

Serving those who serve South Carolina

Fiscal year 2025 budget request

Ways & Means Constitutional Subcommittee January 17, 2024

Key leadership

- Peggy G. Boykin, CPA, Executive Director pboykin@peba.sc.gov
- Travis Turner, CPA, Deputy Director and Chief Financial Officer <u>tturner@peba.sc.gov</u>
- Rob Tester, Insurance Policy Director <u>rtester@peba.sc.gov</u>
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- Katie Turner, Director of Administration and Budget <u>kturner@peba.sc.gov</u>

Agency overview

State agency responsible for the administration and management of the state's employee insurance programs and retirement systems for South Carolina's public workforce.

Insurance benefits

Administers insurance benefits to more than 530,000 subscribers and their dependents.

Retirement benefits

More than 675,000 current and former public employees are covered by the five defined benefit retirement plans.

State ORP

Additional 64,000 members participate in the State Optional Retirement Program.

Deferred Comp

Nearly 100,000 members participate in the supplemental Deferred Compensation Program. **Insurance claims** Pays more than \$3.2 billion in insurance claims expenditures annually.

Retirement benefits

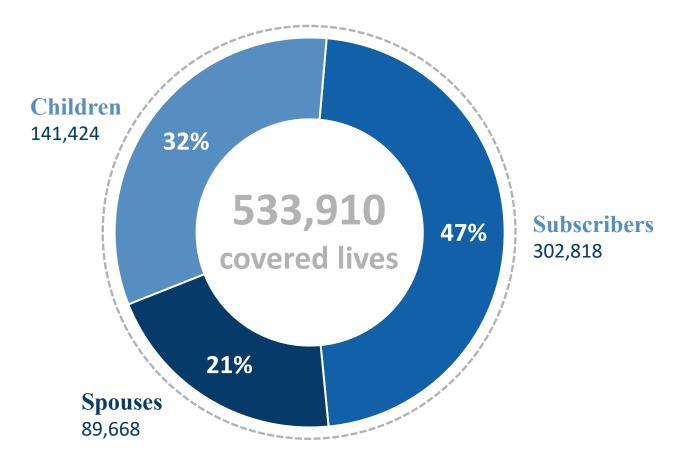
Disburses more than \$3.9 billion in retirement benefits each year.

Roles in managing insurance and retirement benefits

- PEBA manages and administers the state's insurance and retirement programs, which were created and are defined by state statute.
- The Retirement System Investment Commission (RSIC) invests and manages the assets of the retirement systems (defined benefit plans).
- The State Treasurer invests and manages the OPEB (retiree insurance) trust fund's assets and long term disability trust fund's assets.

Health plan enrollment as of January 2024

Represents enrollment in the State Health Plan, MUSC Health Plan and TRICARE Supplement Plan



Health plan enrollment breakdown as of January 2024

| Active | su | bscribers | |
|--------|----|-----------|--|
| | | | |

| State agencies | 35,068 |
|--------------------|---------|
| Higher education | 26,679 |
| School districts | 86,814 |
| Charter schools | 3,707 |
| Local subdivisions | 38,992 |
| MUSC hospitals | 11,374 |
| Other | 2,840 |
| Total employees | 205,474 |

| Retirees | | | |
|----------------|--------|--|--|
| Medicare | 77,398 | | |
| Non-Medicare | 16,711 | | |
| Total retirees | 94,109 | | |
| Funded | 87,306 | | |
| Non-funded | 6,803 | | |

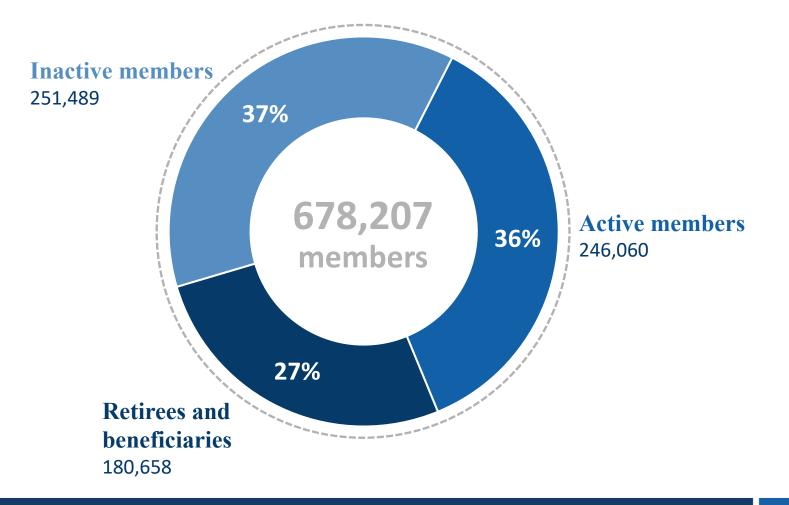
Numbers represent enrollment in the State Health Plan, the MUSC Health Plan and TRICARE Supplement Plan.

Participating insurance employers as of January 2024

| Groups | | | |
|--------------------|-----|--|--|
| State agencies | 87 | | |
| Higher education | 27 | | |
| School districts | 83 | | |
| Charter schools | 73 | | |
| Local subdivisions | 536 | | |
| MUSC hospitals | 9 | | |
| Other | 19 | | |
| Total employees | 834 | | |

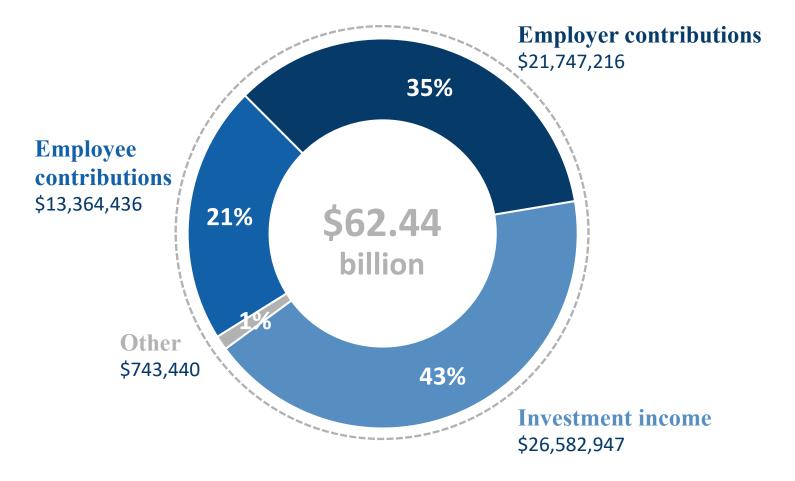
Retirement membership as of July 1, 2023

Includes SCRS, PORS, GARS, JSRS and SCNG



Additions to pension trust funds | 2009-2023

Includes SCRS, PORS, GARS, JSRS and SCNG *Amounts expressed in thousands*



Past pension reform

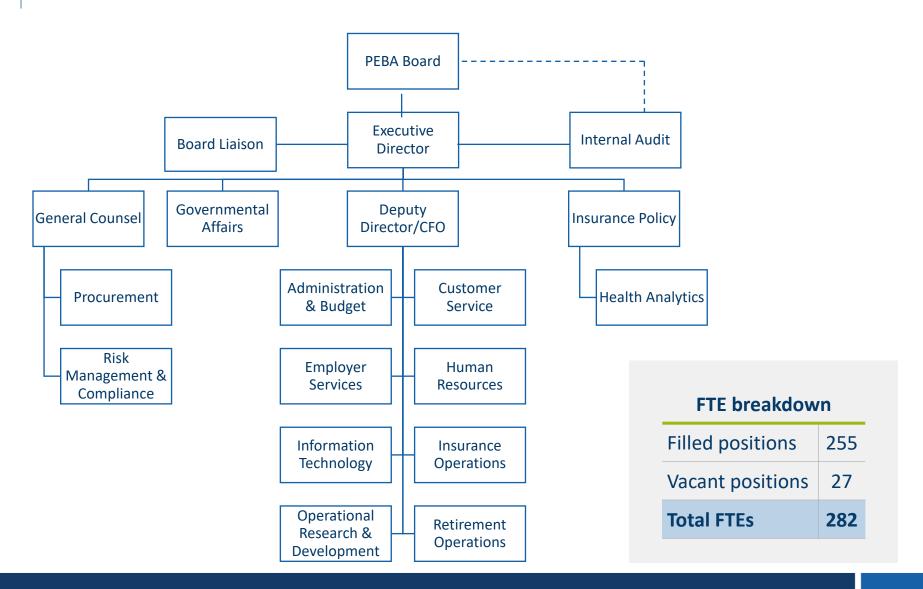
2012: Benefit reform

- Created Class Three tier of membership in SCRS and PORS for newly hired employees with membership dates on or after July 1, 2012.
- Made changes affecting Class Two and Three members.
- Made changes affecting retirees.
- Closed GARS to new members.

2017: Funding reform

- Did not change the benefits provided to members.
- Decreased the assumed rate of return from 7.5 percent to 7.25 percent effective July 1, 2017.
- Changed employee and employer contribution rates effective July 1, 2017.
- Gradually reduced the maximum funding period from 30 years to 20 years by July 1, 2027.

Organizational chart



Fiscal year 2025 budget request¹

| | FY 2023 authorized | FY 2024 authorized | FY 2025 budget request |
|--|--------------------|--------------------|------------------------|
| I. Administration | | | |
| Personal services | \$368,625.00 | \$368,625.00 | \$368,625.00 |
| Other operating (new IT system project) | \$10,000,000.00 | \$10,000,000.00 | \$10,000,000.00 |
| Administration total | \$10,368,625.00 | \$10,368,625.00 | \$10,368,625.00 |
| II. A. Employee Insurance Program | | | |
| Personal services | \$7,017,469.00 | \$7,017,351.00 | \$7,117,469.00 |
| Adoption assistance | \$300,000.00 | \$300,000.00 | \$300,000.00 |
| Other operating | \$3,945,263.00 | \$3,945,263.00 | \$3,825,690.69 |
| Employee Insurance Program total | \$11,262,732.00 | \$11,262,732.00 | \$11,243,159.69 |
| II. B. Retirement Systems | | | |
| Personal services | \$9,218,212.00 | \$9,218,212.00 | \$9,268,212.00 |
| Other operating | \$5,003,246.00 | \$5,003,246.00 | \$4,927,301.31 |
| Retirement Systems total | \$14,221,458.00 | \$14,221,458.00 | \$14,195,513.31 |
| III. Statewide employer contributions ² | \$112,368,739.00 | \$112,368,739.00 | \$112,368,739.00 |
| IV. Employee benefits | | | |
| Employer contributions | \$6,177,276.00 | \$6,177,276.00 | \$6,222,793.00 |
| Employer benefits total | \$6,177,276.00 | \$6,177,276.00 | \$6,222,793.00 |
| Grand total | \$154,398,830.00 | \$154,398,830.00 | \$154,398,830.00 |

¹PEBA's budget request has not changed since FY 2018. ²Details available on Slide 13.

FY 2025 statewide employer contributions

| | FY 2024 authorized | FY 2025 request |
|----------------------------------|--------------------|-----------------|
| Statewide employer contributions | | |
| Ret Suppl-State Employee | \$233,258 | \$233,258 |
| Ret-Suppl-Public School Employee | \$199,855 | \$199,855 |
| Ret-Police Insur & Annuity Fund | \$960 | \$960 |
| Ret Suppl-Police Officer | \$17,506 | \$17,506 |
| Pension Ret-National Guard | \$5,289,727 | \$5,289,727 |
| OPEB Trust Fund Pymt | \$2,375,300 | \$2,375,300 |
| Subtotal | \$8,116,606 | \$8,116,606 |
| SCRS Trust Fund | \$88,230,143 | \$88,230,143 |
| PORS Trust Fund | \$13,121,990 | \$13,121,990 |
| JSRS Trust Fund | \$2,900,000 | \$2,900,000 |
| Subtotal | \$104,252,133 | \$104,252,133 |
| Total pass through funds | \$112,368,739 | \$112,368,739 |

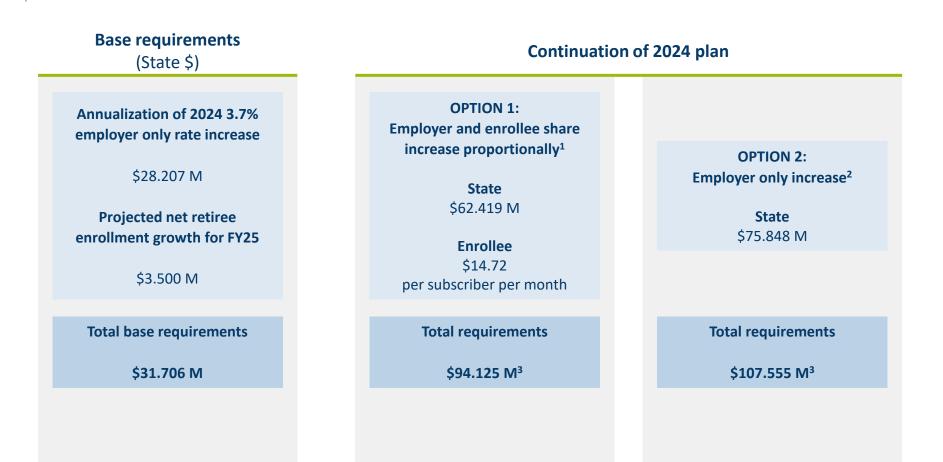
History of approved budget authorization

- PEBA operations are funded by Trust Funds (insurance and retirement), not General Funds.
- PEBA does not set aside a budget in a separate account for deferred maintenance.
- To maximize investment income, money is left in Trust Funds until needed for operational expenses.
- The Investment Commission is also funded by the Retirement Trust Funds.

General Funds appropriation

- PEBA's General Fund appropriations are pass through appropriations only; they are not used for PEBA's operating expenses.
- General Funds for statewide employer contributions were added for FY 2016, with termination of the Budget and Control Board and as part of Act 121 of the 2014 restructuring.
- Pass through funds for the SCRS Trust Fund and PORS Trust Fund equal to 1% of the employer contribution increase were added as recurring funds in FY 2018.
- Pass through funds for the JSRS Trust Fund equal to \$2.9 million were added as recurring funds in FY 2020 to provide additional stabilization to the JSRS plan.

State Health Plan budget requirements for FY 2025

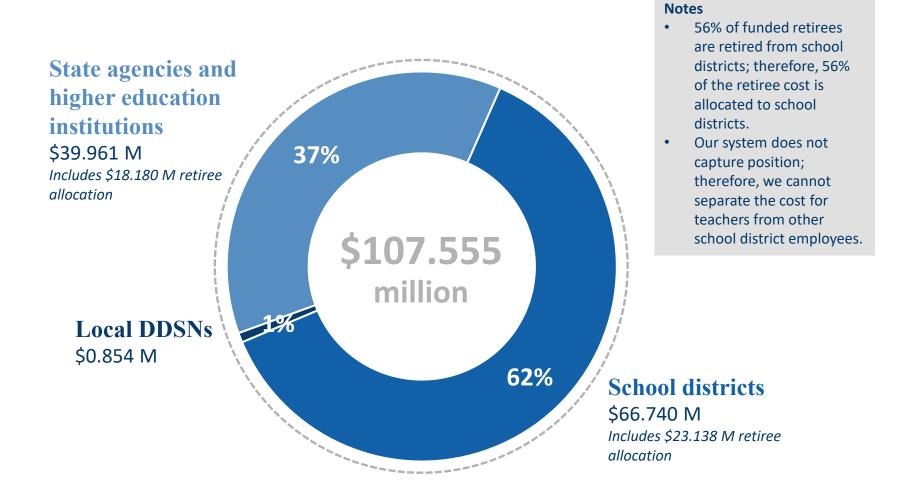


¹Employer and employee sharing increase proportionally is a 9.7% increase in both rates.

²Employer only increase is an 11.8% increase in the employer contribution rate.

³State money includes amounts for annualization of 2024 rate increase for January to June 2024 (\$28.207 million) and estimated retiree enrollment growth (\$3.500 million).

State Health Plan funding requirements



Historical State Health Plan increases and funding

Employees have only had one premium increase since 2006; employee premiums have not increased since 2012.

| Plan year | Employee increase | Employer increase | State \$ (M) ¹ | Plan design changes |
|--------------|----------------------|----------------------|------------------------------|--|
| 2015 | 0 | 3.9% | \$57.174 | Increased copayments, deductible and coinsurance maximum |
| 2016 | 0 | 4.5% | \$35.700 | |
| 2017 | 0 | 0.8% | \$25.727 | |
| 2018 | 0 | 3.3% | \$25.456 | |
| 2019 | 0 | 7.4% | \$56.400 | Added adult well visit coverage; increased copayments, deductible and coinsurance maximum |
| 2020 | 0 | 0 | \$49.708 | |
| 2021 | 0 | 0 | \$0.000 | |
| 2022 | 0 | 0.8% | \$5.928 | |
| 2023 | 0 | 18.1% | \$101.773 | Expanded adult well visit coverage; increased copayments, deductible and coinsurance maximum |
| 2024 | 0 | 3.7% | \$116.988 | Added well woman visit coverage; added birth control coverage for dependent children |

¹State \$ includes amounts for rate increase for January to June of the following year, annualization of rate increase for July to December of the current year and estimated retiree enrollment growth.

State Health Plan versus national trends

Growth in net expenditure per person

| | Benchmark | State Health Plan |
|-------------------------------|-----------|-------------------|
| 2019 | 6.7% | 2.5% |
| 2020 | 5.6% | 3.7% |
| 2021 | 7.9% | 7.3% |
| 2022 | 6.2% | 0.5% ¹ |
| 2023 | 7.3% | 9.6% ² |
| 5-year average (2019-2023) | 6.7% | 4.7% |

¹Incurred in 12 months; paid in 23 months. ²Incurred in 11 months; paid in 11 months.

The benchmark is a blended number derived from annual health care cost trend surveys produced by national consulting firms including Aon, Buck, PriceWaterhouseCoopers, Segal and Willis Towers Watson, when available.

State Health Plan contribution rate increases versus CPI growth for medical care

Target is to control annual contribution increase to no more than CPI for medical care plus 3 percentage points. Two-year lag in CPI data used for measure because of timing of the State Health Plan rate setting process.

| | State Health Plan total rate increase | | |
|--------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|------------------------------------|------|
| 2021 | 0.0% | 2019 | 4.6% |
| 2022 | 0.6% | 2020 | 1.8% |
| 2023 | 14.2% | 2021 | 2.2% |
| 2024 | 3.0% | 2022 | 4.0% |
| 2025 | 9.7% | 2023 | 0.1% |
| 5-year average (2021-2025) | 5.5% | 5-year average (2019-Nov. 2023) | 2.5% |

2023 Average monthly total premiums¹

| | Single | Family |
|--|--------|---------|
| State Health Plan | \$561 | \$1,529 |
| Large public and private sector employers ² | \$735 | \$2,114 |
| Public and private sector in South ³ | \$703 | \$2,014 |
| Public employers | \$743 | \$2,067 |
| Private – manufacturing | \$737 | \$2,210 |
| Private – financial services | \$782 | \$2,204 |

¹Average monthly total premiums in PPO (Preferred Provider Organization) plans

²Large public and private sector employers: \geq 200 employees in public and private sectors

³Public and private sector employers in South includes Alabama, Arkansas, Delaware, District of Columbia, Florida, Georgia, Kentucky, Louisiana, Maryland, Mississippi, North Carolina, Oklahoma, South Carolina, Tennessee, Texas, Virginia and West Virginia

Data from the Kaiser Family Foundation Employer Health Benefits 2023 Annual Survey

2023 Average annual deductible¹

| | Amount |
|--|---------|
| State Health Plan | \$515 |
| Large public and private sector employers ² | \$1,023 |
| All employers | \$1,281 |

¹Average annual deductible in PPO (Preferred Provider Organization) plans ²Large public and private sector employers: ≥ 200 employees in public and private sectors

Data from the Kaiser Family Foundation Employer Health Benefits 2023 Annual Survey

2024 Composite monthly premiums¹

| | Employer | Employee | Total |
|--|------------|----------|------------|
| State Health Plan | \$707.62 | \$159.36 | \$866.98 |
| South ² | \$879.82 | \$204.20 | \$1,084.02 |
| State Health Plan as a percentage of South | 80.4% | 78.0% | 80.0% |
| United States | \$1,062.99 | \$188.70 | \$1,251.69 |
| State Health Plan as a percentage of U.S. | 66.6% | 84.5% | 69.3% |

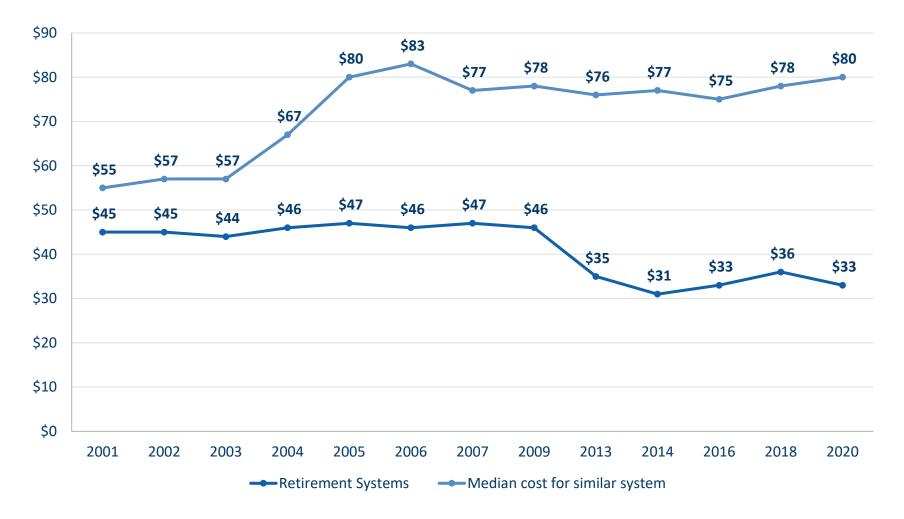
Survey uses most prevalent plan among state employee options for analysis.

¹Composite monthly premiums: Weighted average of all PEBA health subscribers enrolled in each coverage level

²South includes Alabama, Arkansas, Florida, Georgia, Kentucky, Louisiana, Mississippi, North Carolina, Oklahoma, South Carolina, Tennessee, Texas, Virginia and West Virginia

Data from the PEBA 50-State Survey of State Employee Health Plans

Retirement administrative cost per member



Defined benefit administration benchmarking analysis by Cost Effective Measurement, Inc. (CEM) PEBA did not participate in this survey in 2008, 2010-2012, 2015, 2017, 2019, 2021 or 2022.

SCRS contribution schedule set by Retirement System Funding and Administration Act of 2017

| Fiscal year | Original scheduled employer contribution | Amended employer contribution | Employee contribution | Maximum amortization period | Actual amortization period |
|----------------|--|-------------------------------------|--------------------------|-----------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| 2017 | 11.56% | 11.56% | 8.66% | 30 years | 24 years |
| 2018 | 13.56% | 13.56% | 9.00% | 30 years | 22 years |
| 2019 | 14.56% | 14.56% | 9.00% | 29 years | 23 years |
| 2020 | 15.56% | 15.56% | 9.00% | 28 years | 20 years |
| 2021 | 16.56% | 15.56% | 9.00% | 27 years | 20 years |
| 2022 | 17.56% | 16.56% | 9.00% | 26 years | 17 years |
| 2023 | 18.56% | 17.56% | 9.00% | 25 years | 16 years |
| 2024 | 18.56% | 18.56% | 9.00% | 24 years | |
| 2028 | 18.56% | | 9.00% | 20 years | |

Rates include incidental death benefit contributions when applicable.

The General Assembly suspended the statutory employer contribution rate increase for fiscal year 2021. The scheduled increases were resumed the following year.

PORS contribution schedule set by Retirement System Funding and Administration Act of 2017

| Fiscal year | Original scheduled employer contribution | Amended employer contribution | Employee contribution | Maximum amortization period | Actual amortization period |
|----------------|--|-------------------------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| 2017 | 14.24% | 14.24% | 9.24% | 30 years | 23 years |
| 2018 | 16.24% | 16.24% | 9.75% | 30 years | 20 years |
| 2019 | 17.24% | 17.24% | 9.75% | 29 years | 18 years |
| 2020 | 18.24% | 18.24% | 9.75% | 28 years | 18 years |
| 2021 | 19.24% | 18.24% | 9.75% | 27 years | 19 years |
| 2022 | 20.24% | 19.24% | 9.75% | 26 years | 16 years |
| 2023 | 21.24% | 20.24% | 9.75% | 25 years | 16 years |
| 2024 | 21.24% | 21.24% | 9.75% | 24 years | |
| 2028 | 21.24% | | 9.75% | 20 years | |

Rates include incidental death benefit and Accidental Death Program contributions when applicable.

The General Assembly suspended the statutory employer contribution rate increase for fiscal year 2021. The scheduled increases were resumed the following year.

PEBA:Connect funding and personnel plan

- The PEBA:Connect project will be a multi-year endeavor to update aging information systems.
- Significant PEBA resources and personnel are dedicated and committed to the project.
- Client services vendor is assisting PEBA staff to ensure operational needs are met.
- Data conversion vendor is working to cleanse operational data for the new system.
- Awarded contract to benefits administration system vendor and implementation of PEBA:Connect project began in February 2021.

- **106.1 (SEB: SCRS & PORS Allocation)** The funds appropriated in the current fiscal year for SCRS Employer Contributions and PORS Employer Contributions shall be allocated to state agencies and school districts by the Department of Administration, Executive Budget Office for SCRS and PORS rate increases.
- 106.2 (SEB: Suspend SCRS & PORS Employer Contribution Rate Increase) The increase in the employer contribution rate imposed by Section 9-1-1085 and Section 9-11-225 for Fiscal Year 2023-24, respectively, are suspended. The employer contribution rate for the South Carolina Retirement Systems and the Police Officers Retirement Systems during Fiscal Year 2023-24, expressed as a percentage of earnable compensation, shall increase by 1% from Fiscal Year 2022-23 rates as set in Act 239 of 2022.
 - This proviso needs to be deleted because rate increases have been implemented as prescribed by the General Assembly.

 108.1 (PEBA: Lottery, Infrastructure Bank, and Magistrates Health Insurance) South Carolina Lottery Commissioners and South Carolina Transportation Infrastructure Bank Board members and their eligible dependents are eligible to participate in the State Health and Dental Insurance Plan, upon paying the full premium costs as determined by the Public Employee Benefit Authority. If a county is participating in the State Health and Dental Insurance Plan, magistrates and their eligible dependents are eligible to participate in the State Health and Dental Insurance Plan, upon the magistrate paying the full premium costs as determined by the Public Employee Benefit Authority.

• **108.2 (PEBA: Adoption Assistance Program)** The Employee Adoption Assistance Program is established to provide grants to eligible employees to assist them with the direct costs of adoption. The program shall be an employee benefit through the Public Employee Benefit Authority (PEBA) and shall be funded from the appropriation for the State Health Plan as provided in this act. Total funding for the Adoption Program shall not exceed the amount authorized by the General Assembly in the annual appropriations act. Employees are eligible for the Adoption Program if they participate in PEBA insurance benefits, have adopted a child during the prior fiscal year, apply for the grant during the annual application period, and meet any other Adoption Program criteria. The application period shall be July first through September thirtieth of the current fiscal year for an adoption in the prior fiscal year. The maximum grant amounts shall be \$10,000 in the case of the adoption of a special needs child and \$5,000 for all other child adoptions. Should the total amount needed to fund grants at the maximum level exceed the amount authorized, the amount of a grant to an eligible employee shall be determined by dividing the authorized amount evenly among qualified program applicants, with the adoption of a special needs child qualifying for two times the benefit of a non-special needs child.

 108.3 (PEBA: Health Plan Tobacco User Differential) For health plans adopted under the authority of Section 1-11-710 of the 1976 Code by the Public Employee Benefit Authority during the current fiscal year, the board is authorized to differentiate between tobacco or e-cigarette users and nonusers regarding rates charged to enrollees in its health plans by imposing a surcharge on enrollee rates based upon tobacco or e-cigarette use. The surcharge for tobacco or e-cigarette use may not exceed \$40 per month per subscriber or \$60 per month per subscriber and dependent(s).

• **108.4 (PEBA: Funding Abortions Prohibited)** No funds appropriated for employer contributions to the State Health Insurance Plan may be expended to reimburse the expenses of an abortion, except in cases of rape, incest or where the mother's medical condition is one which, on the basis of the physician's good faith judgment, so complicates the pregnancy as to necessitate an immediate abortion to avert the risk of her death or for which a delay will create serious risk of substantial and irreversible impairment of major bodily function, and the State Health Plan may not offer coverage for abortion services, including ancillary services provided contemporaneously with abortion services. The Public Employee Benefit Authority must determine the amount of the total premium paid for health coverage necessary to cover the risks associated with reimbursing participants in the plan for obtaining an abortion in the circumstances covered by this provision. The determination must be based on actuarial data and empirical study in the same manner and by the same method that other risks are adjusted for in similar circumstances. The plan must report this determination annually to the respective Chairmen of the Senate Finance Committee and the House Ways and Means Committee.

- **108.5 (PEBA: TRICARE Supplement Policy)** The Public Employee Benefit Authority (PEBA) shall offer a group TRICARE Supplement policy or policies to its TRICARE-eligible subscribers through its flexible benefits program to provide that subscribers may pay premiums for such policies on a pretax basis, in accordance with federal law and regulations. PEBA may charge TRICARE Supplement subscribers an amount not to exceed \$2 per subscriber per month for any associated administrative costs.
- 108.6 (PEBA: State Health Plan) Of the funds authorized for the State Health Plan pursuant to Section 1-11-710(A)(2) of the 1976 Code, an employer premium increase of 3.7 percent and a subscriber premium increase of zero percent will result for the standard State Health Plan for Plan Year 2024. Notwithstanding the foregoing, pursuant to Section 1-11-710(A)(3), the Public Employee Benefit Authority may adjust the plan, benefits, or contributions of the State Health Plan during Plan Year 2024 to ensure the fiscal stability of the Plan.

This proviso needs to conform to funding and be updated for fiscal year reference.

- **108.7 (PEBA: Exempt National Guard Pension Fund)** In the calculation of any across-the-board cut mandated by the Executive Budget Office or General Assembly, the amount of the appropriation for the National Guard Pension Fund shall be excluded.
- 108.8 (PEBA: Inactive SCRS Account Transfer) A current employee or teacher who is an active participant in the State Optional Retirement Program but who has an inactive account in the South Carolina Retirement Program due to previous service in that system, shall be allowed to transfer previous contributions to the employee's or teacher's active State Optional Retirement Program account.

- **108.9 (PEBA: Network Pharmacy Publications)** All pharmacy publications or lists must include independent retail pharmacies. Abridged pharmacy lists are prohibited.
- 108.10 (PEBA: Covered Contraceptives) For the Plan year beginning in January of the current fiscal year, the State Health Plan shall not apply patient cost sharing provisions to covered contraceptives. This provision does not alter the current approved list of contraceptives and complies with the requirements of Proviso 108.4.
 This proviso was codified in Act 70 of 2023.

• 108.11 (PEBA: Former Spouses on the State Health Plan) For the Plan Year beginning in January of the current fiscal year, the State Health Plan shall cover a subscriber's former spouse, who is eligible to be covered pursuant to a court order, on the former spouse's own individual policy and at the full amount of the premium for the coverage elected, with such rates, billing, and other administrative policies to be determined by the Public Employee Benefit Authority. The former spouses may only elect such health, dental, and vision coverage as required by the court order. The former spouse's individual coverage may continue under the State Health Plan as long as authorized under the court order and the subscriber remains a participant in the State Health Plan. This proviso does not affect a subscriber's ability to cover a current spouse on an employee/retiree and spouse or full family policy when the subscriber's former spouse is covered on a separate policy.

 108.12 (PEBA: COVID-19 Return to Work Extension) For Fiscal Year 2023-24, the earnings limitation imposed pursuant to Section 9-1-1790 and Section 9-11-90 of the 1976 Code does not apply to retired members of the South Carolina Retirement System or the Police Officers Retirement System who return to covered employment to participate in the state's public health preparedness and response to the COVID-19 virus. This section is not intended to supersede or conflict with Act 102 of 2021, S.704 of 2021. In the event of a conflict, the provisions of the Act control.

• 108.13 (PEBA: Non-State Agency Furloughs) For the current fiscal year, a participating employer in the South Carolina Retirement System or Police Officers Retirement System that is not a state agency or institution of higher learning may make employee and employer contributions for a period of not more than ninety working days during a furlough program that was implemented as a result of and took place during the COVID-19 Public Health Emergency and if the terms of the furlough program are consistent with the requirements for an approved mandatory furlough program established by a state agency or institution of higher learning under state law. The participating employer shall make such contributions in order to ensure that a furloughed employee's retirement benefits are not interrupted as a result of the furlough, and the period for which such contributions are made will not be considered a break in consecutive employment.

108.14 (PEBA: South Carolina Retiree Health Insurance Trust Fund) The provisions of Section 1-11-705(I)(2) of the 1976 Code are suspended for Fiscal Year 2023-24, and, notwithstanding any other provision of law, during Fiscal Year 2023-24, funds that would otherwise have been transferred to the South Carolina Retiree Health Insurance Trust Fund from the operating account for the State's employee health insurance program pursuant to Section 1-11-705(I)(2) may remain in the operating account for the State's employee health insurance program pursuant to section 1-11-705(I)(2) may remain in the operating account for the State's employee health insurance program.

This proviso needs to be updated for fiscal year reference.

 108.15 (PEBA: Fiduciary Audit) For Fiscal Year 2023-24, Section 9-4-40 of the 1976 Code and solicitation of the bid for the fiduciary audit are suspended.

This proviso needs to be updated for fiscal year reference.

108.16 (PEBA: PORS and SCRS Return to Work) For compensation earnings during the current fiscal year, the earnings limitation does not apply if a member of the Police Officer Retirement System has not been engaged to perform services for a participating employer in the system or any other system provided in Title 9 for compensation in any capacity, whether as an employee, independent contractor, leased employee, joint employee, or other classification of worker, for a period of at least twelve consecutive months subsequent to retirement. The exemption provided under this provision does not apply unless the member first certifies to the system that he satisfies the requirements for the exemption. If a member inaccurately certifies that he satisfies the requirements for the exemption provided in this provision, the member is responsible for reimbursing the system for any benefits wrongly paid to the member.

For compensation earnings during the current fiscal year, the earnings limitation does not apply if a member of the South Carolina Retirement System has not been engaged to perform services for a participating employer in the system or any other system provided in Title 9 for compensation in any capacity, whether as an employee, independent contractor, leased employee, joint employee, or other classification of worker, for a period of at least twelve consecutive months subsequent to retirement. The exemption provided under this provision does not apply unless the member first certifies to the system that he satisfies the requirements for the exemption. If a member inaccurately certifies that he satisfies the requirements for the exemption provided in this provision, the member is responsible for reimbursing the system for any benefits wrongly paid to the member.

 108.17 (PEBA: PORS Return to Work) If a member of the Police Officer Retirement System chooses to engage in the Return to Work program, their twelve month period spent not engaging in officer duties shall not cause a member to lose their license or be unable to perform the duties of a police officer. Officers participating in the Return to Work program shall be required to meet continuous training and education requirements of the South Carolina Law Enforcement Academy.

117.115 (GP: SCRS & PORS Trust Fund) Unless otherwise provided in Paragraphs A through D of this provision, the funds appropriated to the Public Employee Benefit Authority (PEBA) for the South Carolina Retirement System Trust Fund and the Police Officers' Retirement System Trust Fund in Part IA, Section 108 of this act shall be credited toward the contributions due from participating employers in SCRS and PORS for Fiscal Year 2023-24. Each employer's credit shall be determined at the same rate as calculated by PEBA for the pension funding allocation credit for Fiscal Year 2017-18. A participating employer shall not receive a credit that exceeds the employer contributions due from the employer.

(A) From the funds available for allocation pursuant to this provision, no credits shall be issued for covered employees of special purpose districts, joint authorities, or non-profit corporations; however, this provision does not apply to the South Carolina State Ports Authority and the South Carolina Public Service Authority.

(B) From the funds available for allocation pursuant to this provision, no credits shall be issued for covered employees of hospitals; however, this provision does not apply to the Medical University Hospital Authority.

(C) From the funds available for allocation pursuant to this provision, no credits shall be issued for covered employees of participating associations or service organizations as defined in Section 9-1-10(11)(e) of the 1976 Code.

(D) From the funds available for allocation pursuant to this provision, no credits shall be issued for state employees who are funded with federal funds. The Public Employee Benefits Authority shall collaborate with the Department of Administration, Executive Budget Office and the Revenue and Fiscal Affairs Office to determine the amount of credit exclusion for federally-funded employees of state agencies.

This proviso needs to be updated for fiscal year reference.

 117.116 (GP: Retirement System Assets and Custodial Banking Relationship Transfer) In order to facilitate the transfer of custodianship of the assets of the Retirement System to the Public Employee Benefit Authority and governance of the custodial banking relationship to the Retirement System Investment Commission, all portions of contracts, agreements, and exemptions from the Consolidated Procurement Code providing for and relating to custodial banking, general banking, accounting, or any other ancillary services are transferred to, and devolved upon, the Public Employee Benefit Authority and the Retirement System Investment Commission in accordance with the authority transferred to the respective agency.

 117.126 (GP: School Resource Officer Critical Needs) Any Class 1 law enforcement officer who retired under the Police Officers Retirement System on or before December 31, 2017, may return to employment with a public school district as a critical needs School Resource Officer without affecting the monthly retirement allowance that they are receiving from the Police Officers Retirement System. The Law Enforcement Training Council must develop guidelines and curriculum for these officers to be recertified and must not require recertification through basic training for those that have been inactive for a year or more.

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