

Pension & Health Benefits Committee

Agenda Item 4c

March 19, 2024

Item Name: Health Open Enrollment Results

Program: Health Benefits

Item Type: Information Consent

Executive Summary

This agenda item reports California Public Employees' Retirement System (CalPERS) member migration between health plans during the 2023 Health Benefits Program Open Enrollment period. In total, 87,556 or 5.6% of CalPERS' members changed health plans during Open Enrollment.

Background

CalPERS Open Enrollment occurs during fall of each calendar year, offering health plan subscribers the opportunity to make prospective enrollment changes. All 2023 Open Enrollment changes became effective January 1, 2024. The overall transfer rate for 2023 was 5.6%, up from 4.5% in 2022 (a 24% increase). Most migration stemmed from members in Basic plans, with a transfer rate of 6.8%, while members in a Medicare plan had a transfer rate of 1.5%. Additionally, public agency members had a transfer rate of 6.0%, and state members had a transfer rate of 5.4%. The higher 2023 Open Enrollment transfer rate is likely due to service area expansions of UnitedHealthcare's SignatureValue Alliance and Harmony plans, the exit of Health Net SmartCare from the CalPERS Health Program, significant premium increases for Kaiser Permanente and CalPERS PPO plans, and increased communication efforts encouraging members to shop and compare health plans.

Analysis

The following charts display the migration for state and public agency members by Basic and Medicare programs (Figure 1), and the top three plans that experienced the highest net gain (Figure 2) and net loss (Figure 3) during the 2023 Open Enrollment period. Complete details of member migration between plans are displayed in Attachment 1 – 2023 Open Enrollment Health Plan Transfers.

Figure 1: Count of members who changed health plans.

	Basic	Medicare	Total
State	44,366	3,885	48,251
State	(6.5%)	(1.8%)	(5.4%)
Dublic Agency	38,024	1,281	39,305
Public Agency	(7.2%)	(1.0%)	(6.0%)
Total	82,390	5,166	87,556
Total	(6.8%)	(1.5%)	(5.6%)

Figure 2: Plans that experienced the largest net gain.

	Plan Name	Net Gain	Where members transferred from			
1	Blue Shield Access+	+20,770	Kaiser Permanente	Anthem Blue Cross Select	PERS Gold	All Other Plans
	Access+	21.6% increase	(33.9%)	(21.1%)	(14.6%)	(30.4%)
2	Blue Shield Trio	+10,361	PERS Gold	Kaiser Permanente	Anthem Blue Cross Select	All Other Plans
		31.6% increase	(34.2%)	(29.5%)	(13.3%)	(23.0%)
3	UnitedHealthcare SignatureValue Alliance	+4,552	Kaiser Permanente	PERS Gold	PERS Platinum	All Other Plans
		6.4% increase	(49.3%)	(13.6%)	(8.4%)	(28.7%)

Figure 3: Plans that experienced the largest net loss.

	Plan Name	Net Loss	Where members transferred to			
1	Kaiser Permanente	-21,970	Blue Shield Access+	Blue Shield Trio	UnitedHealthcare SignatureValue Alliance	All Other Plans
		4% decrease	(31.6%)	(14.3%)	(13.6%)	(40.5%)
2	PERS Platinum	-8,957	PERS Gold	Blue Shield Access+	Blue Shield Trio	All Other Plans
		7.2% decrease	(54.3%)	(13.3%)	(7.6%)	(24.8%)
3	Anthem Blue Cross Select	-6,117	Blue Shield Access+	Blue Shield Trio	PERS Gold	All Other Plans
		15.9% decrease	(56.4%)	(18.6%)	(6.8%)	(18.2%)

Budget and Fiscal Impacts

There is no budget or fiscal impact from the 2023 Open Enrollment reporting.

Benefits and Risks

There are no risks to CalPERS as a result of the changes members made.

Attachments

Attachment 1 – 2023 Open Enrollment Health Plan Transfers

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