

SHIBA and PEBB

Ways SHIBA volunteers can assist PEBB retirees

The Public Employees Benefits Board (PEBBB) released its retiree monthly premiums for 2018. Open Enrollment for PEBB retirees occurs Nov. 1 – Nov. 30, 2017 with changes taking effect Jan. 1, 2018.

Ways SHIBA volunteers CAN assist PEBB retirees on Medicare

- Everyone who has a Medicare Part D plan should review their plan options every year, and SHIBA can help.
- SHIBA is familiar with how the standardized Medicare Supplement (Medigap) plans work, so we can give PEBB retirees **general information** about the Premera Medicare Supplement Plan F and how it works with Medicare.
- **PEBB Premera Medicare Supplement Plan F does not cover outpatient prescription drugs.** SHIBA can help with comparing stand-alone Part D drug plans by running a Medicare Plan Finder analysis.
- If retirees consider changing to the Premera Medigap Plan F from Kaiser or the Uniform Medical Plan (UMP):
 - SHIBA can help to estimate drug costs by using the Medicare Plan Finder.
 - Retirees can compare that information with the total anticipated drug costs in their current plan by contacting Kaiser/UMP.

Ways SHIBA volunteers CANNOT assist PEBB retirees on Medicare

- SHIBA volunteer advisors are not in a position to advise or compare PEBB options, including
 - Kaiser Permanente plans
 - UMP plans

What SHIBA volunteers can suggest PEBB retirees do to get the information they need

- Attend a PEBB Benefits Fair
 - PEBB schedules fairs statewide Oct. 31, 2017 through Nov. 27, 2017.
 - See the schedule at: <https://www.hca.wa.gov/public-employee-benefits/benefits-fairs-schedule>
- Call the plan's customer service numbers with questions.
 - Find contact numbers for all PEBB plans at: <https://www.hca.wa.gov/public-employee-benefits/employees/contact-plans>
- Contact PEBB Benefits Services:
 - Phone: 1-800-200-1004 (toll-free) or 360-725-0440 (Olympia)
 - TRS: 711 through Washington Relay.
 - Office hours: Monday through Friday, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Pacific Time
- Contact Retired Public Employees Council (RPEC) SHIBA Ombudsman Program at 360-352-8262 (Olympia).

Additional information

- Information about medical plans and benefits for PEBB Retirees: <https://www.hca.wa.gov/public-employee-benefits/retirees/medical-plans-and-benefits>
- 2018 PEBB retiree monthly premiums: <https://www.hca.wa.gov/assets/pebb/51-275R-2018.pdf>