# Postal Service Health Benefit Plan (PSHB)

**Union Partnership** 

**April 2023** 









### **Agenda**

1 PSHB Overview

Project Objectives & Milestones

3 Project Timeline

4 PSHB Next Steps



#### **Postal Service Reform Act Overview**

The Postal Service Reform Act of 2022 mandated the implementation of the Postal Service Health Benefits (PSHB) program. The PSHB is a new plan administered by the Office of Personnel Management (OPM), which will provide health insurance to Postal Service employees, Postal Service annuitants, and their eligible family members starting in 2025. The PSHB plan is within the Federal Employees Health Benefit (FEHB) Program.

#### Key PSHB Highlights:

- All participants will transition to the PSHB plan
- PSHB plan carriers will be identified in FY24
- Voluntary Medicare integration opportunity for existing retires will occur FY24
- All employees and annuitants/survivors will be required to make a PSHB enrollment election during FY25
- PSHB plan enrollment will transition from PostalEASE to a central enrollment platform (CEP) administered by OPM



#### **Postal Service Reform Act HR Milestones**

MILESTONES TIMELINE

FY2023	
Launch SEP communications	3/1/2023 push to December 2023
Complete coordination with OPM to enable successful implementation of program regulations/policies (within 1 year of enactment) – <i>In Progress</i>	4/6/2023
Complete coordination with OPM re: its implementation regulations (inc. Veterans Affairs, Indian Health Services, SSA, CMS) (within 1 year of enactment; reactive) – <i>In Progress</i>	4/6/2023
USPS issues regulations re: demonstrating residency (no statutory deadline but before the 2024 open season) - In Progress	9/30/2023
Provide OPM with list of individuals residing abroad (those that satisfy the exception under subparagraph (A)(iii))	9/30/2023
FY2024	
Complete establishment of Health Benefits Education Program/Issuance of standards and regulations (within 18 months of enactment)	10/6/2023
In conjunction with OPM, determine Special Enrollment Period (SEP) eligible annuitants	12/31/2023
Launch education	5/1/2024
Launch training	5/1/2024
FY2025	
Launch Open Season 2024	11/11/2024
Complete transition of eligible employees / annuitants to PSHB / Medicare for retirement	1/1/2025



### Postal Service Health Benefits - Project Timeline

Below are key project accomplishments and upcoming milestones

## FY22 Accomplishments

- Established meeting cadences with Office of Personnel Management (OPM) and Postal Stakeholders
- GIR 940.1 established. Identified key milestones and workstreams
- Process for dissemination of information established. Identified and released first set of high-level FAQs
- OPM finalized the Future State Enrollment Process
- Current state enrollment process, data flows and data elements identified and shared with OPM

### FY23 Q1 Current Activities

- Begin drafting Future State System Integration Points and requirements
- Finalize OPM's Interim Final Regulations (IFR)
- Begin drafting internal policies relating to annuitants living abroad
- Determine HRIS and Payroll System Configuration to include source data for eligibility and pass back of employee enrollment information
- Develop Fact Sheets

### FY23 Q2 Upcoming Activities

- Develop training artifacts and communication for PSHB Education and Training
- Coordinate with SSA, VA, IHS to determine SEP eligibility and PSHB exceptions
- Coordinate with Veterans Affairs, SSA and other stakeholders on IFRs through April 2023
- Develop communication content (SEP, OS)
- Finalize Fact Sheets

# FY23 Q3 Upcoming Activities

- Finalize the established education program
- Determine different PSHB compliance populations
  - Annuitants
  - Active employees
  - Active employees retiring by 12/31/2024
  - Active employees over age 64
- Coordinate with VA, SSA and IHS during and post implementation on eligible exceptions

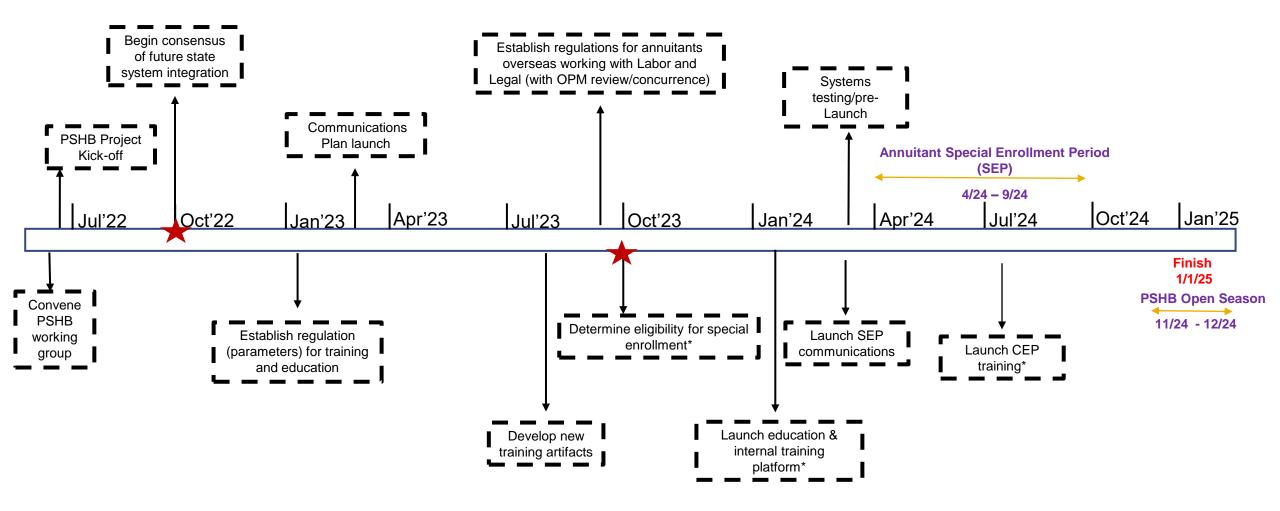
# FY23 Q4 Upcoming Activities

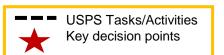
- Finalize the established education program
- Launch training platform\*
- Determine eligibility for special enrollment (OPM and CMS)
- Launch SEP
   Communications
- Determine Medicare compliance and process for ongoing monitoring



<sup>\*</sup>Contingent on completion of OPM's RFP process

#### **USPS: PSHB ROADMAP – 12/27/2022**







### **PSRA/PSHB** Implementation – Next Steps

- Coordinate launch of Employee and Annuitant initial "Fact Sheet" communications
- Future State Enrollment PSHB System
  - A centralized enrollment will be implemented by OPM
  - USPS and OPM continue to work on connectivity options and technical requirements
  - Test data file requested by OPM
- Policies and Regulations
  - USPS drafted internal policies relating to annuitants living abroad, under Legal review
  - Determine Medicare compliance and on-going monitoring
- PSHB Education and Training
  - In process of developing education and training artifacts and communications
  - Work with OPM and Unions on Education for PSHB and SEP education and communications



### **How Can We Work Together?**

- Continue to collaborate on Employee and Annuitant communications
- Present at union events/conferences
- Coordinate the dissemination of USPS Education and Training materials to union members
- Emphasize and encourage Employees and Annuitants to maintain up-to-date mailing addresses

