

Legal Notice – Premium Assistance Under Medicaid and the CHIP Program

Premium Assistance Under Medicaid and the Children’s Health Insurance Program (CHIP)

Jackson County will allow a special enrollment opportunity if you or your eligible dependents either:

- Lose Medicaid or Children’s Health Insurance Program (CHIP) coverage because you are no longer eligible; or
- Become eligible for a state’s premium assistance program under Medicaid or CHIP.

For these new enrollment opportunities, you will have 60 days – instead of 31 – from the date of the Medicaid/CHIP eligibility change to request enrollment in the Jackson County health plan. Note that this new 60-day extension does not apply to enrollment opportunities other than the Medicaid/CHIP eligibility change.

If you or your children are eligible for Medicaid or CHIP and you’re eligible for health coverage from your employer, your state may have a premium assistance program that can help pay for coverage, using funds from their Medicaid or CHIP programs. If you or your children aren’t eligible for Medicaid or CHIP, you won’t be eligible for these premium assistance programs but you may be able to buy individual insurance coverage through the Health Insurance Marketplace. For more information, visit www.healthcare.gov.

If you or your dependents are already enrolled in Medicaid or CHIP and you live in a State listed below, contact your State Medicaid or CHIP office to find out if premium assistance is available.

If you or your dependents are NOT currently enrolled in Medicaid or CHIP, and you think you or any of your dependents might be eligible for either of these programs, contact your State Medicaid or CHIP office or dial **1-877-KIDS NOW** or www.insurekidsnow.gov to find out how to apply. If you qualify, ask your state if it has a program that might help you pay the premiums for an employer-sponsored plan.

If you or your dependents are eligible for premium assistance under Medicaid or CHIP, as well as eligible under your employer plan, your employer must allow you to enroll in your employer plan if you aren’t already enrolled. This is called a “special enrollment” opportunity, and **you must request coverage within 60 days of being determined eligible for premium assistance**. If you have questions about enrolling in your employer plan, contact the Department of Labor at <http://www.askebsa.dol.gov> or call **1-866-444-EBSA (3272)**.

If you live in one of the following states, you may be eligible for assistance paying your employer health plan premiums. The following list of states is current as of January 31, 2020. Contact your State for more information on eligibility –

Georgia – Medicaid

Medicaid Website: <https://medicaid.georgia.gov/health-insurance-premium-payment-program-hipp>

Phone: 1-678-564-1162 ext 2131

North Carolina – Medicaid

Medicaid Website: <https://medicaid.ncdhhs.gov>

Medicaid Phone: 919-855-4100

South Carolina – Medicaid

Medicaid Website: <http://www.scdhhs.gov>

Medicaid Phone: 1-888-549-0820

To see if any other states have added a premium assistance program since July 31, 2019, or for more information on special enrollment rights, contact either:

U.S. Department of Labor
Employee Benefits Security Administration
<https://www.dol.gov/agencies/ebsa>
1-866-444-EBSA (3272)

U.S. Department of Health and Human Services
Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services
<http://www.cms.hhs.gov>
1-877-267-2323, Menu Option 4, Ext. 61565