



Kansas Insurance Department

Sandy Praeger, Commissioner of Insurance

HEALTH INSURANCE MARKETPLACE UPDATE November 18, 2014

ROBERT G. (BOB) BETHELL JOINT COMMITTEE ON HOME AND COMMUNITY BASED SERVICES AND KANCARE OVERSIGHT

Mr. Chairman and Members of the Committee:

In response to the request for an update on the Health Insurance Marketplace received by the Department, we are providing the following information:

The open enrollment period for the second year of the federally facilitated Marketplace (FFM) officially began on November 15, 2014. There will be 82 plans available on the Marketplace in 2015. 64 plans will be available for individuals and families and will offer, depending on county of residence, all metal levels and catastrophic plans. 18 plans will be available for small businesses and will include gold, silver and bronze metal levels. BlueCross BlueShield Solutions, Inc. will be an additional insurer offering plans on the Marketplace for 2015.

There are four key dates concerning Marketplace open enrollment and they include:

- November 15, 2014 - which was the beginning of open enrollment. Insureds can apply for coverage that will begin as early as January 1, 2015. Insureds who wish to make a change may shop for and enroll in new coverage. They may be able to keep their existing Marketplace plan.
- December 15, 2014- is important as it is the date that one must enroll by if they wish for their coverage to begin on January 1, 2015.
- December 31, 2014- is the date that coverage purchased for 2014 will end. If someone was covered in 2014 and have decided to purchase a new plan for 2015 they need to notify the Marketplace and the insurance company that they are making a change so that they are not accidentally enrolled in two different plans for 2015.
- February 15, 2015- is the last day for open enrollment. This is the last day you can apply for 2015 coverage to begin March 1 unless there is a qualifying event for a special enrollment period.

The Kansas Insurance Department's informational site for ACA information, insureKS.org, has tools to help find health insurance agents, navigators, or certified application counselors to assist with enrollment and to estimate tax credits.

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The Federally-Facilitated SHOP will be functioning for 2015. Kansas is not implementing employee choice for the 2015 plan year as it was determined that opting out would be in the best interest of Kansas small employers, their employees and dependents.

The 2015 Marketplace rates are available and can be viewed at www.healthcare.gov. The Kansas Insurance Department does not receive information regarding the premium rates in other states so national data and regional data are not available from the department.

When comparing all premium rates for all plans available in 2015 to those available in 2014 premium rates are close to level. However, the revisions experienced for plans that are being maintained from 2014 to 2015 will vary and in most cases those revisions will be increases. The average rate revision for existing forms in the individual marketplace by carrier ranged from -0.27% to 14.9%.

Our most recent enrollment numbers come from the report issued on May 1, 2014, which covered the period of October 1, 2013 through March 31, 2014 (including additional Special Enrollment Period Activity through April 19, 2014). The following information was provided for Kansas on August 12, 2014 and the Kansas Insurance Department does not have updated information to share at this time:

57,013 Kansans enrolled in a Marketplace plan between October 1, 2013 and March 31, 2014 (including Special Enrollment Period Activity through April 19, 2014). (Total was 29,309 in the report issued in mid-March.)

55% are female; 45% are male (54% female and 46% male are the national average)

38% are age 34 and younger (4% higher than national data)

19% chose a bronze plan; 60% silver; 16% gold (enrollment in gold plan is 7% higher than national data), 2% platinum, 4% catastrophic

79% selected plan with financial assistance (6% lower than national)

The standard notices that health insurance issuers will use when discontinuing or renewing coverage under a product in the small group or individual market have been mailed to insureds. These notices explain the options for the employer or individual for obtaining or renewing health insurance both inside and outside the Marketplace.

I am happy to stand for any questions.

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Kansas Insurance Department