Transitions
Retiree Benefit Group

Understanding the Affordable Care Act-
Questions & Answers

Pre-Existing Conditions

Under current law, health insurance companies can't refuse to cover you or charge you more just because you have a "pre-existing condition" — that is, a health problem you had before the date that new health coverage starts. These rules went into effect for plan years beginning on or after January 1, 2014. What This Means for You: Health insurers can no longer charge more or deny coverage to you or your child because of a pre-existing health condition like asthma, diabetes, or cancer. They cannot limit benefits for that condition either. Once you have insurance, they can't refuse to cover treatment for your pre-existing condition.

Young Adult Coverage Options

Under current law, if your plan covers children, you can now add or keep your children on your health insurance policy until they turn 26 years old. Children can join or remain on a parent's plan even if they are:
Married, Not living with their parents, Attending school, Not financially dependent on their parents, Eligible to enroll in their employer's plan. When Someone Turns 26-Under-26 coverage ends on a child's 26th birthday. When a child loses coverage on their 26th birthday, they qualify for a Special Enrollment Period. This lets them enroll in a health plan outside Open Enrollment..

Healthcare.gov

When the Affordable Care Act was passed, the Federal Government created a central location for individuals to research options for Marketplace coverage. On this website you will be able to see if you are eligible for premium tax credits and apply for coverage OR you can apply for coverage without premium tax credits. On this site, there are several areas for self help including:

Check to see if you qualify for a premium credit

Save on your insurance bill with premium tax credits-

When you apply for coverage in the Health Insurance Marketplace, you'll find out if you qualify for a "premium tax credit" that lowers your premium — the amount you pay each month to your insurance plan. The amount of your premium tax credit depends on the estimated household income for 2020 that you put on your Marketplace application. You can apply some or all of this tax credit to your monthly insurance premium payment. The Marketplace will send your tax credit directly to your insurance company, so you'll pay less each month. This is called taking an "advance payment of the premium tax credit."

When your income changes, so does your premium tax credit- If your income changes, or if you add or lose members of your household, your premium tax credit will probably change too.

It's very important to report income and household changes to the Marketplace as soon as possible. If your income goes up or you lose a member of your household: You'll probably qualify for a lower premium tax credit. You may want to reduce the amount of tax credit you take in advance each month. This way you don't wind up taking more credits than you qualify for. If your income goes down or you gain a household member: You'll probably qualify for a bigger premium tax credit. You may want to increase the amount of tax credit you take in advance so you have a lower premium bill each month.

1095 & Tax Info

Exemptions

Enrollment

If you are calling about healthcare.gov qualification or plan enrollment, you will have to utilize their customer service. We do not have access to their platform OR approval system.

800-936-1405