

Health Insurance Marketplace

Here's a quick rundown on the most important things to know about the Health Insurance Marketplace, sometimes known as the health insurance "exchange."

<https://www.healthcare.gov/marketplace/individual/#state=virginia>

If you have questions about the Health Insurance Marketplace, you can call 1-800-318-2596, 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. TTY users should call 1-855-889-4325.

Open enrollment ended January 31, 20XX. You can still get health insurance 2 ways:

- If you qualify for a [Special Enrollment Period](#) due to a life event like losing other coverage, getting married, or having a baby.
- If you qualify for [Medicaid or the Children's Health Insurance Program \(CHIP\)](#). You can apply any time.

When you apply for coverage in the Health Insurance Marketplace, you'll need to provide some information about you and your household, including income, any insurance you currently have, and some additional items. Use the checklist below to help you gather what you need to apply for coverage:

- Social Security Numbers (or document numbers for legal immigrants)
- Employer and income information for every member of your household who needs coverage (for example, from pay stubs or W-2 forms—Wage and Tax Statements)
- Policy numbers for any current health insurance plans covering members of your household
- A completed Employer Coverage Tool (see page 2) for every job-based plan you or someone in your household is eligible for. (You'll need to fill out this form even for coverage you're eligible for but don't enroll in.)

4 categories of Marketplace insurance plans:

When you compare Marketplace insurance plans, they're put into 4 categories based on how you and the plan can expect to share the costs of care: Bronze, Silver, Gold and Platinum.

The category you choose affects how much your [premium](#) costs each month and what portion of the bill you pay for things like hospital visits or prescription medications. It also affects your total [out-of-pocket costs](#) —the total amount you'll spend for the year if you need lots of care.

What's the penalty if I don't have health coverage?

- The fee is \$695 per person (\$347.50 per child) or 2.5% of your household income, whichever is higher. [Get details on the penalty and who has to pay it.](#)
- Some people qualify for a [health coverage exemption](#), which means they don't have to play the penalty even if they don't have insurance. [Answer a few questions to see if you qualify for an exemption.](#)

You're considered covered if you have [Medicare](#), [Medicaid](#), [CHIP](#), any [job-based plan](#), any [plan you bought yourself](#), [COBRA](#), [retiree coverage](#), [TRICARE](#), [VA health coverage](#), or some other kinds of health coverage.