

# Get Covered: A One-Page Guide to the Health Insurance Marketplace

Here's a quick look at the most important things to know about the Health Insurance Marketplace.

- **The Marketplace helps uninsured people find health coverage.**
- **When you fill out the Marketplace application we'll tell you if you qualify for:**
  - **Private insurance plans.** We'll tell you whether you qualify for lower costs based on your household size and income. If you don't qualify for lower costs, you can still use the Marketplace to buy insurance at the standard price. Plans cover essential health benefits, pre-existing conditions, and preventive care.
  - **Medicaid and the Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP).** These programs provide coverage to millions of families with limited income. If it looks like you qualify, we'll share information with your state agency and they'll contact you. Many but not all states are expanding Medicaid in 2014 to cover more people.
- **No matter what state you live in, you can use the Marketplace.** Some states operate their own Marketplace. In some states, the Marketplace is run by the Federal government.
- **Most people must have health coverage in 2014 or pay a fee.** If you don't have coverage ~~in 2014~~, you'll have to pay a penalty of \$95 per adult, \$47.50 per child, or 1% of your income (whichever is higher). The fee increases every year. Some people may qualify for an exemption from this fee.
- **You're considered covered** if you have Medicare, Medicaid, CHIP, any job-based plan, any plan you bought yourself, COBRA, retiree coverage, TRICARE, VA health coverage, or some other kinds of health coverage.
- **If you're eligible for job-based insurance, you can consider switching to a Marketplace plan.** But you won't qualify for lower costs based on your income unless the job-based insurance is unaffordable or doesn't meet minimum requirements. You also may lose any contribution your employer makes to your premiums.
- ~~Marketplace open enrollment for 2014 ends March 31, 2014. If you missed the deadline, the next open enrollment will begin in the fall of 2014, but the exact dates are still being decided.~~
- **If you have a qualifying life event** (like moving to a new state, getting married, having a child, or losing health coverage), you can get a special enrollment period. This means you can enroll in or change your plan outside open enrollment.
- **Ready to apply and enroll, or have questions?**
  - Visit **HealthCare.gov**
  - Call the Health Insurance Marketplace call center at 1-800-318-2596, 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. TTY users should call 1-855-889-4325.

