

# Health Insurance Marketplace Fact Sheet

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## Ways to Get Insurance

- Health insurance inside the marketplace
- Health insurance outside the marketplace
- Employer-based coverage – all large employers (100+ employees) are required to offer insurance to their full-time employees or pay a penalty
- Parental coverage – children can stay on their parents' plans up to age 26
- Government programs – Medicare, Medicaid, CHIP (PeachCare), TriCare, VA Benefits

## Timeline for the Marketplace

- October 1 – Open enrollment begins
- March 31 – Open enrollment closes

## Individual Mandate

- All US citizens are required to have insurance coverage or face a financial penalty, with few exceptions

## Process for Online Individual Marketplace Enrollment

- Because Georgia chose to have a federally-facilitated marketplace, start at [healthcare.gov](http://healthcare.gov)
- Click Apply Now and create a user account
- Complete an application and submit to [healthcare.gov](http://healthcare.gov)
- Eligibility determination received immediately
- if eligible for Medicaid or CHIP, individual/family follows up at DFCS office
- Select amount of premium tax credits and cost-sharing reductions, if applicable
- Compare plans using a filter tool that shows plans that are most relevant to an individual/family (uniform summary of benefits for each plan for easy comparison)
- Select plan, pay premium, and begin coverage as early as January 1, 2014
  - Note: can also do enrollment through a paper application, though the eligibility determination will be slower than doing it online

## Plan Coverage

- Access to certain free preventative services (i.e. annual physicals, vaccines, mammograms, etc.)
- No denial or rescission based on pre-existing conditions
- Minimum essential benefits – ambulatory patient services; emergency services; hospitalization; maternity and newborn care; mental health and substance use disorder services, including behavioral health treatment; prescription drugs; rehabilitative and habilitative services and devices; laboratory services; preventive and wellness services and chronic disease management; and pediatric services, including oral and vision care.
- No annual or lifetime limits on minimum essential benefits
- Rated only on age, household size, geographic area, tobacco use

## Metal Tiers

- Ordered in increasing order of monthly premiums, decreasing order of out of pocket costs (i.e. deductibles, copays, coinsurance, etc.)
  - Catastrophic – high deductible plan for those under age 30
  - Bronze – on average, pays for 60% of the cost of minimum essential benefits coverage
  - Silver – on average, pays for 70%
  - Gold – on average, pays for 80%
  - Platinum – on average, pays for 90%

## Help Paying for Insurance

- Advanced Premium Tax Credits
  - Assistance with paying monthly premiums for those individuals and families whose household income is between 100-400% of the federal poverty guidelines
  - Can take the full credit, partial credit, or no credit, the difference is reconciled on year-end tax forms
- Cost-sharing Reductions
  - Assistance with out-of-pocket costs for those whose household income is between 100-250% of the federal poverty guidelines

2013 Federal Poverty Guidelines – Annual Income			
Family Size	100%	250%	400%
1	\$ 11,490	\$ 28,725	\$ 45,960
2	\$ 15,510	\$ 38,775	\$ 62,040
3	\$ 19,530	\$ 48,825	\$ 78,120
4	\$ 23,550	\$ 58,875	\$ 94,200
5	\$ 27,570	\$ 68,925	\$ 110,280
6	\$ 31,590	\$ 78,975	\$ 126,360
7	\$ 35,610	\$ 89,025	\$ 142,440
8	\$ 39,630	\$ 99,075	\$ 158,520

## SHOP Marketplace

- Online exchange separate from the individual marketplace
- If small businesses (less than 50 employees) offer an insurance product to their employees through the SHOP marketplace, it may be possible to get a small business tax credit

## Medicaid Expansion

- The original law required states to expand Medicaid eligibility to adults <133% of the federal poverty guidelines
- The Supreme Court ruled that the federal government could not require Medicaid expansion, so states have the option to choose whether or not to participate
- At the present time, Georgia has elected not to expand Medicaid

## Certified Application Counsler Role

- Consumer education for any individual, family, or small business
- Give presentations, answer questions, and pass out information about healthcare reform in Georgia
- To learn more the MEACA Competitive Grant Program visit [www.MEACAProject.org](http://www.MEACAProject.org) or call 706-542-6117.

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