

# Preparing for the Upcoming School Year

School Employees Benefits
Outreach & Training
August 2020

Washington State Health Care Authority

SCHOOL EMPLOYEES BENEFITS BOARD

## Today's Agenda

- 1 Recent SEB Board Meetings
- 2 Returning Employees
- 3 Newly Eligible Employees
- 4 Annual Open Enrollment
- 5 Reminders, Tips & Resources





## Recent SEB Board Meetings

<u>hca.wa.gov/about-hca/school-employees-benefits-board-sebb-program/meetings-and-materials</u>



## Employee Eligibility: Two Year Look Back

### A school employee is presumed eligible if:

- Worked the past two school years
- For the same SEBB Organization
- At least 630 hours per year, and
- Returning to the same type of position(s)
  - Ex. Teacher, para-educator, food service worker, custodian, etc.

The SEBB organization may rebut this by notifying the school employee, in writing, of the specific reasons why the employee is not anticipated to work 630 hours in the upcoming school year.



### Two Year Look Back

Two resolutions were perented to the SEB Board

- SEBB 2020-09
  - Attempted to clarify on who expe of position means
    - To count as the same spe of potent, both the type of work and the work pattern (consistent fiedule compand to an intermittent schedule) must be similar between portions or combinations of positions from one year to the next

### **SEB Board did not pass this resolution**

The SEBB organization may rebut this by notifying the school employee, in writing, of the specific reasons why the employee is not anticipated to work 630 hours in the upcoming school year.



### Two Year Look Back

Two resolutions were perented to the SEB Board

- SEBB 2020-10
  - Attempted to add clarificatory 2019-20 school year
    - For purposes of this reacy only, FBB Organization must count the 2019-2020 school year as faving met the 30 hours requirement if the school employee (a) worked at least 630 hours during the 2019-20 school year or (b) worked at least 500 hours between September 1, 2019 and March 16, 2020.

### **SEB Board did not pass this resolution**



## Employee Eligibility: Two Year Look Back

### A school employee is presumed eligible if:

- Worked the past two school years
- For the same SEBB Organization
- At least 630 hours per year, and
- Returning to the same type of position(s)

Reminder - all hours for which a school employee receives compensation during an approved leave (e.g., sick leave, personal leave, shared leave) or a paid holiday must be included when determining eligibility. (SEBB Resolution 2020-01)





## Returning employees



## ESSB 6189 - COVID-19

Due to Governor's declared State of Emergency, **school employees** eligible for the employer contribution towards SEBB benefits as of February 29, 2020 will **maintain their eligibility** under the following circumstances:

- During any school closures or changes in school operations for the school employee
- While the school employee is quarantined, or required to care for a family member who is quarantined
- To take care of a child when the child's school or day care facility is closed, or when their regular child care provider is unable to provide services



## ESSB 6189 - Impacts to Eligibility

School employees eligible for the employer contribution towards SEBB benefits as of February 29, 2020 will **maintain** their eligibility until the **State of Emergency ends** 

- Benefits should be maintained into the next school year
  - Regardless if the employee would have been determined eligible
    - Unless the employment relationship has been terminated
- GovDelivery message sent on 7/29/2020



## Returning Eligible School Employees

Benefits will continue uninterrupted from one school year to the next if:

- Enrolled in SEBB Benefits at the end of the school year,
- Determined to be eligible for the next school year, and
- Returning to the same SEBB Organization

New elections can be made:

- During Annual Open Enrollment, or
- Experience a Special Open Enrollment event (SOE)

No change to eligibility status, no notification is required



## Returning to Work D-Series Worksheets

- D-1 Worksheet School employee who **lost eligibility** for the employer contribution due to leaving work on approved leave without pay, worker's compensation, Paid Family and Medical Leave (PFML), layoff, or active military duty (USERRA) and is **now returning to work**.
- D-2 Worksheet Provides notification of eligibility for an employee who was **not determined to be eligible** earlier in the school year and is **now returning to work** from approved leave.



### **D-Series Worksheets**

- D-3 Worksheet School employee returning to work the next school year for the same SEBB Organization and type of position, but is not anticipated to work at least 630 hours in the school year.
- D-4 Worksheet School employee not currently eligible who is returning to work the next school year for the same SEBB Organization and is anticipated to work at least 630 hours in the new school year or is presumed eligible due to a two year look back.





## Newly Eligible Employees



## **Determining Eligibility**

Employee is anticipated to work at least 630 hours in the school year

- Include all hours:
  - Worked within your SEBB Organization
  - Worked from multiple positions (stacking) within your SEBB Org
  - Compensated by the SEBB Org while out on leave or a paid holiday
- Provide applicable A series worksheet



## Adding Newly Eligible Employees in SMA

### Two ways to add into SEBB My Account

- Manually enter each employee
- Upload an Eligibility File

### Only add **eligible** employees

- Not already in SMA
- Add them as a new subscriber prior to their date of eligibility



## Eligibility File Upload

### The eligibility file is a bulk upload for newly eligible employees

- Specific file specifications
  - hca.wa.gov/assets/perspay/SMAAppendix.pdf
- Upload on Eligibility File tab in SMA
  - Will receive error notification if employee file did not upload
    - Do not include employees already entered in SMA



## Newly Eligible Employees

### Have 31 days from their date of eligibility to complete enrollment

- Will not be able to make enrollment elections until they reach their date of eligibility
  - Ex. Employee's date of eligibility is 9/1/2020
    - Employee can setup their SMA login prior to 9/1
    - Beginning 9/1, employee can begin their enrollment process
      - Add dependents
      - Upload documents
      - Make plan elections
    - Have until 10/2 to complete enrollment elections
      - Will default if enrollment hasn't been completed



### Benefits will continue uninterrupted if:

- Moving from one SEBB Organization to another
- Within the same or following month, and
- Anticipated to be eligible for the employer contribution

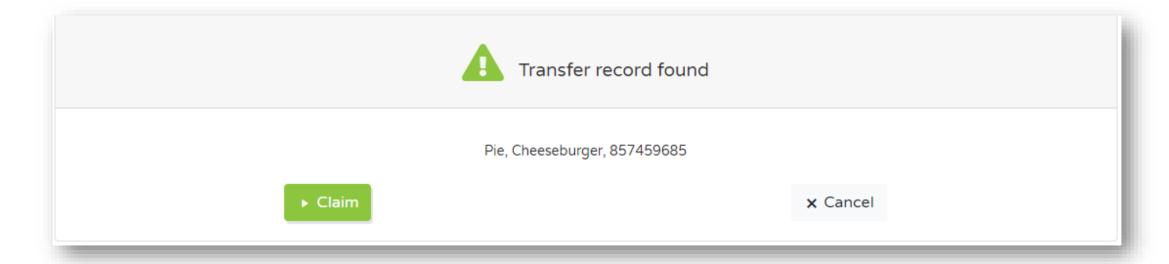
### Employees will not make new elections

Unless health plan is unavailable.

Add school employee in SMA as a new subscriber

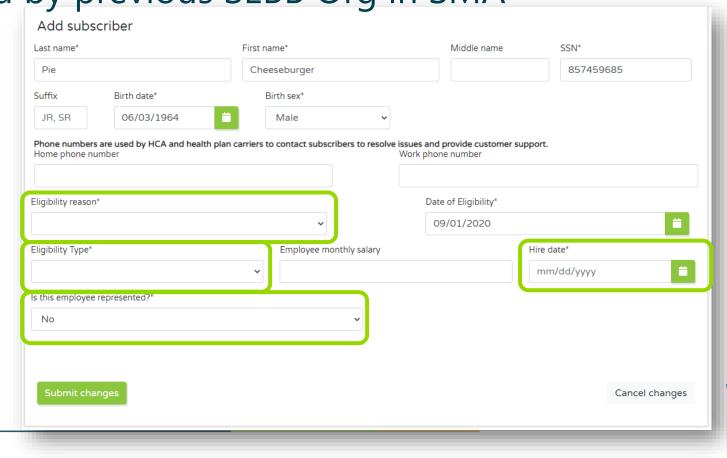


Adding a newly eligible employee who has been transferred or terminated by previous SEBB Org in SMA





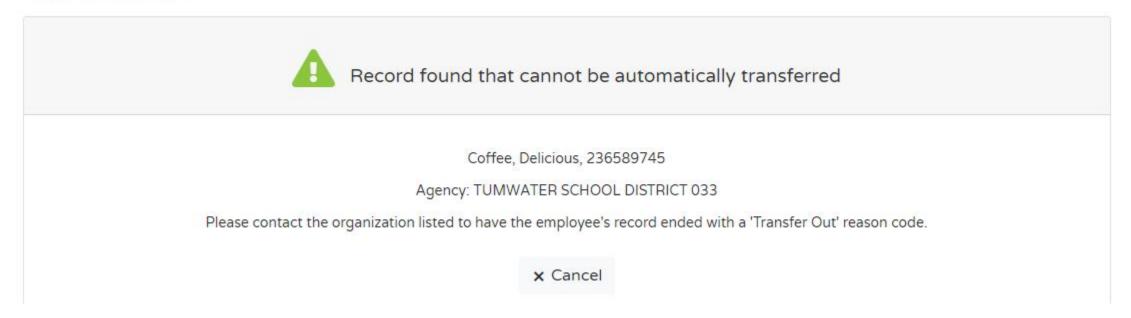
Adding a newly eligible employee who has been transferred or terminated by previous SEBB Org in SMA





# Adding a newly eligible employee who has not been transferred or terminated in SMA

Add subscriber





## Enrolled Dependents – Newly Eligible

### Enrolled dependents now eligible school employees

- Enter into SEBB My Account Add New Subscriber
- SMA will term the dependent's dental & vision coverage
- SOE not required to remove dependent

# Add subscriber This subscriber has existing SEBB coverage as a dependent. Enrolling this subscriber will automatically replace existing dental and vision coverage once effective date is reached. Subscriber may waive medical if choosing to continue medical coverage under a different SEBB subscriber. Continue Washington State

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## Enrolled Dependents – Newly Eligible

### Enrolled dependents now eligible school employees

- Enter into SEBB My Account Add New Subscriber
- SMA will term the dependent's dental & vision coverage
- SOE not required to remove dependent

You have existing medical coverage under another subscriber. Electing medical coverage will replace existing medical coverage once effective date is reached.

Continue





## Annual Open Enrollment



## Annual Open Enrollment (OE)

Next Open Enrollment: October 26 – November 23, 2020

New elections effective January 1, 2021

Changes employees can make during OE:

- Change medical, dental and vision plans
- Enroll eligible dependents
- Enroll after waiving medical coverage
  - Does not require proof of other coverage
- Waive medical coverage
  - If enrolled in other employer based medical insurance, TRICARE or Medicare

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## Annual Open Enrollment (OE)

Next Open Enrollment: October 26 – November 23, 2020

New elections effective January 1, 2021

Changes employees can make during OE:

- Enroll/re-enroll in Medical Flexible Spending Arrangement (FSA)
- Enroll/re-enroll in Dependent Care Assistance Program (DCAP)
- Attest to Spouse or state-registered domestic partner coverage premium surcharge
  - If required



# Optional Benefits – HB 2458

## GovDelivery went out on June 22

- Clarifies which optional benefits SEBB Orgs can provide
- Which benefits cannot be provided
- Authorizes SEB Board to study and offer additional benefits



#### **School District Optional Benefits**

Washington State Health Care Authority sent this bulletin at 06/22/2020 02:43 PM PDT

Having trouble viewing this email? View it as a Web page.



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This information is a follow-up to the ongoing discussion and implementation of school district optional benefit offerings

 $\underline{\sf HB~2458}$  passed during the 2020 legislative session. This legislation has the following key points:

- Prohibits school districts from offering any form of basic or optional benefits that compete with the benefits offered by the SEB Board or under the authority of HCA.
- Delineates optional benefits school districts may offer if not otherwise offered by the SEB Board. Benefits must be voluntary and employee-paid (school district VEBA may continue to be funded by employers).
- Authorizes the Board to study and offer (subject to funding) the same delineated benefits.
- Requires school districts, carriers, and HCA to work together to modify, remove, or discontinue any district-based benefit that compete with a SEB Board or HCA offered benefit.



## Optional Benefits – HB 2458

During '20-'21 and '21-'22 school years, SEBB Organizations can offer the following optional benefits:

- Emergency transportation
- Identity protection
- Legal aid
- Long-term care insurance
- Noncommercial personal automobile insurance

- Pet insurance
- Specific disease, illnesstriggered, hospital confinement, or other fixed payment insurance
- Travel insurance, and
- Voluntary employee's beneficiary association (VEBA) accounts





## Reminders, Tips & Resources



### Reminders

### Enter first day of school for the next school year

Do this ASAP if not already done

### Terminate employees losing eligibility

Prior to August 12<sup>th</sup> to be removed from September Billing File

### Enter newly eligible employees

Prior to September to allow full 31 day enrollment window

### Update Employee's addresses in SMA

 Newsletter will be sent out around start of school year & prior to Annual Open Enrollment



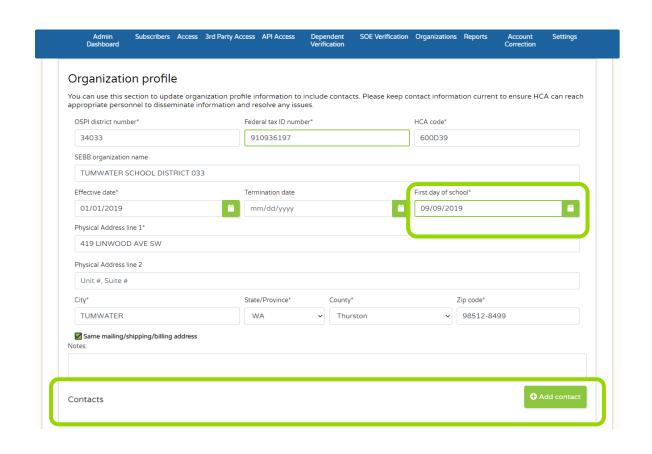
### **SMA** Actions

### Enter first day of school

- Complete ASAP!
- Every year by August 1

### **Update Contacts**

- Benefits Specialist
- Payroll
- Insurance/Billing
- Superintendent





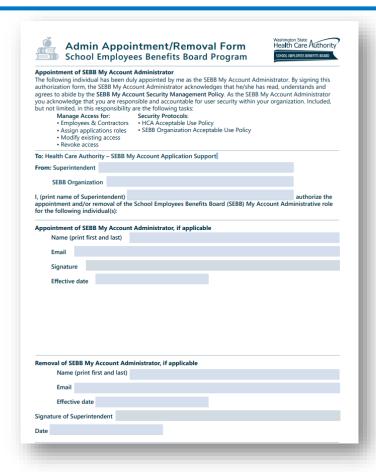
## Add/Remove BA Admins

### Admin Appointment/Removal Form

- Forms & Publications page of BA website
- Submit via FUZE for O&T to process

Admin's can add BAs to Edit, Finance, & Read-Only access

No signed form required



Don't forget to add Access Management role to disassociate subscriber accounts!



### Reminders – Life Insurance

MetLife sending postcards as reminder to add beneficiaries

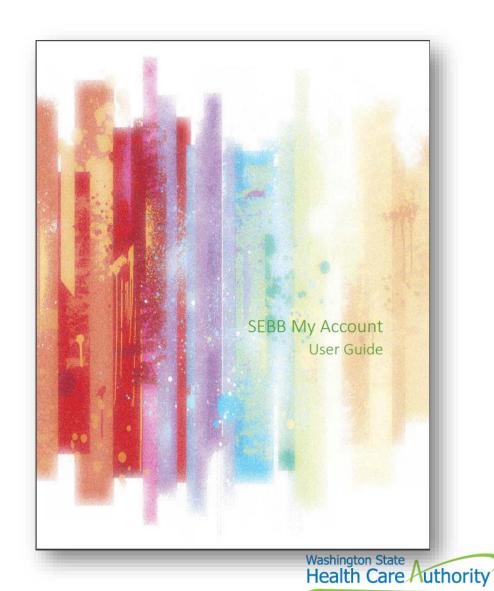




### SMA User Guide

# Provides guidance to **employees** on:

- How to use SMA
- Enrolling in benefits
- Uploading required documentation



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## Benefit Administrator Training

### To submit request for training

- Outreach & Training
  - FUZE
  - 1-800-700-1555





## **Upcoming Webinars**

**August 14**: Understanding Error Correction

**August 28\***: SEBB Rules Updates

How to register: <a href="https://hca.wa.gov/sebb-benefits-admins/training-schedule">hca.wa.gov/sebb-benefits-admins/training-schedule</a>





<sup>\*</sup> Registration is not yet posted for August 28th

## Questions & Answers

We will now address some of the questions that did not get answered during the webinar.

- Any questions that do not get addressed today will be responded to by email, phone, or FUZE
- Employee specific questions or scenarios should be sent through FUZE
- After the webinar, participants will receive a follow up email that includes a brief survey. We would greatly appreciate your feedback.



# Thank you!



