



HOW THE SUPREME COURT'S DECISION TO UPHOLD THE AFFORDABLE CARE ACT IMPACTS YOU

CURRENT BENEFITS

- Your children, age 0 -19, cannot be denied health insurance coverage due to pre-existing conditions such as diabetes, asthma, cancer, or high blood pressure, etc.
- You can continue to provide health insurance coverage for your children as dependents on your health insurance plan until they reach age twenty-six (26).
- You are eligible to receive recommended preventive health services, such as mammograms, colonoscopies, wellness visits, etc. at no cost to you.
- You are eligible for a rebate on your health insurance premiums paid if your insurance company did not pay enough in claims.

BENEFITS EFFECTIVE JANUARY 1, 2014

- You will not be denied health insurance coverage due to any pre-existing condition such as diabetes, asthma, cancer, high blood pressure, etc.
- If you are on Medicare and have experienced gaps in your prescription drug coverage, you will find that those gaps have been eliminated.
- You cannot be charged a higher health insurance premium amount due to your gender.
- Arkansas is partnering with the Federal government to establish the Health Insurance Exchange for Arkansans.

THE HEALTH BENEFITS EXCHANGE

- The Exchange is a marketplace where individuals and employers with 50 or fewer employees (100 or fewer employee beginning in 2016) will be able to shop for, compare, and enroll in health insurance coverage.
- Plans available on the Health Insurance Exchange will be pre-qualified by the Arkansas Insurance Department to ensure that they contain essential health benefits such as hospitalization, outpatient services, prescription drugs, laboratory services, pediatric services, including pediatric oral and vision care.
- You may obtain healthcare coverage through the exchange on-line, by phone, by mail or in-person.
- Depending upon your income, you can qualify for assistance (premium tax credits) to help defray the cost of your health insurance premium (*see chart on reverse side*).



HOW THE PREMIUM TAX CREDIT WORKS

- Household income must be between 100% and 400% of the federal poverty level (\$22,350 – \$89,400 for a family of four in 2011).
- Covered individuals must be enrolled in a “qualified health plan” through a Health Insurance Exchange.
- Covered individuals must be legally present in the United States and not incarcerated.
- Covered individuals must not be eligible for other qualifying coverage, such as Medicare, Medicaid or affordable employer-sponsored coverage.

Example: A Family of Four With Income of \$50,000 is at 224% of the Federal Poverty Level¹

	If Family Purchases Benchmark Plan:	If Family Purchases Less Expensive Plan:	If parent(s) between the ages of 55 and 64:
Expected Family Payment	\$3,570	\$3,570	\$3,570
Premium for Benchmark Plan	\$9,000	\$9,000	\$14,000
Premium Tax Credit (<i>Amount Paid by the government is the difference between expected family payment and premium for Benchmark Plan</i>)	\$5,430	\$5,430	\$10,430
Premium for Plan Family Chooses	\$9,000	\$7,500	\$14,000
Actual Family Payment	\$3,570 <i>(\$297.50 per month)</i>	\$2,070 <i>(\$172.50 per month)</i>	\$3,570 <i>(\$297.50 per month)</i>

- The Arkansas Insurance Department will continue to maintain regulatory control over the insurance plans which will be available for purchase through the Exchange.
- Arkansas Insurance Department will select, train and regulate the people who will explain to Arkansans their health insurance options and help them enroll using the Exchange.
- Current projections are that 572,000 uninsured consumers in the state will be able to obtain coverage through the Federally-facilitated State Partnership Exchange.
- By creating a larger pool of insured individuals, some healthy and some not, it is expected that Arkansans will have a greater choice in affordable health insurance products.
- For the most current information on Exchange activities, visit our website at <http://hbe.arkansas.gov/>
- The Arkansas Insurance Department will hold more community meetings, so stay tuned!

¹ Data adapted from CMS Office of Public Affairs Press Release dated August 12, 2011.