



August 21, 2015

Champions for Coverage:

The summer is winding down and a new school year is beginning! CMS is gearing up for the next open enrollment. New materials and webinars have been posted to get you ready for the next enrollment season. This is also a good time to remind current Marketplace customers to update their accounts if their income or life circumstances have changed. This issue contains new resources, updates and an updated webinar schedule.

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NEW/UPDATED CONTENT AND WEBINARS

Reminder: Updated Consumer-Facing Outreach Materials from CMS

Check out these recently-released CMS outreach materials as you plan your outreach strategy for next year and continue participating in activities throughout the summer! Assisters interested in ordering CMS publications should visit the [CMS Product Ordering website](#).

Promotional Materials

- [Share Your Story Postcard](#)
- [Need Health Insurance 5x7 Card](#)
- [Get Coverage for 2016 Flyer](#)
- [Key Dates for the Health Insurance Marketplace Flyer](#)
- [Health Insurance Marketplace – List of Online Resources Flyer](#)

Educational Materials

- [The Value of Health Insurance – 5 things to know \(Explanatory brochure\)](#)
- [The Health Insurance Marketplace – 5 things you can do to get ready to enroll \(Explanatory brochure\)](#)
- [Using your Marketplace coverage: find a doctor and prepare for your first visit \(HHS Blog on Preventive Care\)](#)

Reminder: HHS Partnership Center Webinars

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.

New Graduates and Healthcare: Learn Your Options!

Graduating from college is an exciting step towards becoming independent. Yet many young adults don't think about one other important step – having health insurance. Health insurance is very affordable for many people, often less than \$100 a month, as a result of the Affordable Care Act. Many young adults are just one car accident or sports injury away from an expensive health care bill and potential bankruptcy. Join us for a free webinar to learn more about health insurance options for new graduates. A question and answer period will take place at the end of the webinar.

[August 26 at 2:00 pm EDT](#)

(1:00 pm CDT, Noon MDT, 11:00 am PDT)

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.

[August 25 at 3:00 pm EDT](#)

(2:00 pm CDT, 1:00 pm MDT, Noon PDT)

[September 22 at 3:00 pm ET](#)

(2:00 pm CDT, 1:00 pm MDT, Noon PDT)

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 certain circumstances. Special Enrollment Period circumstances include graduating from 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.

[September 29 at 3:00 pm ET](#)

(2:00 pm CDT, 1:00 pm MDT, Noon PDT)

NEWS AND UPDATES

New: Special Enrollment Period for Victims of Domestic Abuse and Spousal Abandonment

On July 27, 2015, [CMS issued updated guidance](#) announcing the permanent availability of an SEP for survivors/victims of domestic abuse/violence or spousal abandonment to enroll in coverage separate from their abuser or abandoner. Unmarried and dependent victims of domestic abuse within a household may also now qualify for this SEP.

To access this SEP, eligible consumers should call the Marketplace Call Center at 1-800-318-2596 to explain that they are a survivor/victim of domestic abuse/violence or a survivor/victim of spousal abandonment. The SEP will be available for 60 days following the individual's request. Consumers who are married to their abuser or abandoner, plan to use the married, filing separately filing status on their federal income tax returns, and want to find out whether they qualify for APTC and CSRs under this SEP, should indicate that they are not married when completing their Marketplace application.

- [Click here](#) to read CMS's Updated Guidance on Victims of Domestic Abuse and Spousal Abandonment.
- [Click here](#) to view the HealthCare.gov page on "Who's included in your household?" which now includes instructions that reflects this new guidance.

New: Medicaid newly eligible enrollment and expenditure data (June 2014)

The Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) released Medicaid newly eligible enrollment and expenditure data, as part of the Medicaid expenditure report through the Medicaid Budget and Expenditure System (MBES). The enrollment information is a state reported count of unduplicated individuals enrolled in the state's Medicaid program at any time during each month in the quarterly reporting period. CMS will also release state-reported Medicaid expenditure data associated with the newly eligible adult group under Medicaid expansion.

CMS released the third quarter newly eligible enrollment data, as part of the Medicaid expenditure report through the Medicaid Budget and Expenditure System (MBES). The enrollment information is a state reported count of unduplicated individuals enrolled in the state's Medicaid program at any time during each month in the quarterly reporting period.

CMS will also release state-reported Medicaid expenditure data associated with the newly eligible adult group under Medicaid expansion.

Click here for more information Medicaid Enrollment Data Collected through MBES:

<http://www.medicaid.gov/medicaid-chip-program-information/program-information/medicaid-and-chip-enrollment-data/medicaid-enrollment-data-collected-through-mbes.html>

Medicaid CMS-64 New Adult Group Expenditures Data Collected through MBES --

<http://www.medicaid.gov/medicaid-chip-program-information/by-topics/financing-and-reimbursement/expenditure-reports-mbes-cbes.html>

Reminder: Preventive Services for Women

On Friday, July 10th, the Administration issued a final rule on coverage of certain recommended preventive services without cost-sharing. This rule maintains the existing accommodation for eligible religious nonprofits, but also finalizes an alternative pathway for those organizations to provide notice of their objection to covering contraceptive services and provides the same accommodations for certain types of for-profit entities. The rule also finalizes the preventive services interim final rules from 2010 with few changes, such as standards to ensure that when a recommendation or guideline for a preventive service is downgraded in the middle of a plan year, group health plans and insurers generally must continue to cover the preventive service without cost sharing through the end of the plan year, except in certain limited instances related to safety concerns.

- Click [here](#) for the press release.
- Click [here](#) for the fact sheet.

- Click [here](#) for the rule.

SMALL BUSINESS HEALTH OPTIONS PROGRAM (SHOP)

Reminder: SHOP Summer Webinar

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.

- August 20: [Click to Register](#)

Join us for the Affordable Care Act 101 webinar in Spanish on Tuesday at 4 PM ET.

- August 11: [Click to Register](#)

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

Blog post from Friday, July 31

Title: Turning 65 soon? How to transition from the Marketplace to Medicare coverage

Link: <https://www.healthcare.gov/blog/transitioning-to-medicare/>

Blog post from Friday, July 24

Title: Medicare and Medicaid: keeping us healthy for 50 year

Link: <https://www.healthcare.gov/blog/medicare-medicaid-50-year-anniversary/>

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

Blog post from Saturday, August 1

Title: Weekly Address: Celebrating Fifty Years of Medicare and Medicaid

Link: <https://www.whitehouse.gov/blog/2015/08/01/weekly-address-celebrating-fifty-years-medicare-and-medicaid>

Blog post from Friday, July 31

Title: The Faces of Health Care: Carol W.

Link: <https://www.whitehouse.gov/blog/2015/07/31/faces-health-care-carol-w>

Blog post from Thursday, July 30

Title: Celebrating 50 Years of Medicare and Medicaid

Link: <https://www.whitehouse.gov/blog/2015/07/30/celebrating-50-years-medicare-and-medicaid>

Blog post from Thursday, July 30

Title: The Faces of Health Care: Joanne W.

Link: <https://www.whitehouse.gov/blog/2015/07/30/faces-health-care-joanne-w>

Blog post from Wednesday, July 29

Title: The Faces of Health Care: Timothy S.

Link: <https://www.whitehouse.gov/blog/2015/07/29/faces-health-care-timothy-s>

Blog post from Tuesday, July 28

Title: The Faces of Health Care: Susan F.

Link: <https://www.whitehouse.gov/blog/2015/07/28/faces-health-care-susan-f>

Blog post from Monday, July 27

Title: The Faces of Health Care: Christopher C.

Link: <https://www.whitehouse.gov/blog/2015/07/27/faces-health-care-christopher-c>

-CMS Office of Communications, Partner Relations Group