees-contact-plan.

(3) Special open enrollment.

(a) Subscribers may enroll or remove their eligible dependents outside of the annual open enrollment if a special open enrollment event occurs. The change in enrollment must be allowable under the Internal Revenue Code and Treasury Regulations, and correspond to and be consistent with the event that creates the special open enrollment for the subscriber, the subscriber's dependents, or both. To disenroll from a medicare advantage (MA) plan, a medicare advantage-prescription drug (MA-PD) plan, or the Uniform Medical Plan (UMP) Classic medicare plan, the change in enrollment must be allowable under 42 C.F.R. Secs. 422.62(b) and 423.38(c).

(i) PEBB health plan coverage will begin the first of the month following the later of the event date or the date the required form is received. If that day is the first of the month, the change in enrollment begins on that day except for a MA plan, a MA-PD plan, or the UMP Classic medicare plan, which will begin the first day of the month following the date the form is received.

(ii) PEBB health plan coverage for an extended dependent or a dependent with a disability will begin the first day of the month following the later of the event date or eligibility certification.

(iii) The dependent will be removed from the subscriber's PEBB health plan coverage the last day of the month following the later of the event date or the date the required form and proof of the event is received. If that day is the first of the month, the change in enrollment will be made the last day of the previous month.

(iv) If the special open enrollment is due to the birth or adoption of a child, or when the subscriber has assumed a legal obligation for total or partial support in anticipation of adoption of a child, PEBB health plan coverage will begin or end as follows:

- For the newly born child, PEBB health plan coverage will begin the date of birth;

- For a newly adopted child, PEBB health plan coverage will begin on the date of placement or the date a legal obligation is assumed in anticipation of adoption, whichever is earlier;

- For a spouse or state registered domestic partner of a subscriber, PEBB health plan coverage will begin the first day of the month in which the event occurs. The spouse or state registered domestic partner will be removed from PEBB health plan coverage the last day of the month in which the event occurred.

(v) Supplemental dependent life insurance or AD&D insurance will begin the first day of the month following the date the contracted vendor receives the required form or approves the enrollment. A newly

born child must be at least 14 days old before supplemental dependent life insurance or AD&D insurance coverage is effective.

(b) The events described in this subsection (3)(b)(i) of this section create a special open enrollment to enroll eligible dependents in supplemental dependent life insurance or AD&D insurance. Any one of the following events may create a special open enrollment to enroll or remove eligible dependents from PEBB health plan coverage:

(i) Subscriber acquires a new dependent due to:

- Marriage or registering a state registered domestic partnership;
- Birth, adoption, or when a subscriber has assumed a legal obligation for total or partial support in anticipation of adoption; or
- A child becoming eligible as an extended dependent through legal custody or legal guardianship.

(ii) Subscriber or a subscriber's dependent loses other coverage under a group health plan or through health insurance coverage, as defined by the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA);

(iii) Subscriber has a change in employment status that affects the subscriber's eligibility for their employer contribution toward their employer-based group health plan;

(iv) The subscriber's dependent has a change in their own employment status that affects their eligibility or their dependent's eligibility for the employer contribution under their employer-based group health plan;

Note: As used in (iv) of this subsection, "employer contribution" means contributions made by the dependent's current or former employer toward health coverage as described in Treasury Regulation 54.9801-6.

(v) Subscriber or a subscriber's dependent has a change in enrollment under an employer-based group health plan during its annual open enrollment that does not align with the PEBB program's annual open enrollment;

(vi) Subscriber's dependent has a change in residence from outside of the United States to within the United States, or from within the United States to outside of the United States and that change in residence resulted in the dependent losing their health insurance;

(vii) A court order requires the subscriber or any other individual to provide insurance coverage for an eligible dependent of the subscriber (a former spouse or former state registered domestic partner is not an eligible dependent);

(viii) Subscriber or a subscriber's dependent enrolls in coverage under medicaid or a state children's health insurance program (CHIP), or the subscriber or a subscriber's dependent loses eligibility for coverage under medicaid or CHIP;

(ix) Subscriber or a subscriber's dependent becomes eligible for state premium assistance subsidy for PEBB health plan coverage from medicaid or CHIP;

(x) Subscriber's dependent enrolls in medicare, or loses eligibility for medicare.

(4) Enrollment requirements. A subscriber must submit the required forms within the time frames described in this subsection. For PEBB health plan coverage, an employee must submit the required forms to their employing agency, any other subscriber must submit the required forms to the PEBB program. In addition to the required forms indicating dependent enrollment, the subscriber must provide the required documents as evidence of the dependent's eligibility; or as evidence of the event that created the special open enrollment. All required forms and documents must be received within the required time

frames. An employee enrolling a dependent in supplemental dependent life insurance or AD&D insurance must submit the required form to the contracted vendor for approval within the required time frames.

Note: When enrolling a state registered domestic partner or a state registered domestic partner's child, a subscriber must certify that the state registered domestic partner or state registered domestic partner's child is a tax dependent on the required form; otherwise, the PEBB program will assume the state registered domestic partner or state registered domestic partner's child is not a tax dependent.

(a) If a subscriber wants to enroll their eligible dependents in PEBB health plan coverage when the subscriber becomes eligible to enroll in PEBB benefits, the subscriber must include the dependent's enrollment information on the required forms and submit them within the required time frame described in WAC 182-08-197, 182-12-171, 182-12-180, 182-12-211, 182-12-232, or 182-12-250. If an employee enrolls a dependent in supplemental dependent life insurance or AD&D insurance, the required form must be submitted within the required time frame described in WAC 182-08-197.

(b) If a subscriber wants to enroll eligible dependents in PEBB health plan coverage during the PEBB annual open enrollment period, the required forms must be received no later than the last day of the annual open enrollment.

(c) If a subscriber wants to enroll newly eligible dependents, the required forms must be received no later than 60 days after the dependent becomes eligible. An employee enrolling a dependent in supplemental dependent life insurance or AD&D insurance must submit the required form to the contracted vendor for approval. An employee may enroll a dependent in supplemental dependent life insurance up to the guaranteed issue coverage amount without evidence of insurability if the required form is submitted to the contracted vendor as required. Evidence of insurability will be required for supplemental dependent life insurance over the guaranteed issue coverage amount. Evidence of insurability is not required for supplemental AD&D insurance.

(d) If a subscriber wants to enroll a newborn or child whom the subscriber has adopted or has assumed a legal obligation for total or partial support in anticipation of adoption in PEBB health plan coverage, the subscriber should notify the PEBB program by submitting the required forms as soon as possible to ensure timely payment of claims. If adding the child increases the premium, the required forms must be received no later than 60 days after the date of the birth, adoption, or the date the legal obligation is assumed for total or partial support in anticipation of adoption. An employee enrolling a dependent in supplemental dependent life insurance or AD&D insurance must submit the required form to the contracted vendor for approval no later than 60 days after the date of the birth, adoption, or the date the legal obligation is assumed for total or partial support in anticipation of adoption. A newly born child must be at least 14 days old before supplemental dependent life insurance or AD&D insurance coverage can become effective.

(e) If the subscriber wants to enroll a child age 26 or older as a child with a disability in PEBB health plan coverage, the required forms must be received no later than 60 days after the child reaches age 26 or within the relevant time frame described in (a), (b), and (f) of this subsection. To recertify an enrolled child with a disability, the required forms must be received by the PEBB program or the contracted vendor by the child's scheduled PEBB health plan coverage termination date.

(f) If the subscriber wants to change a dependent's enrollment status in PEBB health plan coverage during a special open enrollment,

the required forms must be received no later than 60 days after the event that creates the special open enrollment.

Exception: If the subscriber wants to change a dependent's enrollment or disenrollment in a MA plan, a MA-PD plan, or the UMP Classic medicare plan, the required forms must be received during a special enrollment period as allowed under 42 C.F.R. Secs. 422.62(b) and 423.38(c).

(g) An employee may enroll a dependent in supplemental dependent life insurance or AD&D insurance at any time during the calendar year by submitting the required form to the contracted vendor for approval. Evidence of insurability may be required for supplemental dependent life insurance but will not be required for supplemental AD&D insurance.

[Statutory Authority: RCW 41.05.021, 41.05.065, 41.05.160, 2023 c 164 § 1, 2023 c 312 § 1, 2023 c 13 § 5, Policy Resolutions PEBB 2024-14, 2024-19, 2024-20, and 2024-21. WSR 24-18-081 (Admin #2024-01.05), § 182-12-262, filed 8/29/24, effective 1/1/25. Statutory Authority: RCW 41.05.021 and 41.05.160. WSR 23-14-015 (Admin #2023-01), § 182-12-262, filed 6/23/23, effective 1/1/24; WSR 22-13-158 (Admin #2022-01), § 182-12-262, filed 6/21/22, effective 1/1/23; WSR 21-13-106 (Admin #2021-01.06), § 182-12-262, filed 6/18/21, effective 1/1/22; WSR 20-16-062 (Admin #2020-03), § 182-12-262, filed 7/28/20, effective 1/1/21. Statutory Authority: RCW 41.05.021, 41.05.160, and PEBB policy resolutions. WSR 19-17-073 (Admin #2019-01), § 182-12-262, filed 8/20/19, effective 1/1/20; WSR 18-20-117 (Admin #2018-02), § 182-12-262, filed 10/3/18, effective 1/1/19; WSR 17-19-077 (Order 2017-01), § 182-12-262, filed 9/15/17, effective 1/1/18. Statutory Authority: RCW 41.05.021, 41.05.160, 2016 c 67, and PEBB policy resolutions. WSR 16-20-080, § 182-12-262, filed 10/4/16, effective 1/1/17. Statutory Authority: RCW 41.05.160, 2015 c 116, and PEBB policy resolutions. WSR 15-22-099 (PEBB Admin # 2015-01 Rev 1), § 182-12-262, filed 11/4/15, effective 1/1/16. Statutory Authority: RCW 41.05.160 and 2013 2nd sp.s. c 4. WSR 14-20-058 (PEBB Admin 2014-02), § 182-12-262, filed 9/25/14, effective 1/1/15. Statutory Authority: RCW 41.05.160, 2013 2nd sp.s. c 4 and PEBB policy resolutions. WSR 14-08-040, § 182-12-262, filed 3/26/14, effective 4/26/14. Statutory Authority: RCW 41.05.160 and 2012 2nd sp.s. c 3. WSR 13-22-019 (Admin. 2013-01), § 182-12-262, filed 10/28/13, effective 1/1/14. Statutory Authority: RCW 41.05.160. WSR 12-20-022 (Order 2012-01), § 182-12-262, filed 9/25/12, effective 11/1/12. Statutory Authority: RCW 41.05.160 and 2011 c 8. WSR 11-22-036 (Order 11-02), § 182-12-262, filed 10/26/11, effective 1/1/12. Statutory Authority: RCW 41.05.160. WSR 10-20-147 (Order 10-02), § 182-12-262, filed 10/6/10, effective 1/1/11; WSR 09-23-102 (Order 09-02), § 182-12-262, filed 11/17/09, effective 1/1/10; WSR 08-20-128 (Order 08-03), § 182-12-262, filed 10/1/08, effective 1/1/09; WSR 08-09-027 (Order 08-01), § 182-12-262, filed 4/8/08, effective 4/9/08.]

(Effective until January 1, 2025)

WAC 182-12-263 National Medical Support Notice (NMSN). (1) When a National Medical Support Notice (NMSN) requires a subscriber to provide health plan coverage for a dependent child the following provisions apply:

(a) The subscriber may enroll their dependent child and request changes to their health plan coverage as described under subsection (c) of this section. Employees submit the required forms to their employing agency. Subscribers on continuation coverage or PEBB retiree

insurance coverage submit the required forms to the public employees benefits board (PEBB) program.

(b) If the subscriber fails to request enrollment or health plan coverage changes as directed by the NMSN, the employing agency or the PEBB program may make enrollment or health plan coverage changes according to (c) of this subsection upon request of:

- (i) The child's other parent; or
- (ii) Child support enforcement program.

(c) Changes to health plan coverage or enrollment are allowed as directed by the NMSN:

(i) The dependent will be enrolled under the subscriber's health plan coverage as directed by the NMSN;

(ii) An employee who has waived PEBB medical under WAC 182-12-128 will be enrolled in medical as directed by the NMSN, in order to enroll the dependent;

(iii) The subscriber's selected health plan will be changed if directed by the NMSN;

(iv) If the dependent is already enrolled under another PEBB subscriber, the dependent will be removed from the other health plan coverage and enrolled as directed by the NMSN;

(v) If the dependent is enrolled in both school employees benefits board medical and PEBB medical as a dependent as described in WAC 182-12-123 (6)(g) and there is a NMSN in place, enrollment will be in accordance with the NMSN; or

(vi) If the subscriber is eligible for and elects Consolidated Omnibus Budget Reconciliation Act (COBRA) or other continuation coverage, the NMSN will be enforced and the dependent must be covered in accordance with the NMSN.

(d) Changes to health plan coverage or enrollment as described in (c)(i) through (iii) of this subsection will begin the first day of the month following receipt by the employing agency of the NMSN. If the NMSN is received by the employing agency on the first day of the month, the change to health plan coverage or enrollment begins on that day. A dependent will be removed from the subscriber's health plan coverage as described in (c)(iv) of this subsection the last day of the month the NMSN is received. If that day is the first of the month, the change in enrollment will be made the last day of the previous month.

(2) When a NMSN requires a spouse, former spouse, or other individual to provide health plan coverage for a dependent who is already enrolled in PEBB coverage, and that health plan coverage is in fact provided, the dependent may be removed from the subscriber's PEBB health plan coverage prospectively.

[Statutory Authority: RCW 41.05.021 and 41.05.160. WSR 22-13-158 (Admin #2022-01), § 182-12-263, filed 6/21/22, effective 1/1/23. Statutory Authority: RCW 41.05.021, 41.05.160 and Policy resolutions PEBB 2021-02, 2021-03, 2021-04, 2021-05, 2021-06, 2021-07, 2021-08, 2021-09. WSR 21-13-102 (Admin #2021-01.02), § 182-12-263, filed 6/18/21, effective 1/1/22. Statutory Authority: RCW 41.05.021 and 41.05.160. WSR 20-16-062 (Admin #2020-03), § 182-12-263, filed 7/28/20, effective 1/1/21. Statutory Authority: RCW 41.05.021, 41.05.160, and PEBB policy resolutions. WSR 19-17-073 (Admin #2019-01), § 182-12-263, filed 8/20/19, effective 1/1/20; WSR 18-20-117 (Admin #2018-02), § 182-12-263, filed 10/3/18, effective 1/1/19. Statutory Authority: RCW 41.05.160, 2015 c 116, and PEBB policy resolutions. WSR 15-22-099 (PEBB Admin # 2015-01 Rev 1), §

182-12-263, filed 11/4/15, effective 1/1/16. Statutory Authority: RCW 41.05.160 and 2013 2nd sp.s. c 4. WSR 14-20-058 (PEBB Admin 2014-02), § 182-12-263, filed 9/25/14, effective 1/1/15. Statutory Authority: RCW 41.05.160 and 2012 2nd sp.s. c 3. WSR 13-22-019 (Admin. 2013-01), § 182-12-263, filed 10/28/13, effective 1/1/14. Statutory Authority: RCW 41.05.160. WSR 12-20-022 (Order 2012-01), § 182-12-263, filed 9/25/12, effective 11/1/12.]

(Effective January 1, 2025)

WAC 182-12-263 National Medical Support Notice (NMSN). (1) When a National Medical Support Notice (NMSN) requires a subscriber to provide health plan coverage for a dependent child the following provisions apply:

(a) The subscriber may enroll their dependent child and request changes to their health plan coverage as described under subsection (c) of this section. Employees submit the required forms to their employing agency. All other subscribers submit the required forms to the public employees benefits board (PEBB) program.

(b) If the subscriber fails to request enrollment or health plan coverage changes as directed by the NMSN, the employing agency or the PEBB program may make enrollment or health plan coverage changes according to (c) of this subsection upon request of:

(i) The child's other parent; or

(ii) Child support enforcement program.

(c) Changes to health plan coverage or enrollment are allowed as directed by the NMSN:

(i) The dependent will be enrolled under the subscriber's health plan coverage as directed by the NMSN;

(ii) An employee who has waived PEBB medical under WAC 182-12-128 will be enrolled in medical as directed by the NMSN, in order to enroll the dependent;

(iii) The subscriber's selected health plan will be changed if directed by the NMSN;

(iv) If the dependent is already enrolled under another PEBB subscriber, the dependent will be removed from the other health plan coverage and enrolled as directed by the NMSN;

(v) If the dependent is enrolled in both school employees benefits board medical and PEBB medical as a dependent as described in WAC 182-12-123 (6)(f) and there is a NMSN in place, enrollment will be in accordance with the NMSN; or

(vi) If the subscriber is eligible for and elects Consolidated Omnibus Budget Reconciliation Act (COBRA) or other continuation coverage, the NMSN will be enforced and the dependent must be covered in accordance with the NMSN.

(d) Changes to health plan coverage or enrollment as described in (c)(i) through (iii) of this subsection will begin the first day of the month following receipt by the employing agency or the PEBB program of the NMSN. If the NMSN is received on the first day of the month, the change to health plan coverage or enrollment begins on that day. A dependent will be removed from the subscriber's health plan coverage as described in (c)(iv) of this subsection the last day of the month the NMSN is received. If that day is the first of the month, the change in enrollment will be made the last day of the previous month.

(2) When a NMSN requires a spouse, former spouse, or other individual to provide health plan coverage for a dependent who is already enrolled in PEBB coverage, and that health plan coverage is in fact provided, the dependent may be removed from the subscriber's PEBB health plan coverage prospectively.

[Statutory Authority: RCW 41.05.021, 41.06.065 [41.05.065], and 41.05.160. WSR 24-18-076 (Admin #2024-01.01), § 182-12-263, filed 8/29/24, effective 1/1/25. Statutory Authority: RCW 41.05.021 and 41.05.160. WSR 22-13-158 (Admin #2022-01), § 182-12-263, filed 6/21/22, effective 1/1/23. Statutory Authority: RCW 41.05.021, 41.05.160 and Policy resolutions PEBB 2021-02, 2021-03, 2021-04, 2021-05, 2021-06, 2021-07, 2021-08, 2021-09. WSR 21-13-102 (Admin #2021-01.02), § 182-12-263, filed 6/18/21, effective 1/1/22. Statutory Authority: RCW 41.05.021 and 41.05.160. WSR 20-16-062 (Admin #2020-03), § 182-12-263, filed 7/28/20, effective 1/1/21. Statutory Authority: RCW 41.05.021, 41.05.160, and PEBB policy resolutions. WSR 19-17-073 (Admin #2019-01), § 182-12-263, filed 8/20/19, effective 1/1/20; WSR 18-20-117 (Admin #2018-02), § 182-12-263, filed 10/3/18, effective 1/1/19. Statutory Authority: RCW 41.05.160, 2015 c 116, and PEBB policy resolutions. WSR 15-22-099 (PEBB Admin # 2015-01 Rev 1), § 182-12-263, filed 11/4/15, effective 1/1/16. Statutory Authority: RCW 41.05.160 and 2013 2nd sp.s. c 4. WSR 14-20-058 (PEBB Admin 2014-02), § 182-12-263, filed 9/25/14, effective 1/1/15. Statutory Authority: RCW 41.05.160 and 2012 2nd sp.s. c 3. WSR 13-22-019 (Admin. 2013-01), § 182-12-263, filed 10/28/13, effective 1/1/14. Statutory Authority: RCW 41.05.160. WSR 12-20-022 (Order 2012-01), § 182-12-263, filed 9/25/12, effective 11/1/12.]

(Effective until January 1, 2025)

WAC 182-12-265 What options for continuing health plan enrollment are available to a surviving spouse, state registered domestic partner, or child, if an employee, a school employee, or a retiree dies? The survivor of an eligible employee, an eligible school employee, or a retiree who meets the eligibility criteria and submits the required forms as described in subsection (1), (2), or (3) of this section is eligible to enroll or defer enrollment as a survivor under public employees benefits board (PEBB) retiree insurance coverage. If enrolling in PEBB retiree insurance coverage, the survivor's first premium payment and applicable premium surcharges are due to the health care authority (HCA) no later than 45 days after the election period ends as described in subsection (1), (2), or (3) of this section. Following the survivor's first premium payment, premiums and applicable premium surcharges must be paid as described in WAC 182-08-180 (1)(c).

(1) An employee's spouse, state registered domestic partner, or child who loses eligibility due to the death of an eligible employee may enroll or defer enrollment as a survivor under PEBB retiree insurance coverage provided they immediately begin receiving a monthly retirement benefit from any state of Washington sponsored retirement system. To satisfy the requirement to immediately receive a monthly retirement benefit they must begin receiving monthly benefit payments no later than 120 days from the date of death of the employee. The required forms to enroll or defer enrollment must be received by the PEBB program no later than 60 days after the later of the date of the

employee's death or the date the survivor's PEBB insurance coverage ends.

Note: Enrollment in the PEBB program's medicare advantage (MA) or medicare advantage-prescription drug (MA-PD) plan may not be retroactive. If a subscriber elects to enroll in a MA plan, and the required forms are received by the PEBB program after the date the PEBB retiree insurance coverage is to begin, the subscriber and their enrolled dependents will be enrolled in a plan with the same contracted vendor during the gap month(s) prior to when the MA coverage begins. If a subscriber elects to enroll in a MA-PD plan, and the required forms are received by the PEBB program after the date the PEBB retiree insurance coverage is to begin, the subscriber and their enrolled dependents will be enrolled in Uniform Medical Plan (UMP) Classic during the gap month(s) prior to when the MA-PD coverage begins.

(a) The employee's spouse or state registered domestic partner may continue health plan enrollment until death.

(b) The employee's children may continue health plan enrollment until they lose eligibility as described in WAC 182-12-260.

Notes: If a spouse, state registered domestic partner, or child of an eligible employee is not eligible for a monthly retirement benefit, they are not eligible to enroll as a survivor under PEBB retiree insurance coverage. However, they may continue health plan enrollment as described in WAC 182-12-146.

Eligibility for the surviving spouse, surviving state registered domestic partner, or surviving child of an employee of a participating employer group will cease at the end of the month in which the group's contract with the authority ends.

Eligibility for the surviving spouse, surviving state registered domestic partner, or surviving child of an elected and full-time appointed official of the legislative and executive branches of state government is described in WAC 182-12-180.

(2) A retiree's spouse, state registered domestic partner, or child who loses eligibility due to the death of an eligible retiree may enroll or defer enrollment as a survivor under PEBB retiree insurance coverage. The required forms to enroll or defer enrollment must be received by the PEBB program no later than 60 days after the retiree's death.

(a) The retiree's spouse or state registered domestic partner may continue health plan enrollment until death.

(b) The retiree's children may continue health plan enrollment until they lose eligibility as described in WAC 182-12-260.

(c) If a spouse, state registered domestic partner, or child of an eligible retiree is not enrolled in a PEBB health plan at the time of the retiree's death, the survivor is eligible to enroll or defer enrollment as a survivor under PEBB retiree insurance coverage. The required forms to enroll or defer enrollment must be received by the PEBB program no later than 60 days after the retiree's death. For a survivor to enroll in a PEBB health plan who is not enrolled due to the retiree electing to defer enrollment in PEBB retiree insurance coverage as described in WAC 182-12-200 or 182-12-205, the survivor must also provide evidence of continuous enrollment in one or more qualifying coverages as described in WAC 182-12-205 (3)(a) through (e) from the most recent open enrollment for which the survivor was not enrolled in a PEBB medical plan prior to the retiree's death. A gap of 31 days or less is allowed between the date PEBB retiree insurance coverage was deferred and the start date of a qualifying coverage, and between each period of enrollment in qualifying coverages during the deferral period.

Note: Eligibility for the surviving spouse, surviving state registered domestic partner, or surviving child of an employer group retiree will cease at the end of the month in which the group's contract with the authority ends.

(3) A school employee's spouse, state registered domestic partner, or child who loses eligibility due to the death of an eligible school employee may enroll or defer enrollment as a survivor under PEBB retiree insurance coverage at the time of the school employee's death, provided the employee died on or after October 1, 1993. The survivor must immediately begin receiving a retirement benefit allowance under chapter 41.32, 41.35 or 41.40 RCW. The required forms to enroll or defer enrollment must be received by the PEBB program no later than 60 days after the later of the date of the school employee's death or the date the survivor's educational service district

coverage, or school employees benefits board (SEBB) insurance coverage ends.

Note: Enrollment in the PEBB program's MA or MA-PD plan may not be retroactive. If a subscriber elects to enroll in a MA plan, and the required forms are received by the PEBB program after the date the PEBB retiree insurance coverage is to begin, the subscriber and their enrolled dependents will be enrolled in a plan with the same contracted vendor during the gap month(s) prior to when the MA coverage begins. If a subscriber elects to enroll in a MA-PD plan, and the required forms are received by the PEBB program after the date the PEBB retiree insurance coverage is to begin, the subscriber and their enrolled dependents will be enrolled in UMP Classic during the gap month(s) prior to when the MA-PD coverage begins.

(a) The school employee's spouse or state registered domestic partner may continue health plan enrollment until death.

(b) The school employee's children may continue health plan enrollment until they lose eligibility as described in WAC 182-12-260.

Note: If a spouse, state registered domestic partner, or child of an eligible school employee is not eligible for a retirement benefit allowance, they are not eligible to enroll as a survivor under PEBB retiree insurance coverage. However, a spouse, state registered domestic partner, or child of an eligible school employee enrolled in SEBB insurance coverage may continue health plan enrollment as described in WAC 182-31-090.

(4) If premiums and applicable premium surcharges received by the HCA are sufficient as described in WAC 182-08-180 (1)(d)(ii) to maintain PEBB health plan enrollment after the employee, school employee, or retiree's death, the PEBB program will consider the payment as notice of the survivor's intent to continue enrollment.

If the survivor's enrollment ended due to the death of the employee, school employee, or retiree, the PEBB program will reinstate the survivor's enrollment without a gap subject to payment of premium and applicable premium surcharges.

(5) If a survivor elects to enroll a dependent in PEBB health plan coverage, the dependent must be enrolled in the same PEBB medical and PEBB dental plan as the survivor.

Exception: If a survivor selects a medicare supplement plan or MA-PD plan, nonmedicare enrollees will be enrolled in the UMP Classic. If a survivor selects any other medicare plan, they must also select a nonmedicare plan with the same contracted vendor available to nonmedicare enrollees.

(6) In order to avoid duplication of group medical coverage, a survivor may defer enrollment in PEBB retiree insurance coverage as described in WAC 182-12-200 and 182-12-205.

[Statutory Authority: RCW 41.05.021 and 41.05.160. WSR 23-14-015 (Admin #2023-01), § 182-12-265, filed 6/23/23, effective 1/1/24. Statutory Authority: RCW 41.05.021, 41.05.160, and Policy Resolution PEBB 2022-03. WSR 22-13-160 (Admin #2022-02.03), § 182-12-265, filed 6/21/22, effective 1/1/23. Statutory Authority: RCW 41.05.021, 41.05.160 and Policy resolution PEBB 2021-14. WSR 21-13-104 (Admin #2021-01.04), § 182-12-265, filed 6/18/21, effective 1/1/22. Statutory Authority: RCW 41.05.021, 41.05.160, 42 C.F.R. § 422.62(b) and § 423.38(c) and PEBB policy resolution 2020-05. WSR 20-16-063 (Admin #2020-02), § 182-12-265, filed 7/28/20, effective 1/1/21. Statutory Authority: RCW 41.05.021, 41.05.160, and PEBB policy resolutions. WSR 19-17-073 (Admin #2019-01), § 182-12-265, filed 8/20/19, effective 1/1/20; WSR 18-20-117 (Admin #2018-02), § 182-12-265, filed 10/3/18, effective 1/1/19; WSR 17-19-077 (Order 2017-01), § 182-12-265, filed 9/15/17, effective 1/1/18. Statutory Authority: RCW 41.05.021, 41.05.160, 2016 c 67, and PEBB policy resolutions. WSR 16-20-080, § 182-12-265, filed 10/4/16, effective 1/1/17. Statutory Authority: RCW 41.05.160 and 2013 2nd sp.s. c 4. WSR 14-20-058 (PEBB Admin 2014-02), § 182-12-265, filed 9/25/14, effective 1/1/15. Statutory Authority: RCW 41.05.160. WSR 12-20-022 (Order 2012-01), § 182-12-265, filed 9/25/12, effective 11/1/12. Statutory Authority: RCW 41.05.160 and 2011 c 8. WSR 11-22-036 (Order 11-02), § 182-12-265, filed 10/26/11, effective 1/1/12. Statutory Authority: RCW 41.05.160. WSR 09-23-102 (Order 09-02), § 182-12-265, filed 11/17/09, effective 1/1/10; WSR 08-20-128 (Order 08-03), § 182-12-265, filed 10/1/08, effective

1/1/09; WSR 07-20-129 (Order 07-01), § 182-12-265, filed 10/3/07, effective 11/3/07. Statutory Authority: RCW 41.05.160 and 41.05.068. WSR 06-23-165 (Order 06-09), § 182-12-265, filed 11/22/06, effective 12/23/06. Statutory Authority: RCW 41.05.160, 41.05.350, and 41.05.165. WSR 05-16-046 (Order 05-01), § 182-12-265, filed 7/27/05, effective 8/27/05. Statutory Authority: RCW 41.05.160 and 41.05.165. WSR 04-18-039, § 182-12-265, filed 8/26/04, effective 1/1/05.]

(Effective January 1, 2025)

WAC 182-12-265 What options for continuing health plan enrollment are available to a surviving spouse, state registered domestic partner, or child, if an employee, a school employee, or a retiree dies? The survivor of an eligible employee, an eligible school employee, or a retiree who meets the eligibility criteria and submits the required forms as described in subsection (1), (2), or (3) of this section is eligible to enroll or defer enrollment as a survivor under public employees benefits board (PEBB) retiree insurance coverage. If enrolling in PEBB retiree insurance coverage, the survivor's first premium payment and applicable premium surcharges are due to the health care authority (HCA) no later than 45 days after the election period ends as described in subsection (1), (2), or (3) of this section, except as described in WAC 182-08-180 (1)(a). Following the survivor's first premium payment, premiums and applicable premium surcharges must be paid as described in WAC 182-08-180 (1)(c).

(1) An employee's spouse, state registered domestic partner, or child who loses eligibility due to the death of an eligible employee may enroll or defer enrollment as a survivor under PEBB retiree insurance coverage provided they immediately begin receiving a monthly retirement benefit from any state of Washington sponsored retirement system. To satisfy the requirement to immediately receive a monthly retirement benefit they must begin receiving monthly benefit payments no later than 120 days from the date of death of the employee. The required forms to enroll or defer enrollment must be received by the PEBB program no later than 60 days after the later of the date of the employee's death or the date the survivor's PEBB insurance coverage ends.

Note: Enrollment in the PEBB program's medicare advantage (MA) plan, medicare advantage-prescription drug (MA-PD) plan, or the Uniform Medical Plan (UMP) Classic medicare plan may not be retroactive.

(1) If a subscriber elects to enroll in a MA plan, and the required forms are received by the PEBB program after the date the PEBB retiree insurance coverage is to begin, the subscriber and their enrolled dependents will be enrolled in a plan with the same contracted vendor during the gap month(s) prior to when the MA coverage begins.

(2) If a subscriber elects to enroll in a MA-PD plan, and the required forms are received by the PEBB program after the date the PEBB retiree insurance coverage is to begin, the subscriber and their enrolled dependents will be enrolled in transitional coverage as designated by the director or designee during the gap month(s) prior to when the MA-PD coverage begins.

(3) If a subscriber elects to enroll in the UMP Classic medicare plan, and the required forms are received by the PEBB program after the date the PEBB retiree insurance coverage is to begin, the subscriber and their enrolled dependents will be enrolled in transitional UMP coverage during the gap month(s) prior to when the UMP Classic medicare plan begins.

(a) The employee's spouse or state registered domestic partner may continue health plan enrollment until death.

(b) The employee's children may continue health plan enrollment until they lose eligibility as described in WAC 182-12-260.

Notes: If a spouse, state registered domestic partner, or child of an eligible employee is not eligible for a monthly retirement benefit, they are not eligible to enroll as a survivor under PEBB retiree insurance coverage. However, they may continue health plan enrollment as described in WAC 182-12-146.

Eligibility for continued enrollment in PEBB retiree insurance coverage for the surviving spouse, surviving state registered domestic partner, or surviving child of an employee of a PEBB participating employer group will cease at the end of the month in which the group's contract with the authority ends. Any survivor who loses eligibility for this reason may continue health plan enrollment as described in WAC 182-12-232.

Eligibility for the surviving spouse, surviving state registered domestic partner, or surviving child of an elected and full-time appointed official of the legislative and executive branches of state government is described in WAC 182-12-180.

(2) A retiree's spouse, state registered domestic partner, or child who loses eligibility due to the death of an eligible retiree may enroll or defer enrollment as a survivor under PEBB retiree insurance coverage as described in (a) through (d) of this subsection.

(a) The retiree's spouse or state registered domestic partner may continue health plan enrollment until death.

(b) The retiree's children may continue health plan enrollment until they lose eligibility as described in WAC 182-12-260.

(c) If a spouse, state registered domestic partner, or child of an eligible retiree is enrolled in a PEBB health plan at the time of the retiree's death, the survivors will be enrolled in the same PEBB health plan coverage they were enrolled in effective the first day of the month in which the retiree's death occurred. Eligible survivors may continue PEBB health plan coverage as described in (a) and (b) of this subsection. An eligible survivor may make changes to their PEBB health plan coverage or defer enrollment by submitting the required forms to the PEBB program. The required forms must be received no later than 60 days after the retiree's death. Changes in PEBB health plan coverage will be effective the first day of the month following the date of the retiree's death.

(d) If a spouse, state registered domestic partner, or child of an eligible retiree is not enrolled in a PEBB health plan at the time of the retiree's death, the survivor is eligible to enroll or defer enrollment as a survivor under PEBB retiree insurance coverage. The required forms to enroll or defer enrollment must be received by the PEBB program no later than 60 days after the retiree's death. For a survivor to enroll in a PEBB health plan who is not enrolled due to the retiree electing to defer enrollment in PEBB retiree insurance coverage as described in WAC 182-12-200 or 182-12-205 (3)(a) through (e), the survivor must also provide evidence of continuous enrollment in one or more qualifying coverages as described in WAC 182-12-205 (3)(a) through (e) from the most recent open enrollment for which the survivor was not enrolled in a PEBB medical plan prior to the retiree's death. A gap of 31 days or less is allowed between the date PEBB retiree insurance coverage was deferred and the start date of a qualifying coverage, and between each period of enrollment in qualifying coverages during the deferral period. If a retiree elected to defer enrollment in PEBB retiree insurance coverage as described in WAC 182-12-205 (3)(f), the survivor must provide proof of enrollment in medicare parts A and B; evidence of continuous enrollment in a qualified coverage is waived as described in WAC 182-12-205 (6)(f).

Note: Eligibility for continued enrollment in PEBB retiree insurance coverage for the surviving spouse, surviving state registered domestic partner, or surviving child of an employer group retiree will cease at the end of the month in which the group's contract with the authority ends. Any survivor who loses eligibility for this reason may continue health plan enrollment as described in WAC 182-12-232.

(3) A school employee's spouse, state registered domestic partner, or child who loses eligibility due to the death of an eligible school employee may enroll or defer enrollment as a survivor under PEBB retiree insurance coverage at the time of the school employee's death, provided the employee died on or after October 1, 1993. The survivor must immediately begin receiving a retirement benefit allowance under chapter 41.32, 41.35 or 41.40 RCW. The required forms to enroll or defer enrollment must be received by the PEBB program no later than 60 days after the later of the date of the school employee's death or the date the survivor's school employees benefits board (SEBB) insurance coverage ends.

Note: Enrollment in the PEBB program's MA plan, MA-PD plan, or the UMP Classic medicare plan may not be retroactive.

(1) If a subscriber elects to enroll in a MA plan, and the required forms are received by the PEBB program after the date the PEBB retiree insurance coverage is to begin, the subscriber and their enrolled dependents will be enrolled in a plan with the same contracted vendor during the gap month(s) prior to when the MA coverage begins.

(2) If a subscriber elects to enroll in a MA-PD plan, and the required forms are received by the PEBB program after the date the PEBB retiree insurance coverage is to begin, the subscriber and their enrolled dependents will be enrolled in transitional coverage as designated by the director or designee during the gap month(s) prior to when the MA-PD coverage begins.

(3) If a subscriber elects to enroll in the UMP Classic medicare plan, and the required forms are received by the PEBB program after the date the PEBB retiree insurance coverage is to begin, the subscriber and their enrolled dependents will be enrolled in transitional UMP coverage during the gap month(s) prior to when the UMP Classic medicare plan begins.

(a) The school employee's spouse or state registered domestic partner may continue health plan enrollment until death.

(b) The school employee's children may continue health plan enrollment until they lose eligibility as described in WAC 182-12-260.

Notes: If a spouse, state registered domestic partner, or child of an eligible school employee is not eligible for a retirement benefit allowance, they are not eligible to enroll as a survivor under PEBB retiree insurance coverage. However, a spouse, state registered domestic partner, or child of an eligible school employee enrolled in SEBB insurance coverage may continue health plan enrollment as described in WAC 182-31-090.

Eligibility for continued enrollment in PEBB retiree insurance coverage for the surviving spouse, surviving state registered domestic partner, or surviving child of a school employee of a SEBB participating employer group will cease at the end of the month in which the group's contract with the authority ends. Any survivor who loses eligibility for this reason may continue health plan enrollment as described in WAC 182-12-232.

(4) If premiums and applicable premium surcharges received by the HCA are sufficient as described in WAC 182-08-180 (1)(d)(ii) to maintain PEBB health plan enrollment after the employee, school employee, or retiree's death, the PEBB program will consider the payment as notice of the survivor's intent to continue enrollment.

If the survivor's enrollment ended due to the death of the employee, school employee, or retiree, the PEBB program will reinstate the survivor's enrollment without a gap subject to payment of premium and applicable premium surcharges.

(5) If a survivor elects to enroll a dependent in PEBB health plan coverage, the dependent must be enrolled in the same PEBB medical and PEBB dental plan as the survivor.

Exceptions: (1) If a survivor selects a medicare supplement plan, a MA-PD plan, or the UMP Classic medicare plan, nonmedicare enrollees will be enrolled in the UMP Classic. If a survivor selects any other medicare plan, they must also select a nonmedicare plan with the same contracted vendor available to nonmedicare enrollees.

(2) If a survivor selects a medicare supplement plan, MA-PD plan, or any other medicare plan, they may elect a PEBB vision plan available for any nonmedicare enrollees.

(6) A nonmedicare survivor must enroll in PEBB medical to be able to enroll in PEBB dental, in PEBB vision, or in both PEBB dental and PEBB vision. Any nonmedicare dependents they elect to enroll must be enrolled in the same PEBB medical, PEBB dental, and PEBB vision plan.

(7) In order to avoid duplication of group medical coverage, a survivor may defer enrollment in PEBB retiree insurance coverage as described in WAC 182-12-200 and 182-12-205.

[Statutory Authority: RCW 41.05.021, 41.05.065, 41.05.160, 2023 c 312 § 1, 2024 c 185 § 1, Policy Resolutions PEBB 2024-14, 2024-19, 2024-20, 2024-21, and 2024-26. WSR 24-18-082 (Admin #2024-01.06), § 182-12-265, filed 8/29/24, effective 1/1/25. Statutory Authority: RCW 41.05.021 and 41.05.160. WSR 23-14-015 (Admin #2023-01), § 182-12-265, filed 6/23/23, effective 1/1/24. Statutory Authority: RCW 41.05.021, 41.05.160, and Policy Resolution PEBB 2022-03. WSR 22-13-160 (Admin #2022-02.03), § 182-12-265, filed 6/21/22, effective 1/1/23. Statutory Authority: RCW 41.05.021, 41.05.160 and Policy resolution PEBB 2021-14. WSR 21-13-104 (Admin #2021-01.04), § 182-12-265, filed 6/18/21, effective 1/1/22. Statutory Authority: RCW 41.05.021, 41.05.160, 42 C.F.R. § 422.62(b) and § 423.38(c) and PEBB policy resolution 2020-05. WSR 20-16-063 (Admin #2020-02), § 182-12-265, filed 7/28/20, effective 1/1/21. Statutory Authority: RCW 41.05.021, 41.05.160, and PEBB policy resolutions. WSR 19-17-073 (Admin

#2019-01), § 182-12-265, filed 8/20/19, effective 1/1/20; WSR 18-20-117 (Admin #2018-02), § 182-12-265, filed 10/3/18, effective 1/1/19; WSR 17-19-077 (Order 2017-01), § 182-12-265, filed 9/15/17, effective 1/1/18. Statutory Authority: RCW 41.05.021, 41.05.160, 2016 c 67, and PEBB policy resolutions. WSR 16-20-080, § 182-12-265, filed 10/4/16, effective 1/1/17. Statutory Authority: RCW 41.05.160 and 2013 2nd sp.s. c 4. WSR 14-20-058 (PEBB Admin 2014-02), § 182-12-265, filed 9/25/14, effective 1/1/15. Statutory Authority: RCW 41.05.160. WSR 12-20-022 (Order 2012-01), § 182-12-265, filed 9/25/12, effective 11/1/12. Statutory Authority: RCW 41.05.160 and 2011 c 8. WSR 11-22-036 (Order 11-02), § 182-12-265, filed 10/26/11, effective 1/1/12. Statutory Authority: RCW 41.05.160. WSR 09-23-102 (Order 09-02), § 182-12-265, filed 11/17/09, effective 1/1/10; WSR 08-20-128 (Order 08-03), § 182-12-265, filed 10/1/08, effective 1/1/09; WSR 07-20-129 (Order 07-01), § 182-12-265, filed 10/3/07, effective 11/3/07. Statutory Authority: RCW 41.05.160 and 41.05.068. WSR 06-23-165 (Order 06-09), § 182-12-265, filed 11/22/06, effective 12/23/06. Statutory Authority: RCW 41.05.160, 41.05.350, and 41.05.165. WSR 05-16-046 (Order 05-01), § 182-12-265, filed 7/27/05, effective 8/27/05. Statutory Authority: RCW 41.05.160 and 41.05.165. WSR 04-18-039, § 182-12-265, filed 8/26/04, effective 1/1/05.]

(Effective until January 1, 2025)

WAC 182-12-270 What options for continuation coverage are available to dependents who cease to meet the eligibility criteria as described in WAC 182-12-260? If eligible, dependents may continue health plan enrollment under one of the continuation coverage options in subsection (1) or (2) of this section by self-paying the premiums and applicable premium surcharges set by the health care authority (HCA), with no contribution from the employer, following their loss of eligibility under the subscriber's health plan coverage. The dependent's first premium payment and applicable premium surcharges are due no later than forty-five days after the election period ends as described in WAC 182-12-146, 182-12-180, 182-12-250, or 182-12-265, whichever applies. Premiums and applicable premium surcharges associated with continuing PEBB medical, must be made to the HCA as well as premiums associated with continuing PEBB dental insurance coverage. Following the dependent's first premium payment, the dependent must pay premium and applicable premium surcharges as they become due. If the monthly premium or applicable premium surcharges remain unpaid for sixty days from the original due date, PEBB insurance coverage will be terminated retroactive to the last day of the month for which the monthly premium and applicable premium surcharges were paid as described in WAC 182-08-180 (1)(c). The PEBB program must receive the required forms as outlined in the *PEBB Initial Notice of COBRA and Continuation Coverage Rights*. Options for continuing health plan enrollment are based on the reason that eligibility was lost.

(1) Spouses, state registered domestic partners, or children who lose eligibility due to the death of an employee or retiree may be eligible to continue health plan enrollment as described in WAC 182-12-180, 182-12-250, or 182-12-265; or

(2) Dependents who lose eligibility because they no longer meet the eligibility criteria as described in WAC 182-12-260 are eligible to continue PEBB medical, dental, or both under provisions of the fed-

eral Consolidated Omnibus Budget Reconciliation Act (COBRA). See WAC 182-12-146 for more information on COBRA.

(3) A subscriber's state registered domestic partner and the state registered domestic partner's children may continue PEBB medical, dental, or both on the same terms and conditions as spouses and other eligible dependents under COBRA as described under RCW 26.60.015.

(4) No continuation coverage will be offered unless the PEBB program is notified through hand-delivery or United States Postal Service mail of the qualifying event as outlined in the *PEBB Initial Notice of COBRA and Continuation Coverage Rights*.

[Statutory Authority: RCW 41.05.021 and 41.05.160. WSR 20-16-062 (Admin #2020-03), § 182-12-270, filed 7/28/20, effective 1/1/21. Statutory Authority: RCW 41.05.021, 41.05.160, and PEBB policy resolutions. WSR 19-17-073 (Admin #2019-01), § 182-12-270, filed 8/20/19, effective 1/1/20; WSR 18-20-117 (Admin #2018-02), § 182-12-270, filed 10/3/18, effective 1/1/19; WSR 17-19-077 (Order 2017-01), § 182-12-270, filed 9/15/17, effective 1/1/18. Statutory Authority: RCW 41.05.021, 41.05.160, 2016 c 67, and PEBB policy resolutions. WSR 16-20-080, § 182-12-270, filed 10/4/16, effective 1/1/17. Statutory Authority: RCW 41.05.160 and 2013 2nd sp.s. c 4. WSR 14-20-058 (PEBB Admin 2014-02), § 182-12-270, filed 9/25/14, effective 1/1/15. Statutory Authority: RCW 41.05.160. WSR 12-20-022 (Order 2012-01), § 182-12-270, filed 9/25/12, effective 11/1/12; WSR 09-23-102 (Order 09-02), § 182-12-270, filed 11/17/09, effective 1/1/10; WSR 08-20-128 (Order 08-03), § 182-12-270, filed 10/1/08, effective 1/1/09; WSR 07-20-129 (Order 07-01), § 182-12-270, filed 10/3/07, effective 11/3/07. Statutory Authority: RCW 41.05.160, 41.05.350, and 41.05.165. WSR 05-16-046 (Order 05-01), § 182-12-270, filed 7/27/05, effective 8/27/05. Statutory Authority: RCW 41.05.160 and 41.05.165. WSR 04-18-039, § 182-12-270, filed 8/26/04, effective 1/1/05.]

(Effective January 1, 2025)

WAC 182-12-270 What options for continuation coverage are available to dependents who cease to meet the eligibility criteria as described in WAC 182-12-260? If eligible, dependents may continue health plan enrollment under one of the continuation coverage options in subsection (1) or (2) of this section by self-paying the premiums and applicable premium surcharges set by the health care authority (HCA), with no contribution from the employer, following their loss of eligibility under the subscriber's health plan coverage. The dependent's first premium payment and applicable premium surcharges are due no later than 45 days after the election period ends as described in WAC 182-12-146, 182-12-180, 182-12-250, or 182-12-265, whichever applies, except as described in WAC 182-08-180 (1)(a). Premiums and applicable premium surcharges associated with continuing PEBB medical, must be made to the HCA as well as premiums associated with continuing PEBB dental and PEBB vision insurance coverages. Following the dependent's first premium payment, the dependent must pay premium and applicable premium surcharges as they become due. If the monthly premium or applicable premium surcharges remain unpaid for 60 days from the original due date, PEBB insurance coverage will be terminated retroactive to the last day of the month for which the monthly premium and applicable premium surcharges were paid as described in WAC 182-08-180

(1)(c). The PEBB program must receive the required forms as outlined in the *PEBB Initial Notice of COBRA and Continuation Coverage Rights*. Options for continuing health plan enrollment are based on the reason that eligibility was lost.

(1) Spouses, state registered domestic partners, or children who lose eligibility due to the death of an employee or retiree may be eligible to continue health plan enrollment as described in WAC 182-12-180, 182-12-250, or 182-12-265; or

(2) Dependents who lose eligibility because they no longer meet the eligibility criteria as described in WAC 182-12-260 are eligible to continue PEBB medical, dental, vision, or any combination of these coverages under provisions of the federal Consolidated Omnibus Budget Reconciliation Act (COBRA). See WAC 182-12-146 for more information on COBRA.

(3) A subscriber's state registered domestic partner and the state registered domestic partner's children may continue PEBB medical, dental, vision, or any combination of these coverages on the same terms and conditions as spouses and other eligible dependents under COBRA as described under RCW 26.60.015.

(4) No continuation coverage will be offered unless the PEBB program is notified through hand-delivery or United States Postal Service mail of the qualifying event as outlined in the *PEBB Initial Notice of COBRA and Continuation Coverage Rights*.

[Statutory Authority: RCW 41.05.021, 41.06.065 [41.05.065], and 41.05.160. WSR 24-18-076 (Admin #2024-01.01), § 182-12-270, filed 8/29/24, effective 1/1/25. Statutory Authority: RCW 41.05.021 and 41.05.160. WSR 20-16-062 (Admin #2020-03), § 182-12-270, filed 7/28/20, effective 1/1/21. Statutory Authority: RCW 41.05.021, 41.05.160, and PEBB policy resolutions. WSR 19-17-073 (Admin #2019-01), § 182-12-270, filed 8/20/19, effective 1/1/20; WSR 18-20-117 (Admin #2018-02), § 182-12-270, filed 10/3/18, effective 1/1/19; WSR 17-19-077 (Order 2017-01), § 182-12-270, filed 9/15/17, effective 1/1/18. Statutory Authority: RCW 41.05.021, 41.05.160, 2016 c 67, and PEBB policy resolutions. WSR 16-20-080, § 182-12-270, filed 10/4/16, effective 1/1/17. Statutory Authority: RCW 41.05.160 and 2013 2nd sp.s. c 4. WSR 14-20-058 (PEBB Admin 2014-02), § 182-12-270, filed 9/25/14, effective 1/1/15. Statutory Authority: RCW 41.05.160. WSR 12-20-022 (Order 2012-01), § 182-12-270, filed 9/25/12, effective 11/1/12; WSR 09-23-102 (Order 09-02), § 182-12-270, filed 11/17/09, effective 1/1/10; WSR 08-20-128 (Order 08-03), § 182-12-270, filed 10/1/08, effective 1/1/09; WSR 07-20-129 (Order 07-01), § 182-12-270, filed 10/3/07, effective 11/3/07. Statutory Authority: RCW 41.05.160, 41.05.350, and 41.05.165. WSR 05-16-046 (Order 05-01), § 182-12-270, filed 7/27/05, effective 8/27/05. Statutory Authority: RCW 41.05.160 and 41.05.165. WSR 04-18-039, § 182-12-270, filed 8/26/04, effective 1/1/05.]

WAC 182-12-300 Public employees benefits board (PEBB) wellness incentive program eligibility and procedural requirements. The board annually determines the design of the PEBB wellness incentive program.

(1) All subscribers, except PEBB subscribers who are enrolled in both medicare Parts A and B, and in the medicare risk pool as described in RCW 41.05.080(3), are eligible to participate in the PEBB wellness incentive program.

(2) Effective January 1, 2020, to receive the PEBB wellness incentive of a reduction to the subscriber's medical plan deductible or a deposit to the subscriber's health savings account for the following plan year, eligible subscribers must complete PEBB wellness incentive program requirements during the current plan year by the following deadline:

(a) For subscribers continuing enrollment in PEBB medical and subscribers enrolling in PEBB medical with an effective date in January through September, the deadline is November 30th; or

(b) For subscribers enrolling in PEBB medical with an effective date in October through December, the deadline is December 31st.

(3) Subscribers who do not complete the requirements according to subsection (2) of this section, except as noted, within the time frame described are not eligible to receive a PEBB wellness incentive the following plan year.

Note: All eligible subscribers can earn a wellness incentive. Subscribers who cannot complete the wellness incentive program requirements may be able to earn the same incentive by different means. The contracted vendor will work with enrollees (and their physician, if they wish) to define an individual wellness program that provides the opportunity to qualify for the same incentive in light of the enrollee's health status.

(4) A PEBB wellness incentive will be provided only if:

(a) For the wellness incentive described in subsection (2) of this section the subscriber is still eligible to participate in the PEBB wellness incentive program and is enrolled in a PEBB medical plan in the year the incentive applies;

(b) The funding rate provided by the legislature is designed to provide a PEBB wellness incentive program or a PEBB wellness incentive, or both; or

(c) Specific appropriations are provided for wellness incentives.

[Statutory Authority: RCW 41.05.021 and 41.05.160. WSR 22-13-158 (Admin #2022-01), § 182-12-300, filed 6/21/22, effective 1/1/23. Statutory Authority: RCW 41.05.021, 41.05.160 and Policy resolution PEBB 2021-15. WSR 21-13-105 (Admin #2021-01.05), § 182-12-300, filed 6/18/21, effective 1/1/22. Statutory Authority: RCW 41.05.021 and 41.05.160. WSR 20-16-062 (Admin #2020-03), § 182-12-300, filed 7/28/20, effective 1/1/21. Statutory Authority: RCW 41.05.021, 41.05.160, and PEBB policy resolutions. WSR 19-17-073 (Admin #2019-01), § 182-12-300, filed 8/20/19, effective 1/1/20; WSR 18-20-117 (Admin #2018-02), § 182-12-300, filed 10/3/18, effective 1/1/19; WSR 17-19-077 (Order 2017-01), § 182-12-300, filed 9/15/17, effective 1/1/18. Statutory Authority: RCW 41.05.160, 2015 c 116, and PEBB policy resolutions. WSR 15-22-099 (PEBB Admin # 2015-01 Rev 1), § 182-12-300, filed 11/4/15, effective 1/1/16. Statutory Authority: RCW 41.05.160, 2013 2nd sp.s. c 4 and PEBB policy resolutions. WSR 14-08-040, § 182-12-300, filed 3/26/14, effective 4/26/14.]