

Alliance Alert

The Public Employee Benefits Alliance (PEBA) was created by a group of Texas Government leaders working together for over a year to develop strategies to manage the rising costs of healthcare benefits. PEBA was established in January 2006 and was created pursuant to Chapter 791 of the Texas government Code, the Purchasing Program Chapter 271 of the Texas Local government Code and all other applicable provisions of Texas Law. PEBA membership is open to all Texas local governments who pay an annual membership fee and execute a PEBA Participating Interlocal Agreement. However, local governments who are members of one of the political subdivision Pools will receive automatic annual PEBA membership through the participating Pool. An additional per proposal fee will be established for proposal participation for all non-Pool members.

PEBA's mission is to support the individual members by providing: negotiation services to manage the spiraling cost of healthcare and related benefits, working together through the alliance procurement model to purchase healthcare and related benefits a competitive price, and provide contractual negotiations which will include vendor service accountability requirements. In order to accomplish this mission, PEBA makes a commitment to negotiate on behalf of the membership affordable, high-quality healthcare and related benefits and services.

The Public Employee Benefits Alliance (PEBA) Board met on May 15, 2007 to review the proposals that were received for the Employee Assistance Program (EAP) Proposal. The Board made the decision to execute a PEBA Alliance agreement with Deer Oaks effective 10/01/07 for the EAP Proposal. The Deer Oaks Alliance agreement will be available to all active PEBA member groups who are current with their annual membership and proposal fees or are members of one of the Pools.

Below is an overview of the products and pricing that PEBA is offering through our Alliance with Deer Oaks. **If you are interested in accessing this contract or want to obtain more details on this opportunity, contact PEBA at (512) 719-6768.**

Deer Oaks offers EAP services with a primarily based staff model of providers, which ensures the highest level of savings.

EAP Services:

- Three (3) visit model = \$0.96 PEPM (Per Employee Per Month)
- Six (6) visit model = \$1.27 PEPM (Per Employee Per Month)

EAP Price Includes:

- 4 DOT SAP Evaluations
- unlimited CISD services
- 4 legal seminars
- 4 financial seminars
- 10 hours of supervisor/employee wellness training, health fair participation or orientation.

Gatekeeper Managed Health Services:

Level 1: \$0.38 PEPM. Behavioral Health Gatekeeper Triage Service. Deer Oaks would receive the call from the covered individual and verify eligibility and then conduct a telephone triage to determine if the covered individual's presenting problems can be handled in the EAP or if there is a need for a referral to the behavioral health and/or substance abuse benefit. If the covered individual required longer term or more intensive treatment than what can be offered through the EAP, then an appropriate referral to the employer's behavioral health plan is made. The fee for Level 1 is in addition to the three (3) or six (6) session EAP fee.

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Level 2: \$0.74 PEPM. Managed Mental Health/Chemical Dependency Program. Deer Oaks is able to assist the employer group in realizing even greater savings through management of the entire mental health and chemical dependency benefits. The program includes and provides initial assessments, clinical treatment recommendations, authorizations for in-plan behavioral health and chemical dependency providers, pre-certifications, concurrent reviews and follow-up monitoring of any referrals to the health plan. Authorizations and pre-certification of behavioral health inpatient and outpatient services are issued through URAC accredited and licensed Utilization Management services. Additionally, if requested, Deer Oaks is able to review claims submitted by providers and work with the claims administrator to ensure the billing and payments are appropriate. The fee for Level 2 is in addition to the three (3) or six (6) session EAP fee.

Pharmacy Intervention Protocol:

This Service is not included in the EAP Benefits.

Network Assessment:

PEBA conducted a network assessment with Deer Oaks for the Political Subdivisions who participated in the proposal process. The network overview defines the coverage for the proposal participants. If you did not submit information to be included in the proposal process but are now interested in the EAP Benefit Proposal, please contact PEBA and we will conduct an EAP network assessment for your demographics. Please see below for the network coverage completed regarding the proposal participants.

City	Reference zip code	# of providers w/in 10 miles	# of providers w/in 25 miles	# of providers with specialty in children (6-12)	# of providers with specialty in adolescents (13-18)
Brazos River Authority	76652	0	16	13	12
Bryan	77801	18	18	7	10
Carrollton	75007	126	353	150	177
Coppell	75019	55	370	160	188
Farmers Branch	75234	180	373	169	194
Groves	77619	8	36	13	14
Iowa Park	76367	1	18	15	14
Irving	75061	83	387	169	195
Lewisville	75001	173	354	155	180
McKinney	75069	12	197	88	104
Mesquite	75150	70	306	131	153
Midland	79701	23	28	17	17
Pasadena	77504	38	159	75	93
Pearland	77584	7	200	89	110
Port Lavaca	77979	0	4	0	2
Rowlett	75030	56	289	120	142
Town of Highland Park	75205	195	365	162	189
Travis County Healthcare District	78704	54	78	36	44