

WSR 24-15-111

PERMANENT RULES

HEALTH CARE AUTHORITY

(School Employees Benefits Board)

[Admin #2024-02.04—Filed July 22, 2024, 5:32 p.m., effective January 1, 2025]

Effective Date of Rule: January 1, 2025.

Purpose: The purpose of this proposal is to amend WAC 182-31-130 to support the school employees benefits board (SEBB) program:

1. **Implemented:** Resolution SEBB 2024-07: Continuation coverage when a dependent of a school board member loses eligibility.

2. **Make other technical amendments:** Added a WAC reference when the dependent's first premium payment and applicable premium surcharges' exception applies.

Citation of Rules Affected by this Order: Amending WAC 182-31-130.

Statutory Authority for Adoption: RCW 41.05.021, 41.05.160, 41.05.740.

Other Authority: Policy Resolution SEBB 2024-07.

Adopted under notice filed as WSR 24-11-099 on May 16, 2024.

Number of Sections Adopted in Order to Comply with Federal Statute: New 0, Amended 0, Repealed 0; Federal Rules or Standards: New 0, Amended 0, Repealed 0; or Recently Enacted State Statutes: New 0, Amended 0, Repealed 0.

Number of Sections Adopted at the Request of a Nongovernmental Entity: New 0, Amended 0, Repealed 0.

Number of Sections Adopted on the Agency's own Initiative: New 0, Amended 1, Repealed 0.

Number of Sections Adopted in Order to Clarify, Streamline, or Reform Agency Procedures: New 0, Amended 1, Repealed 0.

Number of Sections Adopted using Negotiated Rule Making: New 0, Amended 0, Repealed 0; Pilot Rule Making: New 0, Amended 0, Repealed 0; or Other Alternative Rule Making: New 0, Amended 1, Repealed 0.

Date Adopted: July 22, 2024.

Wendy Barcus  
Rules Coordinator

OTS-5403.1

AMENDATORY SECTION (Amending WSR 20-16-067, filed 7/28/20, effective 8/28/20)

**WAC 182-31-130 What options for continuation coverage are available to dependents who cease to meet the eligibility criteria as described in WAC 182-31-140 or 182-30-130?** If eligible, dependents may continue health plan enrollment under one of the continuation coverage options in subsection (1) or (2) of this section by self-paying the premiums and applicable premium surcharges set by the health care authority (HCA), with no contribution from the school employees benefits board (SEBB) organization, following their loss of eligibility under the subscriber's health plan coverage. The dependent's first premium payment and applicable premium surcharges are due no later than (~~forty-five~~) 45 days after the dependent's election period ends as de-

scribed in WAC 182-31-090 or 182-12-265, whichever applies, except as described in WAC 182-08-180 (1)(a). Premiums and applicable premium surcharges associated with continuing SEBB medical, must be made to the HCA as well as premiums associated with continuing SEBB dental or SEBB vision insurance coverage. Following the dependent's first premium payment, the dependent must pay premium and applicable premium surcharges as they become due. If the monthly premium or applicable premium surcharges remain unpaid for (~~sixty~~) 60 days from the original due date, SEBB insurance coverage will be terminated retroactive to the last day of the month for which the monthly premium and applicable premium surcharges were paid as described in WAC 182-30-040 (1)(c). The SEBB program must receive the required forms as outlined in the SEBB initial notice of COBRA and continuation coverage rights. Options for continuing health plan enrollment are based on the reason that eligibility was lost.

(1) Dependents who lose eligibility due to the death of a school employee may be eligible to continue health plan enrollment as described in WAC 182-12-265; or

(2) Dependents who lose eligibility because they no longer meet the eligibility criteria as described in WAC 182-31-140 are eligible to continue SEBB medical, dental, or vision under provisions of the federal Consolidated Omnibus Budget Reconciliation Act (COBRA). See WAC 182-31-090 for more information on COBRA.

(3) A subscriber's state registered domestic partner and the state registered domestic partner's children may continue SEBB medical, dental, or vision on the same terms and conditions as spouses and other eligible dependents under COBRA as described under RCW 26.60.015.

(4) A dependent of a school board member who is enrolled in medical, dental, and vision who loses eligibility because they are not an eligible dependent under the SEBB program may enroll in medical, dental, or vision for a maximum of 36 months on a self-pay basis.

(5) No continuation coverage will be offered unless the SEBB program is notified through hand delivery or United States Postal Service mail of the qualifying event as outlined in the SEBB initial notice of COBRA and continuation coverage rights.