

COBRA Coverage And The Marketplace

PENDING COBRA PARTICIPANTS CAN ELECT COVERAGE UNDER THE HEALTH INSURANCE EXCHANGES WITH POTENTIALLY REDUCED COSTS!

If you have received a COBRA notice due to a COBRA Qualifying Event relating to your loss of coverage, you may enroll in the Exchanges during the Special Enrollment Period (SEP). The Special Enrollment Period begins when you lose your job-based group health coverage and ends 60 days later. Once this 60-day Special Enrollment Period has expired, no Exchange coverage or premium subsidies are available until the following Open Enrollment period.

COBRA and the Health Insurance Marketplace:

When you leave or lose a job, you may be able to keep your job-based health coverage for a period, usually up to 18 months. This is called <u>COBRA continuation coverage</u>. With COBRA coverage, you usually have to pay the entire monthly premium yourself, plus a small administrative fee. Your former employer no longer pays any of your insurance costs.

Health Insurance Marketplace coverage instead of COBRA:

When you lose your job-based group health coverage, you have the option to choose a Marketplace place plan vs COBRA during the <u>special enrollment period</u>. This means you can enroll in a private health plan through the Marketplace. **You may qualify for <u>tax</u>** <u>credits that can lower your monthly premiums</u> and for lower <u>out-of-pocket costs</u>. This will depend on your household size and income.

When you fill out a Marketplace application you'll also find out if you qualify for <u>Medicaid</u> and the <u>Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP).</u>