

NOTICE of WV Health Insurance Marketplace

This notice does not require any additional action on your part.

The Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act (commonly known as “ACA” or “Obamacare”) requires employers to provide information to all employees regarding the availability of the new Health Insurance Marketplace. Enclosed is a formal notice that follows the recommended federal model. We have tailored the second page of the document to include specific information about the availability of health insurance coverage to employees of this institution.

If you are interested in pursuing additional information about the Health Insurance Marketplace, you should follow the directions in the enclosed notice and go to HealthCare.gov. If you visit this website, additional information may be needed to determine your eligibility to participate in the Marketplace, including the following:

- There is no waiting period for health insurance in our system, so if you are not eligible now, you will not be eligible within the next three months unless your employment status changes to meet the definition of “eligible employee” contained in the notice.
- WV Public Employees’ Insurance Agency (PEIA) insurance plans do meet the minimum value standard.
- Premiums to participate in the PEIA health insurance plans are based on salary levels, and information regarding the cost is available in the WV PEIA Shopper’s Guide at www.wvpeia.com.
- We are not aware of any major changes affecting eligibility anticipated in the coming plan year.

For more information regarding the new Health Insurance Marketplace, please visit HealthCare.gov.

For questions regarding your current WVU employee benefits, please contact WVU Benefits Strategy at ACABenefits@mail.wvu.edu or (304) 293-8405.

This notice does not require any additional action on your part.



Health Insurance Marketplace Coverage Options and Your Health Coverage

Form Approved
OMB No. 1210-0149
(expires 12-31-2026)

PART A: General Information

Even if you are offered health coverage through your employment, you may have other coverage options through the Health Insurance Marketplace ("Marketplace"). To assist you as you evaluate options for you and your family, this notice provides some basic information about the Health Insurance Marketplace and health coverage offered through your employment.

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 in your geographic area.

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

You may qualify to save money and lower your monthly premium and other out-of-pocket costs, but only if your employer does not offer coverage, or offers coverage that is not considered affordable for you and doesn't meet certain minimum value standards (discussed below). The savings that you're eligible for depends on your household income. You may also be eligible for a tax credit that lowers your costs.

Does Employment-Based Health Coverage Affect Eligibility for Premium Savings through the Marketplace?

Yes. If you have an offer of health coverage from your employer that is considered affordable for you and meets certain minimum value standards, you will not be eligible for a tax credit, or advance payment of the tax credit, for your Marketplace coverage and may wish to enroll in your employment-based health plan. However, you may be eligible for a tax credit, and advance payments of the 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 is considered affordable for you or meet minimum value standards. If your share of the premium cost of all plans offered to you through your employment is more than 9.12%¹ of your annual household income, or if the coverage through your employment does not meet the "minimum value" standard set by the Affordable Care Act, you may be eligible for a tax credit, and advance payment of the credit, if you do not enroll in the employment-based health coverage. For family members of the employee, coverage is considered affordable if the employee's cost of premiums for the lowest-cost plan that would cover all family members does not exceed 9.12% of the employee's household income.^{1,2}

Note: If you purchase a health plan through the Marketplace instead of accepting health coverage offered through your employment, then you may lose access to whatever the employer contributes to the employment-based coverage. Also, this employer contribution -as well as your employee contribution to employment-based coverage- is generally excluded from income for federal and state income tax purposes. Your payments for coverage through the Marketplace are made on an after-tax basis. In addition, note that if the health coverage offered through your employment does not meet the affordability or minimum value standards, but you accept that coverage anyway, you will not be eligible for a tax credit. You should consider all of these factors in determining whether to purchase a health plan through the Marketplace.

¹ Indexed annually; see <https://www.irs.gov/pub/irs-drop/rp-22-34.pdf> for 2023.

² An employer-sponsored or other employment-based 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. For purposes of eligibility for the premium tax credit, to meet the "minimum value standard," the health plan must also provide substantial coverage of both inpatient hospital services and physician services.

When Can I Enroll in Health Insurance Coverage through the Marketplace?

You can enroll in a Marketplace health insurance plan during the annual Marketplace Open Enrollment Period. Open Enrollment varies by state but generally starts November 1 and continues through at least December 15.

Outside the annual Open Enrollment Period, you can sign up for health insurance if you qualify for a Special Enrollment Period. In general, you qualify for a Special Enrollment Period if you've had certain qualifying life events, such as getting married, having a baby, adopting a child, or losing eligibility for other health coverage. Depending on your Special Enrollment Period type, you may have 60 days before or 60 days following the qualifying life event to enroll in a Marketplace plan.

There is also a Marketplace Special Enrollment Period for individuals and their families who lose eligibility for Medicaid or Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP) coverage on or after March 31, 2023, through July 31, 2024. Since the onset of the nationwide COVID-19 public health emergency, state Medicaid and CHIP agencies generally have not terminated the enrollment of any Medicaid or CHIP beneficiary who was enrolled on or after March 18, 2020, through March 31, 2023. As state Medicaid and CHIP agencies resume regular eligibility and enrollment practices, many individuals may no longer be eligible for Medicaid or CHIP coverage starting as early as March 31, 2023. The U.S. Department of Health and Human Services is offering a temporary Marketplace Special Enrollment period to allow these individuals to enroll in Marketplace coverage.

Marketplace-eligible individuals who live in states served by HealthCare.gov and either- submit a new application or update an existing application on HealthCare.gov between March 31, 2023 and July 31, 2024, and attest to a termination date of Medicaid or CHIP coverage within the same time period, are eligible for a 60-day Special Enrollment Period. **That means that if you lose Medicaid or CHIP coverage between March 31, 2023, and July 31, 2024, you may be able to enroll in Marketplace coverage within 60 days of when you lost Medicaid or CHIP coverage.** In addition, if you or your family members are enrolled in Medicaid or CHIP coverage, it is important to make sure that your contact information is up to date to make sure you get any information about changes to your eligibility. To learn more, visit HealthCare.gov or call the Marketplace Call Center at 1-800-318-2596. TTY users can call 1-855-889-4325.

What about Alternatives to Marketplace Health Insurance Coverage?

If you or your family are eligible for coverage in an employment-based health plan (such as an employer-sponsored health plan), you or your family may also be eligible for a Special Enrollment Period to enroll in that health plan in certain circumstances, including if you or your dependents were enrolled in Medicaid or CHIP coverage and lost that coverage. Generally, you have 60 days after the loss of Medicaid or CHIP coverage to enroll in an employment-based health plan, but if you and your family lost eligibility for Medicaid or CHIP coverage between March 31, 2023 and July 10, 2023, you can request this special enrollment in the employment-based health plan through September 8, 2023. Confirm the deadline with your employer or your employment-based health plan.

Alternatively, you can enroll in Medicaid or CHIP coverage at any time by filling out an application through the Marketplace or applying directly through your state Medicaid agency. Visit <https://www.healthcare.gov/medicaid-chip/getting-medicaid-chip/> for more details.

How Can I Get More Information?

For more information about your coverage offered through your employment, please check your health plan's summary plan description or contact WVU Benefits Strategy at ACABenefits@mail.wvu.edu or 304-293-8405. The Marketplace can help you evaluate your coverage options, including your eligibility for coverage through the Marketplace and its cost. Please visit [HealthCare.gov](https://www.healthcare.gov) for more information, including an online application for health insurance coverage and contact information for a Health Insurance Marketplace in your area.

PART B: Information About Health Coverage Offered by Your Employer

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. This information is numbered to correspond to the Marketplace application.

3. Employer name West Virginia University		4. Employer Identification Number (EIN) 55-6000842	
5. Employer address One Waterfront Place, P.O. Box 6005		6. Employer phone number 304-293-8405	
7. City Morgantown	8. State WV	9. ZIP code 26506	
10. Who can we contact about employee health coverage at this job? WVU Benefits Strateg			
11. Phone number (if different from above) 304-293-8405		12. Email address ACABenefits@mail.wvu.edu	

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

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

All employees. Eligible employees are:

Some employees. Eligible employees are:

All benefit-eligible employees are offered health care coverage through WV Public Employees' Insurance Agency. Employees are benefit-eligible under West Virginia Higher Education Policy Commission Title 133, Series 8, if they meet statutory requirements for:

- Full-time regular (FTR) employees, meaning any employee in a position created to last a minimum of nine months of a twelve month period and during which such employee is expected to work no less than 1,040 hours, OR

- Full-time faculty, meaning employment as a faculty member for a full academic year (at least a nine-month contract basis) for at least six (6) semester credit hours teaching per semester or the equivalent in teaching, research, public service, and/or administrative responsibilities.

- With respect to dependents:

We do offer coverage. Eligible dependents are:

As provided in the WV PEIA Summary Plan Description, eligible dependents are:

- Legal Spouse;
- Biological adopted children or stepchildren under age 26;
- Other children for whom you are the court-appointed guardian to age 18.

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.

** 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.

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