



PEIA Alert

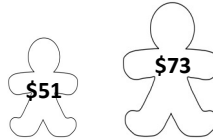
Learn the Facts, Take Action

The PEIA Finance Board has released its proposed fiscal plan for next year. Here are the facts:

There is a \$27,800,000 gap for active employees in PEIA for 2019. Given that \$20,000,000 has been allocated in the state budget, the PEIA Finance Board is proposing over \$7 million in benefit reductions and \$500,000 in increased employee premiums.

Major changes include:

- 2% premium increase for retirees, both Medicare eligible and non-eligible
- .5% premium increase for active employees
- Proposed change from a traditional co-pay to a co-insurance plan for prescription drugs for current employees (30% co-insurance)
- Salary tiers condensed from 10 to 3 tiers; participant and spouse’s salary will be combined to determine total household income
 - ◊ The highest tier moves from \$125,000 for the employee’s salary to \$62,500 for combined salaries, regardless of where your spouse is employed
 - ◊ Out-of-pocket max and deductibles will also be based on the new tiers, and there is now a charge for each dependent
 - ◆ Each child under 21= \$51 per month
 - ◆ Each child over 21= \$73 per month



Depending on your circumstances, premiums may increase or decrease. Here are some examples of inequity in the proposed changes:

- A single participant with 0 children, making \$55,000, would save \$38 a month for their premium.
- A single participant with 2 children under 21, making \$25,000 annually, will see an increase in their premium by \$15 a month. The same participant, earning \$125,000 annually, will see a decrease of \$218 a month for their premium. That’s an increase of \$180 a year for the single parent of 2, but a \$2616 decrease for participants with more ability to pay a higher premium.
- A married couple with 2 children under 21 where the employee made \$35,000 last year (adding spousal salary of \$30,000 for a total family income of \$65,000) will see a premium increase of \$1608 a year. A couple, with 2 children under 21, with the active employee making \$125,000 will see a premium decrease of \$4224 year.

While premiums will decrease for some participants without children or in higher tiers, lower income families will see their premiums increase. AFT-WV believes it is cruel to increase premiums for those families earning the least while simultaneously proposing a \$2000-4000 premium decrease for the highest earners. AFT-WV suggests the tiers should be restructured into a more equitable and fair distribution.

Will these changes hurt your family?

What you need to do:

**Attend a PEIA Finance Board public hearing and speak out!
Tell the Finance Board your personal story and how these changes will affect your family!**

PEIA 2017 Public Hearing Schedule		Registration 5:00 PM Public Hearing 6:00 – 8:00 PM
Morgantown	Monday, November 6	WVU, The Erickson Alumni Center, One Alumni Drive
Martinsburg	Tuesday, November 7	Holiday Inn, 301 Fox Croft Avenue
Beckley	Tuesday, November 14	Tamarack Conference Center, 1 Tamarack Place
Charleston	Wednesday, November 15	University of Charleston, Ballroom
Call-in Option	Monday, November 13	Call: 304-410-0513 Enter Code: 987342

