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HHS Office of Intergovernmental and External Affairs

News Bulletin: Friday, February 8th, 2013

Visit [HealthCare.Gov](#) and [CuidadodeSalud.Gov](#), two consumer-focused health care websites to: [find insurance options](#), [learn about prevention](#), [compare care quality](#), and [learn about the law](#). How is the Affordable Care Act helping you? Share your story [here](#).

Secretary's Corner

* February 4, 2013

Secretary Kathleen Sebelius made a statement about African-American History Month. : we celebrate the beginning of African-American History Month and honor the remarkable contributions that African-Americans have made to the nation's progress. At HHS, we honor the opportunities in public health, medicine, and scientific research made possible by leading African-Americans across the country." View the full release [here](#).

* February 4, 2013

Secretary Kathleen Sebelius made a statement about American Heart Month. "February 1st marked the beginning of American Heart Month, a time to think about what you can do to take care of your heart. The Department of Health and Human Services is working with public and private partners to help Americans take care of their hearts and raise awareness of heart disease through our various research efforts and programs." View the full release [here](#).

Affordable Care Act News

* February 7, 2013

This second annual report details how millions of seniors and people with disabilities with Medicare continued to experience lower costs on prescription drugs and improved benefits in 2012 because of the Affordable Care Act. View the full release [here](#).

* February 6, 2013

The Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) posted a set of frequently asked questions to the Center for Medicaid and CHIP Services (CMCS) Medicaid.gov website discussing a range of issues including the Basic Health Program, the new FMAs and how states qualify, MAGI issues, and the coverage of pregnant women and children. View the FAQ [here](#).

* February 6, 2013

The National Health Service Corps awarded more than \$10 million in funding for loan repayment to 87 medical students in 29 states, the District of Columbia and Puerto Rico, who will serve as primary care doctors and help strengthen the health care workforce, Department of Health and Human Services Secretary Kathleen Sebelius announced today. View the full release [here](#).

* February 4, 2013

Reforms to Medicare regulations identified as unnecessary, obsolete, or excessively burdensome on hospitals and health care providers would save nearly \$676 million annually, and \$3.4 billion over five years, through a rule proposed today by the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid services (CMS). The proposed rule supports President Obama's call on federal agencies to modify, streamline regulations on business. View the full release [here](#).

* February 4, 2013

The Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) announced a new initiative designed to identify, test, and evaluate new ways to improve care for Medicare beneficiaries with End-Stage Renal Disease (ESRD). Through the Comprehensive ESRD Care initiative, CMS will partner with health care providers and suppliers to test the effectiveness of a new payment and service delivery model in providing these beneficiaries with patient-centered, high-quality care. View the full release [here](#).

Healthcare.gov Blog

* February 7, 2013

Secretary Kathleen Sebelius wrote a blog to discuss how the ACA saves seniors billions on prescription drugs. "For the third straight year, the Affordable Care Act provided millions of American seniors and people with disabilities on Medicare lower costs on prescription drugs and improved benefits. Since the health care law's enactment, 6.1 million Medicare beneficiaries have saved over \$5.7 billion on prescription drugs." View the full post [here](#).

* February 4, 2013

Secretary Kathleen Sebelius wrote a blog to discuss American Heart Month. "February is American Heart Month, which makes this a good time to talk about the ways the Affordable Care Act helps us take better care of our hearts. Right now, heart disease is the leading cause of death in the United States." View the full post [here](#).

Brochures & Educational Materials

Below you'll find brochures and materials related to the implementation of the Affordable Care Act. For other brochures and resources visit: <http://www.healthcare.gov/news/brochures/index.html>.

* [ACA Educational PowerPoints](#)

The Top Five Things You Need to Know

* [Families with Children](#) (PDF – English 7.27 MB, Spanish 1.23 MB)

* [Health Care Providers](#) (PDF – English 2.71 MB, Spanish 517 KB)

* [People with Disabilities](#) (PDF – English 2.56 MB, Spanish 930 KB)

* [Seniors](#) (PDF – English 11.3 MB, Spanish 1.54 MB)

* [Small Business Owners](#) (PDF – English 4.22 MB, Spanish 646 KB)

* [Young Adults](#) (PDF – English 6.56 MB, Spanish 919 KB)

Information for Consumers and Small Businesses

* [The Health Care Law & You](#) (PDF – 8.99 MB)

* [Information for Small Businesses](#) (PDF – 763 KB)

MyCare: Videos and Stories

Find videos and stories related to how the Affordable Care Act has helped individuals across the country. <http://www.healthcare.gov/mycare/stories.html>

The Affordable Care Act at Two Years

* [The Affordable Care Act and Women](#)

* [The Affordable Care Act Gives American Families Greater Control Over Their Own Health Care](#)

* [The Affordable care Act Gives Parents Greater Control Over Their Children's Health Care](#)

* [The Affordable Care Act Helps Young Adults](#)

* [The Affordable Care Act Helps Seniors](#)

- ✧ [The Affordable Care Act Helps African Americans](#)
- ✧ [The Affordable Care Act Helps Latinos](#)
- ✧ [The Affordable Care Act Helps Rural America](#)
- ✧ [The Affordable Care Act Helps Women](#)
- ✧ [The Affordable Care Act Helps Small Businesses](#)
- ✧ [The Affordable Care Act Helps Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders](#)
- ✧ [The Affordable Care Act Helps American Indians and Alaska Natives](#)
- ✧ [The Affordable Care Act Helps Americans with Disabilities](#)
- ✧ [The Affordable Care Act Helps LGBT Americans](#)
- ✧ [Health Reform for American Veterans and Military Personnel](#)

State by State Fact Sheets

Choose your state to learn more about the immediate benefits of the Affordable Care Act.

- ✧ [State By State Fact Sheets](#)
- ✧ [Learn the facts and statistics about how the Affordable Care Act will benefit each state.](#)

Regulations and Guidance

Regulations and guidance are used to implement many of the Affordable Care Act provisions that address both private and public health insurance.

- ✧ [Standards Related to Reinsurance, Risk Corridors and Risk Adjustment](#)
- ✧ [Eligibility Changes under Affordable Care Act](#)
- ✧ [Certain Preventive Services under Affordable Care Act](#)
- ✧ [Student Health Insurance Coverage](#)

Grants

The Affordable Care Act creates a number of new grant opportunities. Below, you will find links to the grant centers for the agencies administering these grants. There, and at [Grants.gov](#), you can search for relevant grant opportunities.

- ✧ [CDC National Public Health Improvement Initiative \(NPHII\) Grants](#)
- ✧ [Center for Consumer Information and Insurance Oversight Grants](#)
- ✧ [Administration for Children and Families Grants](#)
- ✧ [Administration on Aging Grants](#)
- ✧ [Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality](#)

- ✧ [Health Resources and Services Administration Grants](#)
- ✧ [Indian Health Service Grants](#)
- ✧ [National Institutes of Health Grants](#)
- ✧ [Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration Grants](#)

Special Programs

Several new programs across the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services support the work of the Affordable Care Act. You will find information about these programs on this page.

- ✧ [Partnership for Patients: Better Care, Lower Costs](#)

Councils & Groups

The Affordable Care Act establishes a number of councils and groups to carry out provisions in the law. To learn more about the organizations, click on a link below:

- ✧ [Center for Consumer Information and Insurance Oversight \(CCIIO\)](#)
- ✧ [Center for Medicare and Medicaid Innovation](#)
- ✧ [Interagency Working Group on Health Care Quality](#)
- ✧ [National Prevention, Health Promotion and Public Health Council](#)