

South Carolina  
PUBLIC EMPLOYEE BENEFIT AUTHORITY

---

**PEBA**

## **Premera Blue Cross Breach May Impact Some State Health Plan Members**

April 2, 2015

On Tuesday, March 31, 2015, BlueCross BlueShield of South Carolina (BCBSSC) informed the South Carolina Public Employee Benefit Authority (PEBA) that some current and former State Health Plan members and former BlueChoice HealthPlan HMO members may have been affected by the Premera Blue Cross (Premera) data breach. Premera is an independent licensee of the Blue Cross Blue Shield Association serving Alaska and Washington state.

**Please be assured that neither PEBA's nor BCBSSC's computer systems were breached. PEBA's commitment to data security remains constant and is always at the forefront of the agency's operations.**

BCBSSC and Premera are evaluating the extent of the breach and identifying the individuals who may have been impacted. Data that was breached includes information for members who received services as part of the BlueCard® program in the state of Washington or in Alaska.

The BlueCard® program applies when members receive care outside of South Carolina. The out-of-state health care providers file claims with the BCBS affiliate in their respective state and the information is securely passed between the BCBSSC and other BCBS affiliate's systems to process claims. PEBA encourages current or former State Health Plan member or former BlueChoice HealthPlan HMO members who know they received health care provider services in Washington or Alaska and believe they may have been impacted to read the information on Premera's website at [www.premeraupdate.com](http://www.premeraupdate.com).

Federal law requires that affected members be notified by mail. Those letters will let affected members know about the breach and any free identity repair and credit monitoring services to be provided by Premera.

PEBA is closely monitoring this situation and will provide updates as additional details become available. For now, more information about the breach may be found at [www.premeraupdate.com](http://www.premeraupdate.com).

PEBA is serious about protecting member information. [Learn more](#) about how PEBA is working to keep your personal information safe and secure.