



February 19, 2016

Champions for Coverage:

As we are all beginning to catch our breaths after open enrollment, we are also focusing on making sure consumers are using their health insurance in the right way. The Champion for Coverage Program is hosting a webinar on how to help consumers use their health insurance and connect them to primary care providers (see below). This issue also includes updated information to share with consumers about their taxes and ACA.

CMS is gathering lessons learned from this past open enrollment and we want to hear from you! **We are seeking information** related to strategies that worked for you, what didn't, what CMS resources were most/least useful, and/or other information you would like to share. **All feedback is needed by March 4th**. Email to Champions@cms.hhs.gov.

Finally, we will be moving to a biweekly newsletter through the end of March, after which we will begin sending monthly newsletters through the summer.

- I. **New: Consumer-Facing Outreach Materials from CMS**
- II. **Save the Date: Champion Webinar:
Coverage to Care Roadmap to Better Care and Healthier You toolkit**
- III. **New: The Connecting Kids to Coverage Webinar: Driving Enrollment by Highlighting
Dental Coverage**
- IV. **New: HHS awards \$500,000 in funding to Flint health centers**
- V. **Reminder: Guidance on the Special Enrollment Period for Consumers without
Marketplace Coverage due to Failure to File and Reconcile**
- VI. **Reminder: Application of the Market Reforms and Other Provisions of the Affordable
Care Act to Student Health Coverage**
- VII. **Blog Posts and Press Releases**

NEW/UPDATED CONTENT AND WEBINARS

New: Consumer-Facing Outreach Materials from CMS

Check out these recently-released CMS outreach materials. Partners interested in ordering CMS publications should visit the [CMS Product Ordering website](#).

New materials are being updated and will be posted to [Marketplace.cms.gov](https://marketplace.cms.gov)

New materials:

Updated tax materials recently posted to Marketplace.cms.gov:

Fact sheets

- How Health Coverage Affects Your Taxes: <https://marketplace.cms.gov/outreach-and-education/health-coverage-affects-taxes.pdf>
- No Health Coverage? What That Means for Your Taxes: <https://marketplace.cms.gov/outreach-and-education/no-coverage-and-your-taxes.pdf>

Drop-in articles

- No Health Coverage in 2015? What That Means for Your Taxes: <https://marketplace.cms.gov/outreach-and-education/no-health-coverage-and-taxes-article.pdf>
- How Health Coverage Affects Your Taxes: <https://marketplace.cms.gov/outreach-and-education/coverage-affects-taxes-article.pdf>

NEWS AND UPDATES

**Save the Date: Champion Webinar:
Coverage to Care Roadmap to Better Care and Healthier You toolkit**

This webinar will provide an overview of the *From Coverage to Care Roadmap to Better Care and a Healthier You* Toolkit. Understanding how and when to use your health insurance can be overwhelming, especially for the newly enrolled. Join the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services, Office of Minority Health to learn how to connect consumers to care in the right way. Topics covered will include:

- the *Roadmap to Better Care and Healthier You* Toolkit,
- strategies for working with consumers to use their health insurance, and
- a sneak peak at new materials.

What: Strategies to help consumers learn to use their health coverage

Who should attend: Primarily for organizations who have joined the [Champions for Coverage](#) program, National Stakeholders, Assistors, and organizations interested in learning more about helping consumers use their health insurance

When: Wednesday, March 2, 2016 @ 2:00pm EST

How: Webinar link: <https://webinar.cms.hhs.gov/c4c3216/>
Call in info: (866) 501-5502
Conference ID: 56016806

New: The Connecting Kids to Coverage Webinar: Driving Enrollment by Highlighting Dental Coverage

When: February 24, 2016 3:00 p.m. - 4:30 p.m. EST

[REGISTER HERE](#)

Dental disease in children is largely preventable and tooth decay remains the most common chronic illness among children in the United States, yet many children do not receive regular dental health care. Good oral health is critical at every age and can be a strong motivator for parents to enroll their child in Medicaid or the Children’s Health Insurance Program (CHIP). The Connecting Kids to Coverage National Campaign is shining a light during National Children’s Dental Health Month to help promote healthy smiles and provide both practical and creative ways to showcase the oral health benefits available through Medicaid and CHIP. We invite you to join the Campaign webinar to learn more about the resources and tools that focus on dental health and hear insights on how oral health can help increase enrollment efforts.

Join us on **Wednesday, February 24, at 3:00 p.m. EST** for the next Connecting Kids to Coverage National Campaign webinar.

New: HHS awards \$500,000 in funding to Flint health centers

FLINT, Mich. – U.S. Department of Health and Human Services Secretary Sylvia M. Burwell today announced \$500,000 in funding to help two area health centers increase and expand activities in response to the lead contamination of Flint’s water.

Following a tour of the Hamilton Community Health Network, Inc. (HCHN), Burwell and HHS Assistant Secretary for Preparedness and Response Dr. Nicole Lurie, who is leading the federal response and recovery effort in Flint, announced that HCHN and Genesee Health System (GHS) will each receive \$250,000 in emergency supplemental funding to hire additional personnel and provide more lead testing, treatment, outreach, and education to meet the increased need for health services in the Flint community.

Read [more about the announcement.](#)

Reminder: Guidance on the Special Enrollment Period for Consumers without Marketplace Coverage due to Failure to File and Reconcile

Last week, the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) is providing a special enrollment period (SEP) for consumers who:

- are not currently enrolled in 2016 coverage through the Federally-facilitated Marketplace (FFM),
- are not receiving advance payments of the premium tax credit (APTC) in 2016 because they failed to file a tax return for 2014 and reconcile their APTC, and
- subsequently filed their 2014 tax return and reconciled their 2014 APTC.

This SEP will only be available to consumers after they restore their eligibility for APTC by filing a 2014 tax return, reconciling APTC paid on their behalf in 2014, and returning to the Marketplace to attest to having filed and reconciled 2014 APTC.

For more information click here:

https://www.regtap.info/uploads/library/ENR_FTR_SEP_Guidance_020516_5CR_020516.pdf

Reminder: Application of the Market Reforms and Other Provisions of the Affordable Care Act to Student Health Coverage

Last week, the Departments of the Treasury, Labor, and Health and Human Services (collectively, the Departments) in certain circumstances issued technical guidance on the application of certain provisions of the Affordable Care Act to premium reduction arrangements offered in connection with student health plans and provides temporary transition relief from enforcement by the Departments. The guidance states that the Departments will not assert that a premium reduction arrangement fails to satisfy PHS Act section 2711 or 2713 if the arrangement is offered in connection with other student health coverage (insured or self-insured) for a plan year or policy year beginning before January 1, 2017 (therefore including, for example, plan years or policy years that are roughly coterminous with academic years beginning in the Summer or Fall of 2016 and ending in 2017).

Click here for the CMS Bulletin: <https://www.cms.gov/CCIIO/Resources/Regulations-and-Guidance/Downloads/student-health-bulletin.pdf>

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

Blog Posts: On the Road for Open Enrollment Following HHS Secretary Sylvia Mathews Burwell's travels around the country.

<https://medium.com/@HHSGov/on-the-road-for-open-enrollment-fe01a8b48358#.fm4pagep8>

Blog Post from Friday, February 12

Title: No health coverage in 2015? Find out if you have to pay a fee

Link: <https://www.healthcare.gov/blog/find-out-if-qualified-for-2015-health-care-exemption/>

Blog Post from Tuesday, February 9

Title: What Health Coverage Means — In Their Own Words

Link: <http://www.hhs.gov/blog/2016/02/09/what-health-coverage-means-their-own-words.html>

Blog Post from Friday, February 5

Title: Form 1095-A and your 2015 federal income taxes

Link: <https://www.healthcare.gov/blog/2015-federal-tax-form-1095-a/>

Blog post from Friday, February 5

Title: Open Enrollment Trends: Selected HealthCare.gov Statistics prior to the Final Enrollment Deadline

Link: <https://blog.cms.gov/2016/02/05/open-enrollment-trends-selected-healthcare-gov-statistics-prior-to-the-final-enrollment-deadline/>

-CMS Office of Communications, Partner Relations Group