The background of the slide features a large, faint, circular seal of the U.S. Department of Education. The seal contains the text "DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION" at the top and "UNITED STATES OF AMERICA" at the bottom. In the center of the seal is a figure holding a book, surrounded by various symbols of education and industry.

Federal Supports for College Completion: Helping Students with Housing, Healthcare, Employment & Training

Erin Berg, Community College Program Specialist, U.S. Department of Education

Chase Sackett, Management and Program Analyst, U.S. Department of Education

Josie Skinner, Program Attorney, U.S. Department of Education

Marcie Foster, SNAP Employment and Training, U.S. Department of Agriculture

Jeanette Contreras, Lead Outreach Specialist, Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services

November 1, 2016

Context and Strategies

- Challenges with housing insecurity, food insecurity, health care, child care, etc.
- Issues with eligibility, applying, knowing about support
- Emerging strategies
 - HUD and Wisconsin HOPE Lab Guidebook:
<https://www.huduser.gov/portal/publications/HousingInsecurityInHigherEd.html>



Education for Homeless Children and Youths Program

Education for Homeless Children and Youths (EHCY) Program

- Authorized under Title VII-B of the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act (42 U.S.C. 11431 et seq.)
- Originally authorized in 1987
- Amended in December 2015 by the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA)
- Effective date **October 1, 2016**
- ED released updated guidance in July 2016 (available on ED website)

ESSA Amendments

- New requirements and/or increased focus on:
 - Identification of homeless students
 - College and career readiness
 - Services to preschool-aged homeless children
 - Collaboration with other service providers
 - Professional development and technical assistance
 - Removing enrollment barriers
 - School stability

EHCY Program Purpose

- To ensure that each child of a homeless individual and each homeless youth has equal access to the same free, appropriate public education...as provided to other children and youths.
- Homeless children and youths should have access to the education and other services that such children and youths need to ensure that such children and youths have an opportunity to meet the same challenging State academic standards to which all students are held.

Definition of Homeless

Homeless children and youths means:

Individuals who lack a **fixed, regular, and adequate nighttime residence.**

Definition of Homeless

Includes children and youths who are:

- Sharing the housing of other persons (“doubled up”) due to loss of housing, economic hardship, or a similar reason;
- Are living in motels, hotels, trailer parks, or camping grounds due to lack of alternative adequate accommodations;
- Are living in emergency or transitional shelter;
- Are abandoned in hospitals;
- Have a primary nighttime residence that is a public or private place not designed for or ordinarily used as a regular sleeping accommodation for human beings;
- Those living in cars, parks, public spaces, abandoned buildings, substandard housing, bus or train stations, or similar settings; and
- Migratory children who live in one of the circumstances described above.



Unaccompanied Youth Definition

Includes a homeless child or youth not in the physical custody of a parent or guardian.

School Stability

- **School of Origin**

- School child or youth attended when permanently housed or school in which child or youth last enrolled, including a preschool
- When the child or youth completes the final grade level served by the school of origin, the term "school of origin" shall include the designated receiving school at the next grade level for all feeder schools.

Immediate Enrollment

- **Immediate enrollment**
 - Immediately enrolled in requested school while disputes pending
 - Enrollment includes attending classes and participating fully in school activities
 - School must immediately enroll even if student does not have records normally required for enrollment

Access to postsecondary education

- School districts must ensure that counselors advise homeless youths to prepare and improve the readiness of these youths for college.
- Local liaison, guidance counselors, and other school staff should work with high school students with issues related to college readiness, college selection, applications, financial aid, etc.

Credit Accrual Challenges

- Homeless students often face challenges in accruing credits.
- Challenges include different class and credit requirements at different schools, as well as “seat time” rules that limit credit accrual if student changes schools late in the semester.
- Physical and mental stress, employment, etc. can also contribute to challenges accruing credits.

Credit Accrual: Legal Requirements

- School districts must have clear procedures to ensure that homeless students receive appropriate credit for full or partial coursework satisfactorily completed at a prior school.
- Can be accomplished by:
 - Awarded credits for courses at prior school even if prior school was in different district or State
 - Consulting with prior school about student's work
 - Evaluating the student's mastery of courses previously completed
 - Awarding partial credits
 - Offering credit recovery courses

Credit Accrual and Recovery: Other Strategies

- Keep students in school of origin when possible.
- Provide support that helps students attend school consistently and progress academically.
- Complement regular classes with independent study, learning labels, online learning, or computerized models.
- Connect with after school networks.
- Create or improve diversion programs or alternative education programs.

Applying for Financial Aid: Independent Student Status

Under McKinney-Vento Act, local liaisons must ensure that unaccompanied youths are informed of their status as independent students under section 480 of the Higher Education Act.

Applying for Financial Aid: Independent Student Status

- Local liaisons must assist unaccompanied youths with receiving verification of independent student status.
- To be considered independent, must have verification of status as either:
 - unaccompanied and homeless or
 - self-supporting and at risk of being homeless.
- Liaisons may continue to verify a student's status after high school graduation for as long as liaison has access to information necessary to make this determination.



Questions?

Using SNAP E&T to Build Job-Driven Training Programs



Marcie Foster
SNAP Office of Employment and Training
U.S. Department of Agriculture



Who is/What is FNS?

- ☞ The *Food and Nutrition Service (FNS)* of the *U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA)* works to end hunger and obesity through the administration of 15 federal nutrition assistance programs including WIC, Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP), and school meals. In partnership with State and Tribal governments, our programs serve one in four Americans during the course of a year.
- ☞ The *SNAP Office of Employment and Training* oversees the SNAP Employment and Training (E&T) program.

What is SNAP E&T?

- ∞ USDA provides ~\$300 million annually to states to operate the SNAP Employment and Training (E&T) program.
- ∞ All states are required to operate a program and must submit an annual E&T plan.
- ∞ Serves just over 1 million SNAP participants annually.
- ∞ States have considerable flexibility in designing E&T programs that meet the needs of participants and employers.

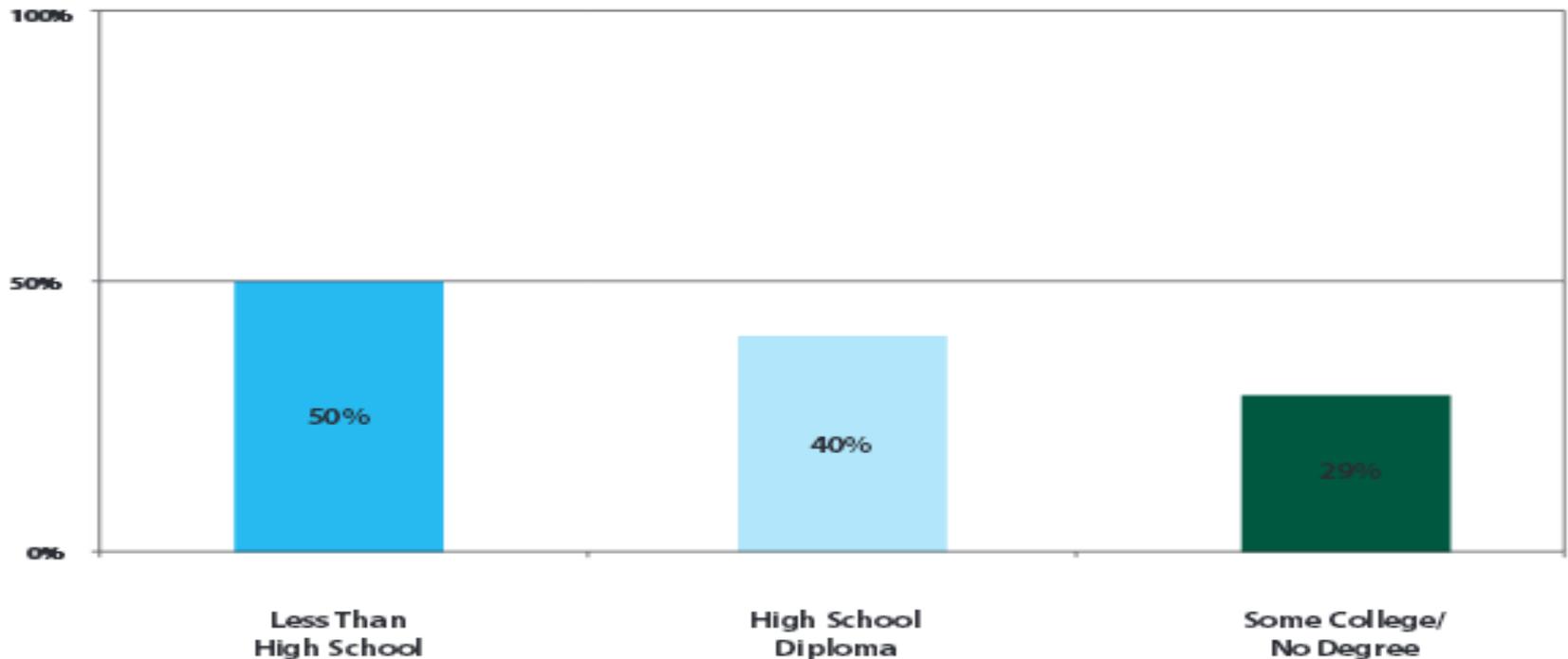


SNAP E&T Activities

- ☞ **Job search and job search training** (work readiness)
- ☞ **Workfare;**
- ☞ Programs designed to improve the employability of individuals through actual **work experience**, training, or both;
- ☞ Programs designed to increase an individual's self-sufficiency through **self-employment;**
- ☞ **Education** that improve basic skills or employability and have a direct link to employment;
- ☞ **Vocational training;** and
- ☞ **Job retention** for 90 days following employment.



Many SNAP Participants Have Low Skills



SOURCE: U.S. Census Bureau, 2014 and U.S. Census Bureau Analysis of Survey of Income and Program Participation Data, 2004

SNAP E&T Part of the Skilled Workforce Solutions



- ☞ **We have two problems we should never have at the same time.**
 - People who are struggling to find decent, stable employment; and
 - Employers who are struggling to find workers with the right skills
- ☞ **SNAP E&T can play an important in addressing both of these needs. How?**
 - By supporting skills training programs that lead to industry recognized certificates and credentials and are linked to employment

SNAP E&T Funding is Flexible

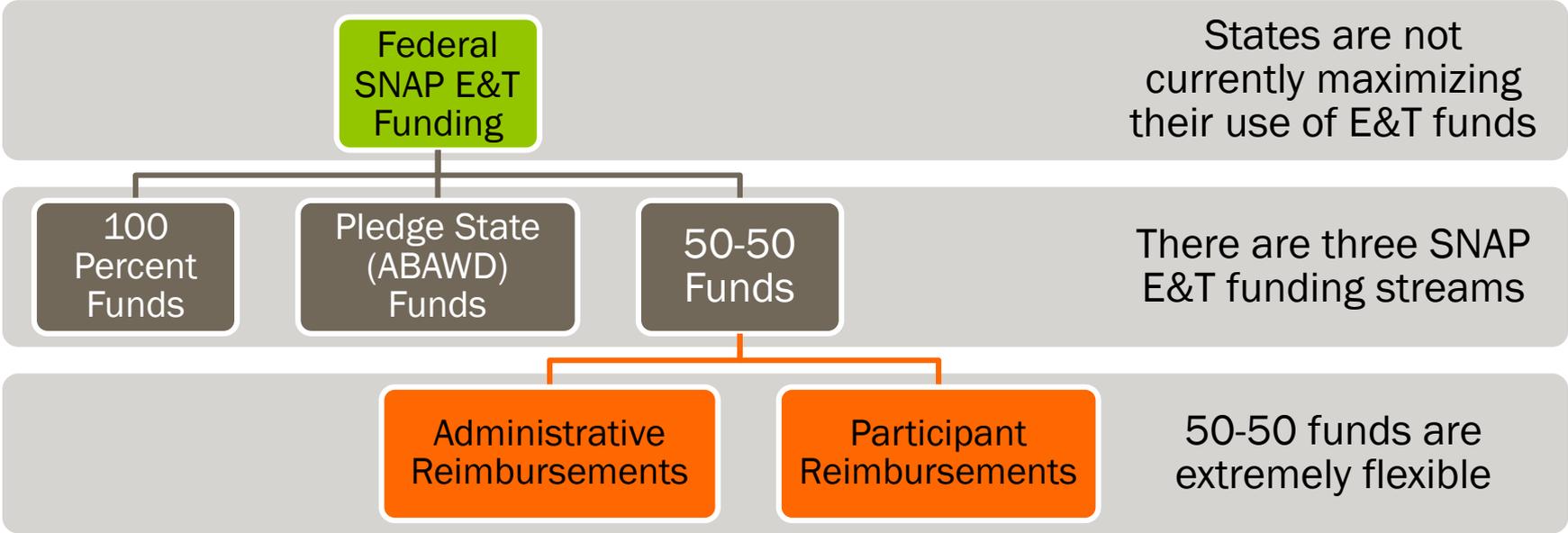
☞ SNAP E&T can pay for:

- Administrative costs
- Tuition
- Books and fees
- Transportation
- Child care
- Equipment and supplies needed for training
- Other supports deemed necessary and reasonable to participate in the program

☞ SNAP E&T participants must be provided with participant reimbursements (i.e. supportive services)



Structure of Federal SNAP E&T Funding



50-50 Reimbursement Funds



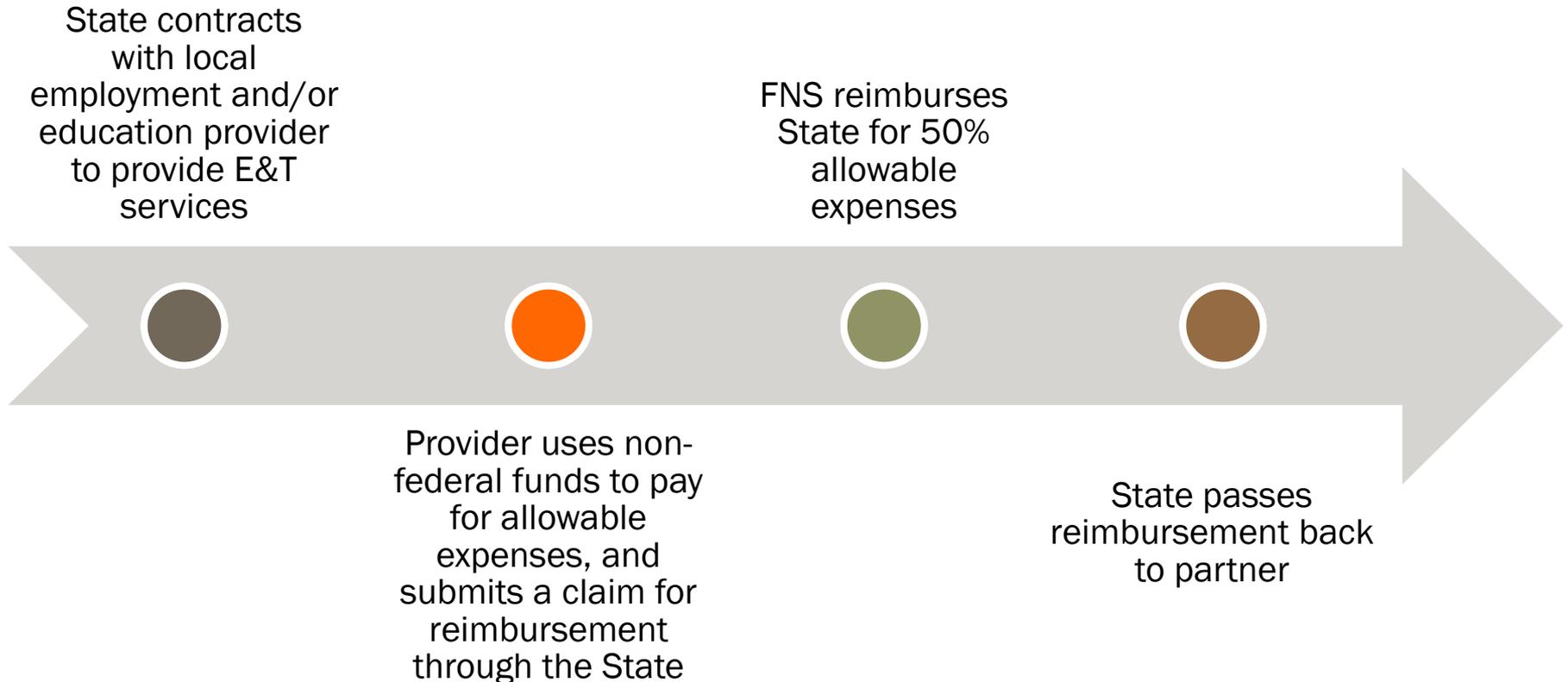
- ☞ Where the real potential of the program is
- ☞ Covers both administrative costs and participant costs
- ☞ Extremely flexible funding
 - Covers wide array of allowable costs
 - Can be aligned with other funding streams to fill in “gaps”
- ☞ Right now, this is largely an untapped resource

What is a Third-Party Partnership?

- ☞ Sometimes also referred to as third-party “match” programs or third-party reimbursement programs
- ☞ E&T services are provided by third parties, such as community colleges and community based organizations
- ☞ Partners pay for services and get reimbursed 50% through Federal funding



Third-Party Reimbursement Models



SNAP E&T and Community Colleges

Community colleges are:

- An integral part of the job-driven training system, often with existing connections to career pathway program, adult basic education, apprenticeships, and integrated learning models
- A point of entry for low-skilled job seekers
- An important link to employers
- Affordable and accessible

Ideal community college partners:

- Can expand existing capacity to serve new students or provide additional services
- Have administrative capacity to operate an E&T program
- Have access to sources of non-federal funds
- Offer additional resources to mitigate barriers and support participation (can be by partnering with CBOs)
- Track outcomes and continuously evaluates and improves programs

Use of E&T funds for community colleges

- E&T funds can pay for administrative costs, tuition, books and fees, equipment and supplies, transportation, child care, other supports deemed “reasonable and necessary”
- E&T funds can help SNAP recipients afford the transition into college until traditional financial aid is available
- States can use 100% grant funds to purchase training slots for SNAP recipients (can create whole classes)
- Colleges can use non-federal funds to pay for allowable costs and receive a 50% reimbursement

Show Me the Money



- ☞ State, county, or city funds
- ☞ Donations from private firms or non-profits
- ☞ Foundation funds
- ☞ Social venture funds (e.g. Goodwill store revenues)
- ☞ In-kind donations (*government entities only)
- ☞ *Community Development Block Grants (CDBG)
- ☞ State Need Grants
- ☞ State Worker Retraining Dollars
- ☞ State Opportunity Grants
- ☞ Tuition set-aside resources
- ☞ Other state training funds (ex-offender, homeless, non-custodial parents)

What to Read

☞ Visit our website:

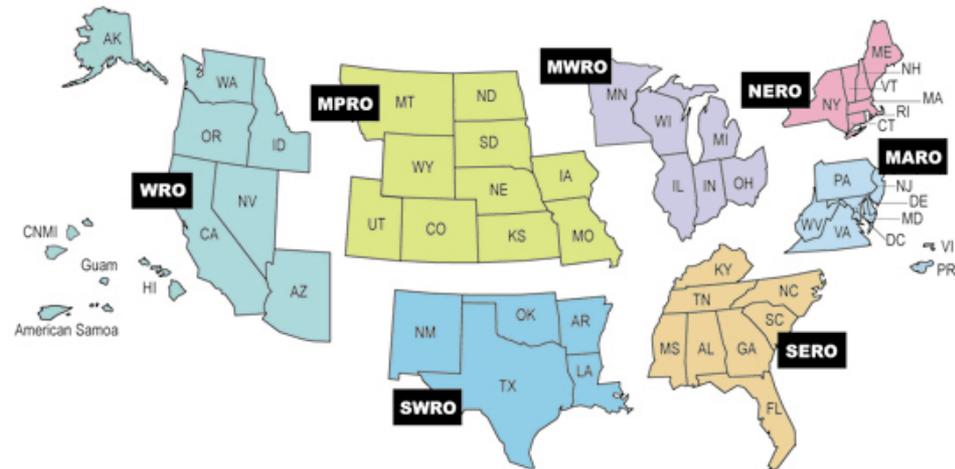
<https://SnapToSkills.fns.usda.gov>

- Sign up for the **SNAP E&T Review** monthly newsletter
- Refer to the **SNAP E&T Toolkit** for a tutorial on SNAP E&T policy
- Read *Why Now Is the Time for States to Build SNAP E&T Programs*

☞ Get involved now if your state is a SNAP to Skills state (AR, AZ, CA, MA, MD, MI, MN, MO, NC, and TN)

Who to Talk To

- ☞ Christine Ruggieri (NERO),
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- ☞ Derrick Dolphin (MARO),
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Health Insurance Marketplaces

**Minority Serving Community
Colleges convening
November 1, 2016**

Jeanette Contreras, MPP
Office of Communications,
Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services
Jeanette.Contreras@cms.hhs.gov



Marketplace Open Enrollment: November 1, 2016 – January 31, 2017

- 12.7 million Americans selected plans through the Health Insurance Marketplaces last year
 - Approximately 28% enrolled are ages 18-34 (3.5 million)
- Expecting to enroll 13.8 million this year
- 10.7 mil Americans are eligible for Marketplace coverage
 - 25% of those eligible for coverage are Hispanic
 - 12% of those eligible for coverage are African American
 - 3.2% of those eligible for coverage are Asian-Americans

Uninsured Rate Report

- National uninsured rate at historic low 8.6%
- Since October 2013 -
 - 4.2 million Latino adults gained coverage (a 11.3 percentage point drop);
 - 3 million African American adults gained coverage (a 11.8 percentage point drop); and
 - 6.1 million Young adults gained coverage (a 12.1 percentage point drop).
- Almost half of all uninsured individuals are ages 18-34

Young People and the Affordable Care Act

- Young adults have traditionally been the age group most likely to be uninsured.
- Before the Affordable Care Act, many young adults may not have been able to find affordable coverage because of a pre-existing condition.
- While young adults are generally healthier than the overall population, they are at elevated risk of a variety of health and safety risks.

Young Adults have several choices for health coverage

- A student health plan
- Coverage on a parent's plan
 - Up to age 26
- Medicaid coverage
- A Marketplace health plan



When Can You Enroll?

2017 Open Enrollment Period

November 1st 2016 – January 31st 2017

Special Enrollment Periods (SEP)



26TH BIRTHDAY

If you're on your parent's plan and you're turning 26



MARRIAGE

If you're saying "I do"



BABY OR ADOPTION

If you're having a baby or your family is growing



NEW ADDRESS

If you're opening the door to a new home



JOB CHANGE

If you're in the middle of a job transition

NOTE: You can apply for Medicaid and the Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP) coverage at any time.

4 Ways to Get Marketplace Coverage

4 Ways to Get Marketplace Coverage

Online

Visit HealthCare.gov to apply and enroll on the web.



Over the phone

Call the Marketplace Call Center at **1-800-318-2596**. TTY users should call **1-855-889-4325**. A customer service representative can help you apply and enroll over the phone.



In-person help

Get help from people in your community trained and certified to help you apply and enroll in the Marketplace. Visit Localhelp.HealthCare.gov, or call the Marketplace Call Center.



Paper application

If you don't have a computer or time to apply and enroll over the phone, you can fill out a paper application. Call the Marketplace Call Center to get an application or download a copy from HealthCare.gov.



Marketplace Call Center

- Serves consumers in Federally-facilitated and State-Partnership Marketplaces
 - 1-800-318-2596 (TTY 1-855-889-4325)
- Customer service representatives available 24/7
- Help with eligibility, enrollment, and referrals
- Assistance in English and Spanish
 - Oral interpretation for 240+ additional languages
- State-based Marketplaces have own call centers



Free, Confidential, In-Person Assistance



LocalHelp.Healthcare.gov &
AyudaLocal.CuidadoDeSalud.gov

 <https://localhelp.healthcare.gov/>

HealthCare.gov

Individuals & Families

Small Businesses

Find someone nearby to help you apply.

People and groups in your community can help you apply, pick a plan, and enroll – all for free. Most are available to meet in-person.

Enter your ZIP code or city and state

e.g., '33109' or 'Austin, TX'

How Your Organization Can Help- Apply to be a CAC

- Online applications accepted all year long
- Web-based training for assisters
- The FFMs will only designate organizations that:
 - Have processes in place to screen staff and volunteers who are CACs to ensure they protect personally identifiable information
 - Have experience providing social services to the community

<https://marketplace.cms.gov/technical-assistance-resources/assister-programs/cac.html>

Outreach and Enrollment

Working with Trusted Partners and Sources for Information

- Community and faith-based organizations
- Consumer and Patient advocacy groups
- Local and municipal social services agencies: County health, housing, homeless and food banks

Refer Clients to Local In Person Enrollment Assistance

- Free, confidential in-person enrollment assistance in the community
[LocalHelp.Healthcare.gov](https://www.localhelp.healthcare.gov)

Engage Local Media

- Engage local radio/television via PSAs, and online/print publications to raise awareness and promote enrollment sites

Resources: Marketplace.cms.gov

- **Healthcare.gov Earned Media & Public Awareness Toolkit:**
 - Drop in articles, PSA scripts, talking points, social media
- **Print Materials for Consumers/Events:**
 - Posters, fact sheets, brochures, postcards, infographics
- **Order CMS publications for FREE:** [ProductOrdering.CMS.hhs.gov](https://www.cms.gov/medicare/medicaid-support/publications)



Available in 17 other languages

5 things you can do to get ready to enroll

1. Visit HealthCare.gov

Learn more about the Health Insurance Marketplace, including Medicaid and the Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP).

2. Ask your employer if it offers health insurance

If your employer doesn't take advantage of the Small Business Health Options Program (SHOP), or offer other health coverage, you may need to get coverage through the Marketplace or other sources.

3. Make a list of questions you have before it's time to choose your health plan

For example, "Can I stay with my current doctor?" or "Will this plan cover my health costs when I'm traveling?"

4. Gather basic information about your household income

You'll need income information like the kind you get on your W-2, pay stubs, or tax return.

5. Set your budget

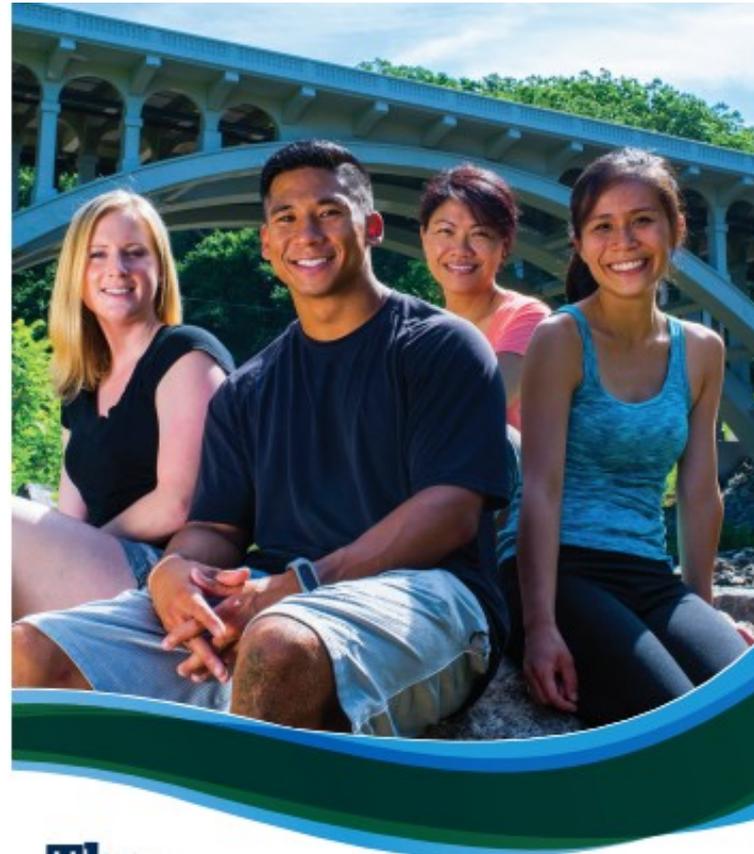
There are different types of health plans to meet a variety of needs and budgets. You'll need to figure out how much you're able to spend on premiums each month, and how much you want to pay out-of-pocket for prescriptions or medical services.

You have the right to get the information in this product in an alternate format. You also have the right to file a complaint if you feel you've been discriminated against. Visit <https://www.cms.gov/About-CMS/Agency-Information/Aboutwebsite/CMSNonDiscriminationNotice.html>, or call the Marketplace Call Center at 1-800-318-2596 for more information. TTY users should call 1-855-889-4325.



Health Insurance Marketplace

CMS Product No. 11629
Revised July 2016



The Health Insurance Marketplace

Healthcare.gov/blog

https://www.healthcare.gov/blog/

HealthCare.gov Individuals & Families Small Businesses Español

Get Coverage Change or Update Your Plan Get Answers See Topics ▾ Search

HealthCare.gov Blog

September 29, 2016

5 tips to get ready for 2017 Marketplace Open Enrollment

Open Enrollment for a 2017 Health Insurance Marketplace plan is almost here.

[Continue Reading 5 tips to get ready for 2017 Marketplace Open Enrollment](#)

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Words2Know: Out-of-Network by HealthCare.gov 190 views 5 days ago 0:47

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1-877-KIDS-NOW (1-877-543-7669)

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Initiatives



Millions of children and teens qualify for free or low-cost health and dental coverage through Medicaid & the Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP).

[Learn about coverage options](#) for your family or help us spread the word about free or low-cost health insurance coverage!



Find a Dentist

Use the Dentist Locator to find a dentist in your community who sees children and accepts Medicaid and CHIP.

Find a Dentist in Your State

New Outreach Materials!

Check out the newest outreach materials available in our Outreach Library.



Explore the Library

Read Our Latest Newsletter

A+ Back-to-School Outreach and Enrollment Efforts

August 25, 2016



Read the Newsletter

Check Out The Latest Webinar

Increasing Medicaid & CHIP Enrollment in Hispanic Communities

September 14, 2016



Increasing Medicaid and CHIP Enrollment in Hispanic Communities

September 14, 2016
2:00 PM EDT

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Get Coverage

Change or Update Your Plan

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SEARCH

Open Enrollment starts soon. Are you ready?

First time applying here?

GET READY TO APPLY

Have a 2016 Marketplace plan?

GET READY TO KEEP/CHANGEHave a 2016 plan in Kentucky? [Learn about using HealthCare.gov for 2017.](#)

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- Marketplace.CMS.Gov for updates and outreach resources

Open Enrollment 2017

November 1, 2016 – January 31, 2017