

Washington State Health Care Authority Budget Fact Sheet

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The Health Care Authority oversees seven health care programs:

- **Basic Health:** Provides access to affordable health care coverage to low-income Washington residents.
- **Community Health Services:** Promotes access to high-quality and affordable health care for the uninsured, underinsured and tribes.
- **Health Technology Assessment:** Ensures that medical treatments and services paid for by the state are safe and proven to work.
- **Prescription Drug Program:** Develops an evidence-based prescription drug program to identify preferred drugs for use by participating programs (Uniform Medical Plan, Department of Labor and Industries, and Medicaid); makes prescription drugs more affordable to Washington residents and state health care programs; and educates the public about the safe and cost-effective use of prescription drugs.
- **Public Employees Benefits Board:** Provides medical, dental, life and long-term disability coverage (and offers optional insurances) through private health insurance plans to eligible state and higher-education employees as a benefit of employment.
- **Uniform Medical Plan:** Is a self-insured, preferred provider health insurance plan available to Public Employees Benefits Board enrollees worldwide.
- **Washington Wellness:** Works to make healthy choices easier for state employees, retirees and their dependents; improve the productivity of state employees; and positively affect the medical cost trend of state health plans' enrollees.

2007-09 Operating Budget	\$ 757.0 million
2009-11 Maintenance Level	\$ 879.5 million
2009-11 Operating Budget	\$ 590.5 million

Reductions and actions we are taking:

- \$238 million reduction in the Basic Health Plan. To bring costs in line with the budget, we will reduce enrollment from 100,000 to 60,000-70,000 members and maintain that level of enrollment for 2009-11. To do this, we will:
 - Increase Basic Health premiums effective Jan. 1, 2010.

June 2009

- Disenroll members who are eligible for Medicaid and those who have access to and can afford other coverage.
- Increase the frequency of income and eligibility reviews to ensure member still qualify for Basic Health.

Programs and services we will continue to deliver:

- Subsidized health insurance to low-income families through the Basic Health Plan, but at increased cost to the members and to fewer members.
- Administration of Public Employees Benefits Board programs and operation of all the programs listed above that increase access to high-quality affordable health care for Washington residents.

For more information, visit http://www.hca.wa.gov/press_releases.html or contact:

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