

# NEW HEALTH INSURANCE MARKETPLACE COVERAGE OPTIONS

## PART A

When key parts of the health care law take effect in 2014, there will be 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 your employer.

### **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. The next open enrollment period for health insurance coverage through the marketplace will be from November 15, 2014, to February 15, 2015, for coverage starting as early as January 1, 2015. However, you can buy a health plan on the marketplace outside of open enrollment if you qualify for a special enrollment period. See [www.HealthCare.gov](http://www.HealthCare.gov) for more details on special enrollment periods.

### **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.<sup>1</sup>

**Note:** If you purchase a health plan through the marketplace instead of accepting health coverage offered by your employer, then you may lose the employer contribution (if any) to the employer-offered coverage. Also, this employer contribution -as well as your employee contribution to employer-offered coverage- is often 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 Career Center at 843-953-5692.

The marketplace can help you evaluate your coverage options, including your eligibility for coverage through the marketplace and its cost. Please visit [www.HealthCare.gov](http://www.HealthCare.gov) for more information, including an

---

<sup>1</sup> 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.

online application for health insurance coverage and contact information for a health insurance marketplace in your area.

## HEALTH COVERAGE INFORMATION FOR MARKETPLACE APPLICATION

### PART B

If you decide to complete an application for coverage in the Health Insurance Marketplace, you will be asked to provide the information below. This information is numbered to correspond to the marketplace application.

<b>3. Employer Name</b> <i>College of Charleston</i>		<b>4. Employer Identification Number (EIN)</b> 57-6000265	
<b>5. Employer Address</b> 66 George Street		<b>6. Employer Phone Number</b> 843-953-5512	
<b>7. City</b> Charleston	<b>8. State</b> SC	<b>9. ZIP Code</b> 29424	
<b>10. Who can we contact about employee health coverage at this job?</b> Sandy Butler or Gwen McCullough			
<b>11. Phone Number (if different from above)</b>		<b>12. Email address</b> <a href="mailto:butlers@cofc.edu">butlers@cofc.edu</a> or <a href="mailto:mcculloughg@cofc.edu">mcculloughg@cofc.edu</a>	

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

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

- Some employees. An eligible employee is:

Employed by the state, a higher education institution, a public school district or a participating local subdivision; works in a permanent, full-time position; and receives compensation from the state, a higher education institution, a public school district or a participating local subdivision. Eligible employees also include clerical and administrative employees of the S.C. General Assembly and judges in the state courts; General Assembly members; elected members of the councils of participating counties or municipalities who also participate in PEBA Retirement Benefits; and permanent, part-time teachers, who are considered employees for insurance purposes.

- With respect to dependents:

- We do offer coverage. An eligible dependent is:

A lawful spouse or a former spouse who is required to be covered by a divorce decree; and a child younger than 26 who is the subscriber's natural child, adopted child, stepchild, foster child, a child for whom the subscriber has legal custody or a child the subscriber is required to cover due to a court order.

- 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.

\*\* Even if your employer intends your coverage to be affordable, you may still be eligible for a premium discount through the Health Insurance 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.

If you decide to shop for coverage in the marketplace, [www.HealthCare.gov](http://www.HealthCare.gov) will guide you through the process. Here's the employer information you'll enter when you visit [www.HealthCare.gov](http://www.HealthCare.gov) to find out if you can get a tax credit to lower your monthly premiums.

**The information below corresponds to the Marketplace Employer Coverage Tool. This will help ensure employees understand their coverage choices.**

**13. Is the employee currently eligible for coverage offered by this employer, or will the employee be eligible in the next 3 months?**

**No** (STOP and return this form to employee)

**Acknowledgement of Receipt  
New Health Insurance Marketplace Coverage Options**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ CWID: \_\_\_\_\_

Date of Hire: \_\_\_\_\_

I acknowledge that I have received the New Health Insurance Marketplace Coverage Options notice as required by the Affordable Care Act.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date