



What's in Health Reform for Young Adults

Health Reform Provides Young Adults with Greater Choices

- Young adults are just starting jobs and careers, and often lack access to job-based coverage. Even when they do have access, they often cannot afford to buy expensive health insurance. Reform will offer coverage through a health insurance Exchange to those without job-based coverage and provide premium assistance to those who still cannot afford it.
- The health insurance exchange includes a “catastrophic-only” coverage option so young adults can decide how much coverage they want. The Exchange will provide a wide variety of private choices to ensure increased competition.
- The health insurance Exchange will provide standardized, easy-to-understand information on health insurance plans offered in a geographic region so young adults can easily compare prices and plans and decide which quality affordable option is right for them.
- Insurers will be required to permit children to stay on family policies until age 26. This provision takes effect later this year and applies to all new plans in any market, existing plans in the individual market, and existing employer plans. Approximately 65 insurers have decided to begin covering young adults voluntarily before the September 23rd implementation date.

Health Reform Saves Young Adults Money

- Health reform caps what insurance companies can require in out-of-pocket expenses, such as co-pays and deductibles. It eliminates lifetime limits on how much insurance companies cover if a young adult gets sick and restricts the use of annual limits.
- Health reform requires annual reviews of health insurance premium increases to track arbitrary increases, crack down on excessive insurance overhead, and apply standards on how much insurance companies can spend on non-medical costs, such as bureaucracy and advertising.

Health Reform Helps Young Adults Obtain More Affordable Health Insurance

- Health reform provides premium tax credits to limit the amount an individual spends on their health care premiums from two% of income at 100% of the Federal Poverty Level (FPL) to 9.5% of income from 300-400% of the FPL.
- Health reform provides cost-sharing credits to reduce the amount of cost-sharing that lower-income individuals are responsible for to no more than 10% of total benefit costs for those between 100-150% of the FPL and no more than 20% for those between 150-200% of the FPL.

Health Reform Provides Young Adults with Insurance Security

- Young adults frequently change jobs, move, or hold part-time or temporary jobs. Health reform ensures they will always have quality, affordable health insurance choices, regardless of life changes.

Health Reform Provides Young Adults with Access to Preventive Care

- Health reform ensures that all Americans have access to free preventive services through their health insurance plans and invests in prevention and public health to encourage innovations in health care that prevent illness and disease before they require more costly treatment. Simple prevention can stop a small health problem from getting worse.