

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 obtain automatic annual PEBA membership through the participating Pool. An additional per proposal fee is established for proposal participants 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 and June 5, 2007 to review the proposals that were received for the Supplemental Benefits for which PEBA requested competitive proposals. Below is a list of the vendors that the PEBA Board awarded the proposals to. PEBA will be distributing individual Alliance Alerts to all active PEBA Members that participated in these proposals **In addition to the Alliance Alerts for each proposal, PEBA will be providing these PEBA Members with a Letter of Intent (for each proposal) that must be executed prior to accessing the benefit. PEBA must be in receipt of the signed letter of Intent by close of business Monday July 9, 2007.**

For political subdivisions that have not joined PEBA and/or did not participate in the proposal process, it is not too late. Political subdivision employers may still access the PEBA Alliance contracts if they are current with the PEBA Annual Membership Fee, Proposal Costs, Late Fee and Interlocal Agreement. PEBA has demonstrated proposal success due the PEBA membership cooperation and support.

Supplemental Benefit	Selected Vendor	Contract Access Effective Dates:
Employee Assistance Program (EAP)	Deer Oaks	10/01/07
Section 125 (FLEX)	(TASC) Total Administrative Services Corporation	10/01/07
Life/LTD/STD/ADD/PAI	The Standard Insurance	10/01/07
Vision	Spectera	10/01/07
Wellness	Circle of Health	10/01/07
Cancer Supplemental Policy	Colonial	10/01/07
Critical Care Supplemental Policy	AFLAC	10/01/07
Accident Supplemental Policy	Colonial	10/01/07

Please contact PEBA with any questions or concerns. PEBA is moving into their second contractual year with their Pharmacy Benefit Manager and the Disease Management Organization. If you did not take advantage of these benefit programs, it is never too late to inform PEBA of your interest and an implementation program will be established.