

Affordable Care Act (ACA)

Health Insurance Market Place

Notice

January 1, 2025

Volunteer State Community College is required to provide the attached notice to all employees (full and part-time) as part of The Affordable Care Act (ACA).

The attached federally mandated notice is to provide you with information you need to know regarding this law and how you can participate in the new Health Insurance Marketplace.

- At this time, you are eligible to enroll in the State of Tennessee group health insurance program during the Annual Enrollment Transfer period (First two weeks of October) for a January 1st effective date. ***If you are currently enrolled in coverage through VSCC and do not wish to make changes to your coverage, no action is necessary.***
- For information regarding the health insurance plans available to you as a regular benefited employee, please visit our web page at <https://www.tn.gov/partnersforhealth.html>
- For questions regarding State of Tennessee group health insurance coverage and your eligibility, please contact the Office of Human Resources at 615-230-3592.

If you decide to shop for coverage in the Marketplace, please visit www.HealthCare.gov . The attached notice provides you with information about your health insurance eligibility and will assist you in making decisions about the Health Insurance Marketplace.

New Health Insurance Marketplace Coverage

Form Approved
OMB No. 1210-0149

Options and Your Health Coverage

PART A: General Information

There is a new way to buy health insurance: the Health Insurance Marketplace. To assist you as you evaluate options for you and your family, this notice provides some basic information about the new Marketplace and employment based health coverage offered by your employer.

What is the Health Insurance Marketplace?

The Marketplace is designed to help you find health insurance that meets your needs and fits your budget. The Marketplace offers "one-stop shopping" to find and compare private health insurance options. You may also be eligible for a new kind of tax credit that lowers your monthly premium right away. Open enrollment for health insurance coverage through the Marketplace is held annually in the fall. Check the www.healthcare.gov website for more information and deadlines.

Can I Save Money on my Health Insurance Premiums in the Marketplace?

You may qualify to save money and lower your monthly premium, but only if your employer does not offer coverage, or offers coverage that doesn't meet certain standards. The savings on your premium that you're eligible for depends on your household income.

Does Employer Health Coverage Affect Eligibility for Premium Savings through the Marketplace?

Yes. If you have an offer of health coverage from your employer that meets certain standards, you will not be eligible for a tax credit through the Marketplace and may wish to enroll in your employer's health plan. However, you may be eligible for a tax credit that lowers your monthly premium, or a reduction in certain cost-sharing if your employer does not offer coverage to you at all or does not offer coverage that meets certain standards. If the cost of a plan from your employer that would cover you (and not any other members of your family) is more than 9.5% of your household income for the year, or if the coverage your employer provides does not meet the "minimum value" standard set by the Affordable Care Act, you may be eligible for a tax credit.¹

Note: If you purchase a health plan through the Marketplace instead of accepting health coverage offered by your employer, then you may lose the employer contribution (if any) to the employer-offered coverage. Also, this employer contribution -as well as your employee contribution to employer-offered coverage- is often excluded from income for Federal and State income tax purposes. Your payments for coverage through the Marketplace are made on an after-tax basis.

How Can I Get More Information?

For more information about your coverage offered by your employer, please check your summary plan description or contact [redacted].

The Marketplace can help you evaluate your coverage options, including your eligibility for coverage through the Marketplace and its cost. Please visit HealthCare.gov for more information, including an online application for health insurance coverage and contact information for a Health Insurance Marketplace in your area.

¹ An employer-sponsored health plan meets the "minimum value standard" if the plan's share of the total allowed benefit costs covered by the plan is no less than 60 percent of such costs.

PART B: Information About Health Coverage Offered by Your Employer

This section contains information about any health coverage offered by your employer. If you decide to complete an application for coverage in the Marketplace, you will be asked to provide this information. This information is numbered to correspond to the Marketplace application.

3. Employer name		4. Employer Identification Number (EIN)	
5. Employer address		6. Employer phone number	
7. City	8. State	9. ZIP code	
10. Who can we contact about employee health coverage at this job?			
11. Phone number (if different from above)		12. Email address	

Here is some basic information about health coverage offered by this employer:

- As your employer, we offer a health plan to:
 - ☐ All employees.
 - ☒ Some employees. Eligible employees are:
 - Full-time employees regularly scheduled to work at least 30 hours per week
 - Seasonal or part-time employees with 24 months of service and certified by their appointing authority to work at least 1,450 hours per fiscal year, (July–June) [per state law, will not apply to employees hired on or after July 1, 2015]
 - All other individuals cited in state statute, approved as an exception by the State Insurance Committee, or defined as full time employees for health insurance purposes by federal law
 - With respect to dependents:
 - ☒ We do offer coverage. Eligible dependents are:
 - Your spouse (legally married)
 - Natural or adopted children
 - Stepchildren
 - Children for whom you are the legal guardian
 - Children for whom the plan has qualified medical child support orders
 - ☐ We do not offer coverage.
- ☒ If checked, this coverage meets the minimum value standard, and the cost of this coverage to you is intended to be affordable, based on employee wages.

** Even if your employer intends your coverage to be affordable, you may still be eligible for a premium discount through the Marketplace. The Marketplace will use your household income, along with other factors, to determine whether you may be eligible for a premium discount. If, for example, your wages vary from week to week (perhaps you are an hourly employee or you work on a commission basis), if you are newly employed mid-year, or if you have other income losses, you may still qualify for a premium discount.

If you decide to shop for coverage in the Marketplace, [HealthCare.gov](https://www.healthcare.gov) will guide you through the process. Here's the employer information you'll enter when you visit [HealthCare.gov](https://www.healthcare.gov) to find out if you can get a tax credit to lower your monthly premiums.

The information below corresponds to the Marketplace Employer Coverage Tool. Completing this section is optional for employers, but will help ensure employees understand their coverage choices.

13. Is the employee currently eligible for coverage offered by this employer, or will the employee be eligible in the next 3 months?

☐ **Yes** (Continue)

13a. If the employee is not eligible today, including as a result of a waiting or probationary period, when is the employee eligible for coverage? _____ (mm/dd/yyyy) (Continue)

☐ **No** (STOP and return this form to employee)

14. Does the employer offer a health plan that meets the minimum value standard*?

☒ **Yes** (Go to question 15) ☐ **No** (STOP and return form to employee)

15. For the lowest-cost plan that meets the minimum value standard* offered **only to the employee (don't include family plans): If the employer has wellness programs, provide the premium that the employee would pay if he/she received the maximum discount for any tobacco cessation programs, and didn't receive any other discounts based on wellness programs.**

a. How much would the employee have to pay in premiums for this plan? \$71.00

b. How often? ☐ Weekly ☐ Every 2 weeks ☐ Twice a month ☒ Monthly ☐ Quarterly ☐ Yearly

• An employer-sponsored health plan meets the "minimum value standard" if the plan's share of the total allowed benefit costs covered by the plan is no less than 60 percent of such costs (Section 36B(c)(2)(C)(ii) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986)