

Health Insurance Marketplace Coverage Options and Your Health Coverage

PART A: General Information

Under the Affordable Care Act, there is a new way to buy health insurance: the Health Insurance Marketplace. To assist you as you evaluate options for you and your family, this notice provides some basic information about the new Marketplace and employment-based health coverage offered by the City of Seattle.

What is the Health Insurance Marketplace?

The Marketplace is designed to help you find health insurance that meets your needs and fits your budget. The Marketplace offers "one-stop shopping" to find and compare private health insurance options. You may also be eligible for a new kind of tax credit that lowers your monthly premium right away. Enrollment in health insurance coverage through the Marketplace occurs during an annual enrollment period and coverage may begin as early as the following January.

Can I Save Money on my Health Insurance Premiums in the Marketplace?

You may qualify to save money and lower your monthly premium, but only if your employer does not offer coverage, or offers coverage that doesn't meet certain standards. The savings on your premium that you're eligible for depends on your household income.

Does Employer Health Coverage Affect Eligibility for Premium Savings through the Marketplace?

Yes. If you have an offer of health coverage from your employer that meets certain standards, you will not be eligible for a tax credit through the Marketplace and may wish to enroll in your employer's health plan. However, you may be eligible for a tax credit that lowers your monthly premium, or a reduction in certain cost-sharing if your employer does not offer coverage to you at all or does not offer coverage that meets certain standards. If the cost of a plan from your employer that would cover you (and not any other members of your family) is more than 9.5% of your household income for the year, or if the coverage your employer provides does not meet the "minimum value" standard set by the Affordable Care Act, you may be eligible for a tax credit.¹

Note: If you purchase a health plan through the Marketplace instead of accepting health coverage offered by the City of Seattle, then you may lose the City's contribution (if any) to the employer-offered coverage. Both the City's contribution -as well as your employee contribution to employer-offered coverage- is excluded from income for Federal and State income tax purposes. Your payments for coverage through the Marketplace are made on an after-tax basis.

How Can I Get More Information?

For more information about your coverage offered by your employer, please check your summary plan description or contact the Benefits Unit at Benefits.Unit@seattle.gov or (206) 615-1340.

The Marketplace can help you evaluate your coverage options, including your eligibility for coverage through the Marketplace and its cost. Please visit HealthCare.gov for more information, including an online application for health insurance coverage and contact information for a Health Insurance Marketplace in your area. For more information about your coverage through the City of Seattle, please check your summary plan description or contact the Benefits Unit at (206) 615-1340.

¹ An employer-sponsored health plan meets the "minimum value standard" if the plan's share of the total allowed benefit costs covered by the plan is no less than 60 percent of such costs.



PART B: Information About Health Coverage Offered by the City of Seattle

This section contains information about any health coverage offered by your employer. If you decide to complete an application for coverage in the Marketplace, you will be asked to provide this information.

3. Employer name City of Seattle	4. Employer Identification Number (EIN) 916001275	
5. Employer address P.O. Box 34028	6. Employer phone number (206) 615-1340	
7. City Seattle	8. State Washington	9. ZIP code 98124
10. Who can we contact about employee health coverage at this job? The Benefits Unit		
11. Phone number (if different from above) (206) 615-1340	12. Email address Benefits.Unit@seattle.gov	

Here is some basic information about health coverage offered by this employer:

- As your employer, we offer a health plan to:

- All employees.
- Some employees.

- With respect to dependents:

- We do offer coverage.
- We do not offer coverage.

- If checked, this coverage meets the minimum value standard, and the cost of this coverage to you is intended to be affordable, based on employee wages.

NOTE:

Even if your employer intends your coverage to be affordable, you may still be eligible for a premium discount through the Marketplace. The Marketplace will use your household income, along with other factors, to determine whether you may be eligible for a premium discount. If, for example, your wages vary from week to week (perhaps you are an hourly employee or you work on a commission basis), if you are newly employed mid-year, or if you have other income losses, you may still qualify for a premium discount.