



May 15, 2015

Champions for Coverage:

Welcome to our new Champion Email Update format. We reorganized the newsletter so that you can find the information you need. We have added a table of contents so that you can easily navigate to topics and new/updated information. Please email Champion@cms.hhs.gov if you have any thoughts or comments.

Reminder: We are Looking for Medicare Success Stories: CMS is looking for Medicare success stories to highlight the upcoming 50th Anniversary this July. Please email Champion@cms.hhs.gov if you would like to submit a story.

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NEW/UPDATED CONTENT AND WEBINARS

New: HHS announces \$101 million in Affordable Care Act funding to 164 new community health centers

HRSA announced today approximately \$101 million in Affordable Care Act funding to 164 new health center sites in 33 states and two U.S. Territories for the delivery of comprehensive primary health care services in communities that need them most. These new health centers are projected to increase access to health care services for nearly 650,000 patients.

The release can be found here:

<http://www.hhs.gov/news/press/2015pres/05/20150505a.html>.

For a list of awardees by state visit: www.hrsa.gov/about/news/2015tables/newaccesspoints/.

Please find social media content attached and below for you to share.

Reminder: Navigator Funding Opportunity Announcement (FOA)

The Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) announced a funding opportunity for organizations and individuals to operate as Navigators in Federally-facilitated Marketplaces (FFMs), including State Partnership Marketplaces (SPMs). As they have done over the past two years, and as they are doing now, Navigators will continue to assist consumers in various ways, including providing information about available coverage options through the Marketplace during open enrollment.

Navigators have been an important resource for the millions of Americans who enrolled in coverage over the past two years. This funding announcement ensures this important work will continue over the next three years in states with a FFM, including during Marketplace open enrollment periods.

Key Changes

This year's FOA creates a multi-year funding structure. The 2015 FOA expands the period of performance, or project period, from 12 months to 36 months. The multi-year grant award will have a funding period of one year and subsequent years will be funded incrementally based on funding availability. This change is designed to provide greater consistency for Navigator grantee organizations and their staff from year to year, reducing yearly start up time and providing a more efficient use of grant funds.

In addition, the 2015 FOA places a greater emphasis on re-enrollment activities and consumers enrolled in coverage through the Marketplace. Applicants are encouraged to explain how they will assist persons seeking to re-enroll in coverage through Marketplaces and how they will assist consumers with applications for coverage available through the Marketplace and selection, including renewal of a QHP. The 2015 FOA also places a greater emphasis on working with underserved populations. This year applicants are encouraged to demonstrate a focus on rural, underserved, vulnerable, or special needs populations or communities, and a commitment to serve these populations or communities.

Application and Award Information

HHS will award up to \$67,000,000 to recipients across all service areas of FFMs (including SPMs).

Key Dates for Pre-Application Calls:

Third call: Wednesday, May 20, 2015 from 11:00am-12:30 p.m. Eastern Time

- Audience URL: <https://goto.webcasts.com/starthere.jsp?ei=1061472>
- Webcast title: Navigator Funding Opportunity Announcement Pre-Application Webinar 5-20-15

Fourth call: Wednesday, June 3, 2015 from 2:00-3:30 p.m. Eastern Time

- Audience URL: <https://goto.webcasts.com/starthere.jsp?ei=1061473>
- Webcast title: Navigator Funding Opportunity Announcement Pre-Application Webinar 6-3-15

Letter of Intent to Apply (required) Due: June 3, 2015

Applications Due: June 15, 2015, by 1:00pm ET

Anticipated Award Date: September 2, 2015

At least \$600,000 in total cooperative agreement funds will be available for each FFM (including SPM) service area. Small entities and individuals proposing to serve smaller, hard-to-reach or underserved populations are encouraged to apply, particularly by partnering with other entities and/or individuals to form a consortium which serves a larger total portion of the population.

To see the FOA for the Cooperative Agreement to Support Navigators in Federally-facilitated and State Partnership Marketplaces go to Grants.gov and search for CFDA 93.332.

Updated: HHS Partnership Center Webinar

The HHS Partnership Center continues to host a series of webinars for faith and community leaders. All webinars are open to the public and include a question and answer session where you can ask HHS staff any questions you may have.

To participate in one of the webinars, please select your preferred topic from the list below and submit the necessary information.

Got Coverage? Next Steps in Using Your Health Insurance

Many people now have health insurance, but may not know how to use it. This webinar will discuss how to read your insurance card, how to find a doctor, what you need to know in making an appointment, and what to do in case you have a health emergency. Key terms will be discussed as well as recommended health screenings. We will highlight the [Coverage to Care](#) materials on health insurance literacy during the webinar. We will also discuss how faith and other community-based organizations are using these tools to help those in their congregations and communities.

[May 19 at 3:00 pm EDT](#)

(2:00 pm CT, 1:00 pm MT, Noon PT)

To Join By Phone Only, Dial +1 (646) 307-1706, Access Code: 763-833-558

For those joining by phone only, the Pin Number is the # key.

[June 23 at 4:00 pm EDT](#)

(3:00 pm CT, 2:00 pm MT, 1:00 pm PT)

To Join By Phone Only, Dial +1 (415) 655-0051, Access Code: 379-833-859

For those joining by phone only, the Pin Number is the # key.

Special Enrollment Periods and Resources for the Uninsured
Individuals and families can enroll in the Health Insurance Marketplace during special enrollment periods if they experience special circumstances. Special circumstances include graduating from high school or college and losing health insurance, getting married or divorced or having a baby, losing employer insurance or turning 26 and losing coverage on a parent's health plan. Join this webinar to learn more about special enrollment periods and how to enroll in the Health Insurance Marketplace. For those who are uninsured and don't qualify for the special enrollment period, learn what resources are available and when to enroll in the Health Insurance Marketplace.

[June 17 at 2:00 pm EDT](#)

(1:00 pm CT, Noon MT, 11:00 am PT)

To Join By Phone Only, Dial 1 (415) 655-0051, Access Code: 564-443-351

For those joining by phone only, the Pin Number is the # key.

NEWS AND UPDATES

New: Affordable Care Act payment model saves more than \$384 million in two years, meets criteria for first-ever expansion

Pioneer ACO Model advances quality and value in health care

On May 4th, an independent evaluation report released by the Department of Health and Human Services showed that an innovative payment model created as a pilot project by the Affordable Care Act generated substantial savings to Medicare in just two years. Additionally, the independent Office of the Actuary in the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) has certified that this patient care model is the first to meet the stringent criteria for expansion to a larger population of Medicare beneficiaries.

Read More Here: <http://www.hhs.gov/news/press/2015pres/05/20150504a.html>

New: National Survey: Consumer satisfaction with Marketplace Enrollment Process Improves during the Second Year of Open Enrollment

A new [survey](#) of more than 3,000 healthcare consumers conducted by consumer research firm J.D. Power offers the first comprehensive look at efforts to improve the consumer experience in

the second year of Open Enrollment. The study measures satisfaction with Marketplace health plans obtained for the 2014 plan year, and it measures the enrollment experience of both new Marketplace enrollees and re-enrollees by examining seven attributes: amount of time to complete the renewal/enrollment process; clarity of instructions for completing enrollment application; courtesy of the representative; ease of navigating the Marketplace website; ease of renewing/enrolling; ease of understanding benefits and coverage; and variety of information available about health insurance plan choices.

Enrollment satisfaction among new enrollees increased by 55 points to 670 (on a 1,000-point scale) from 615 in 2014, when all enrollees were new to the Marketplace. Among members who re-enrolled, satisfaction with the enrollment process was rated 731 points, higher than new enrollees. Finally, enrollment satisfaction among re-enrollees is highest among those who enrolled through the Federally-facilitated Marketplace at 739 on a 1,000 point scale, followed by State-Partnership Marketplaces/Federally Supported State-Based Partnerships.

In terms of satisfaction with the health plans they obtained, in 2015 Marketplace customers' ratings were identical to those of consumers with plans not purchased on the Marketplace, including employer-based plans.

- To view a summary of these survey results from JD Power, [click here](#).
- To view a longer summary of the JD Power survey results, [click here](#).

Reminder: SEPs Available to Consumers

Individuals may qualify for SEPs outside of Open Enrollment if they experience certain events. We wanted to highlight a couple of the SEPs finalized in the recently published [Final Notice of Benefit and Payment Parameters for 2016](#) ("Payment Notice"). Some information on these SEPs were also included in the April 14th Newsletter, and we wanted to summarize the information below.

New or amended SEPs that are available to consumers starting on April 28, 2015:

- New SEP for gaining a dependent or becoming a dependent due to a child support or other court order. The coverage effective date will be the effective date of the court order.
- Continuing the SEP for when consumers are enrolled in a non-calendar plan that ends outside of the Marketplace Open Enrollment Period. Consumers will receive a regular coverage effective date (following the 15th of the month rule).
- A change in the SEP for consumers living in a non-Medicaid expansion state who were previously ineligible for Marketplace coverage with APTC due solely to household income and were ineligible for Medicaid during the same time, who have experienced a change in household income (to 100% FPL or above), making them newly eligible for APTC. Consumer no longer need to receive a Medicaid denial in order to qualify for this SEP. Consumers will receive regular coverage effective dates.

Additional coverage effective date options that Marketplaces may make available to consumers as of April 28, 2015:

- Additional effective date options following birth, adoption, placement for adoption or placement in foster care of (1) the first day of month following birth, adoption, foster care placement and (2) regular coverage effective dates.
- Additional effective date option following a child support or other court order of regular coverage effective dates.

New or amended SEPs that the Marketplaces may make available to consumers in the future after April 28, 2015:

- New SEP for losing a dependent or dependent status due to divorce or legal separation.
- New SEP for losing a dependent or dependent status due to death.
- A consumer can report a permanent move up to 60 days in advance of the move to qualify for the SEP (this option must be available to consumers by 1.1.17).

Reminder: Guidance on Annual Eligibility Redeterminations and Re-enrollments for Marketplace Coverage for 2016

The Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) released Redeterminations Guidance. Final regulations issued in August, 2014 provided that each Marketplace has three options each year for how to handle the annual redetermination process for current enrollees. Today's guidance released by the Secretary describes this alternative option for coverage year 2016, which is available to the Federally-facilitated Marketplace (FFM) and State-based Marketplaces, and will be used by the FFM.

For additional information on today's guidance click here:

<http://www.cms.gov/CCIIO/Resources/Regulations-and-Guidance/Downloads/annual-redeterminations-for-coverage-42215.pdf>

SMALL BUSINESS HEALTH OPTIONS PROGRAM (SHOP)

Reminder: SHOP Spring and Summer Webinars

SBA, CMS and Small Business Majority will host free Affordable Care Act 101 webinars so small business owners can learn the basics of the Affordable Care Act and how they can enroll in health insurance marketplaces. Join us every other Thursday at 2 PM ET.

- May 28:

- June 11: [Click to Register](#)
- June 25: [Click to Register](#)
- July 9: [Click to Register](#)
- July 30: [Click to Register](#)
- August 6: [Click to Register](#)
- August 20: [Click to Register](#)

Join us for the Affordable Care Act 101 webinars in Spanish once a month on Tuesdays at 4 PM ET.

- May 19: [Click to Register](#)
- June 16: [Click to Register](#)
- July 14: [Click to Register](#)
- August 11: [Click to Register](#)

SOCIAL MEDIA

- [RT @HHSMedia](#): BREAKING: \$101M in #ACA grants to 164 new health centers sites will increase access to nearly 650K patients: <http://1.usa.gov/1EdhFF1>
- [RT @HHSgov](#): Worth sharing → \$101M in #ACA to support 164 new health center sites in 33 states, two U.S. territories
- Worth sharing → \$101M in #ACA grants will increase access to care to nearly 650K patients
- \$101M in #ACA funds will support 164 new health center sites in 33 states and two U.S. Territories
- SHARE: \$101M in #ACA funds will help increase access to health care services for nearly 650K patients: <http://1.usa.gov/1EdhFF1>
- \$101M in #ACA awards will enable more individuals and families to access affordable, high quality health care: <http://1.usa.gov/1EdhFF1>
- [@HHSgov](#) announces \$101M in #ACA funding for 164 new health center sites: <http://1.usa.gov/1EdhFF1>
- [@HHSgov](#) announces [\$X] in #ACA funding for [X] new health center sites in [STATE].

HHS BLOG POSTS ABOUT THE AFFORDABLE CARE ACT AND HEALTHCARE.GOV

Blog post from Tuesday, May 12:

Title: Coverage to Care: No Longer Fighting Depression Alone

Link: <http://www.hhs.gov/healthcare/facts/blog/2015/05/coverage-care-no-longer-fighting-depression-alone.html>

Blog post from Friday, May 8:

Title: Congrats, graduates! You've got a diploma, now get health insurance

Link: <https://www.healthcare.gov/blog/congrats-graduates-get-health-insurance/>

Blog post from Monday, May 4

Title: Medicaid and CHIP: Families Can Apply at Any Time – So Why Wait?

Link: <http://www.hhs.gov/healthcare/facts/blog/2015/05/medicaid-and-chip-families-can-apply-any-time-so-why-wait.html>

WHITE HOUSE UPDATES ABOUT THE AFFORDABLE CARE ACT AND HEALTHCARE.GOV

Blog post from Tuesday, May 12

Title: The Faces of Health Care: Sarah M.

Link: <https://www.whitehouse.gov/blog/2015/05/12/faces-health-care-sarah-m>

Blog post from Monday, May 11

Title: The Faces of Health Care: Sangeeta M.

Link: <https://www.whitehouse.gov/blog/2015/05/11/faces-health-care-sangeeta-m>

-CMS Office of Communications, Partner Relations Group