

WorkSource Information Notice (WIN)

Workforce & Career Development Division

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Number: WIN - 0046

Date: September 10, 2013

Expiration Date: September 10, 2014

TO: Workforce Development System Partners

FROM: Amy L. Smith, Director of Policy, Program Administration & Technical Assistance

SUBJECT: Health Insurance Marketplace Coverage Options for Job Seekers and Business Customers

Purpose:

To provide partners with information on Washington's health insurance marketplace coverage, which is one of the key components of the federal Affordable Care Act (ACA), in order to raise awareness of tools that are designed to help job seekers and business customers make informed decisions about their health care coverage.

Action Required:

Workforce Development Councils (WDCs) and their contractors, as well as Employment Security Regional Directors, should distribute this notice broadly throughout the system to ensure that WorkSource System staff are aware of and share information about Washington's health insurance marketplace coverage. This information is intended to assist job seekers and businesses access quality health insurance plans and cost savings.

Content:

On October 1st, 2013, Washington's Health Benefit Exchange will open enrollment for health care coverage that begins January 1, 2014. In preparation for this open enrollment period, the Washington Health Benefit Exchange has created tools that assist job seekers and business customers make informed decision about their health care coverage. WorkSource partners are encouraged to help job seekers and business customers access tools and information to make informed decisions about their healthcare coverage.

The following tools have been made available by the Washington Health Benefit Exchange:

- The "[Washington Health Plan Finder](#)" website that is designed to help individuals, families and small business owners choose a plan that best fits their needs. More information is also available by phone at 1-855-WA-FINDER (1-885-923-4633).
- The online "[Calculate Your Costs](#)" tool that assists individuals, families and small businesses

in Washington State find out if they qualify for financial assistance to help cover the cost of insurance premiums for qualified health plans.

- Fact Sheets that provide an overview of the [Health Benefit Exchange](#), an overview of health care coverage information for [individuals & families](#) and an overview of [citizenship eligibility](#). Fact sheets in [other languages](#) are not yet available, but will be coming soon.

The Department of Labor has provided additional resources through Training & Employment Notice (TEN) [2-13](#) that WorkSource Partners may want to consider. Those include:

- Information on the new health insurance coverage opportunities found online at the [Health Insurance Market Place](#) or by calling 1-800-318-2596 (TTY 1-855-899-4325) which will be opening October 2013.
- Additional steps WorkSource partners may take to raise awareness on new insurance options.
- A webinar hosted by the Department of Labor that provides an [introduction to the Affordable Care Act & the Health Insurance Marketplace](#).

References:

- [TEN 2-13](#)

Website:

http://www.wa.gov/esd/1stop/policies/state_guidance.htm

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