



**Washington State
Health Care Authority**
Public Employees Benefits Board

Don't forget—PEBB's open enrollment ends November 30

The Public Employees Benefits Board (PEBB) Program's open enrollment runs October 27 through November 30. This is the one time of year that employees can:

- Change their medical and dental plans.
- Enroll or re-enroll in a flexible spending account (FSA).
- Enroll or re-enroll in the Dependent Care Assistance Program (DCAP).
- Add eligible family members to their PEBB health coverage.

What's changing for 2009?

No significant changes will occur for state employees in 2009. The plans offered in 2008 will all be available next year, and some premiums will even decrease in 2009. Benefit changes include:

- An increase in coverage for **hearing aids**, up to an \$800 maximum plan payment every 36 consecutive months. (The current benefit is \$300 – 400 for the same period.)
- An increase in the maximum plan payment for **chemical dependency services**, up to \$14,500 per 24 consecutive calendar months. (The current benefit is \$14,000 for the same period.)
- The maximum contribution for an FSA increases to \$3,600 per year, up from \$2,400 in 2008. (The minimum contribution remains \$240 per year.)
- **Updated**—For Willamette Dental, **routine coverage for out-of-area students** will no longer be available starting January 1, 2009. Out-of-area students can continue to receive coverage for a dental emergency from any licensed dentist when he or she is more than 50 miles from a Willamette Dental Group provider. Emergency coverage reimbursement is limited to \$200 per covered emergency encounter.

If you have questions about a plan's benefits, please [contact the plan](#) directly.

Where can I find more information about the FSA or DCAP?

ASIFlex manages both the FSA and DCAP for the PEBB Program. You can find more information, and enroll online, at [ASIFlex's Web site](#) or by contacting ASI at 1-800-659-3035 or asi@asiflex.com.

How can I make plan changes or add a family member to my coverage?

State employees are encouraged to make medical and dental plan changes online during open enrollment at www.pebb.hca.wa.gov by selecting Change My Coverage. If you're enrolling a family member for the first time, you will need to complete the *Employee Enrollment/Change* form and a dependent certification form (if necessary), and return them to your personnel or payroll office. You can find these forms on PEBB's [Forms](#) page.

Tell us what you think and win a \$25 gift card!

The PEBB Program is seeking feedback on the new design of its newsletter, and state employees are asked to take an [online survey](#) during open enrollment. Participants in the survey can enter in a drawing to win a \$25 gift card to a general merchandise retailer.