



UNDER THE MICROSCOPE

APRIL 1, 2013

STATE HEALTH INSURANCE MARKETPLACES (EXCHANGES): WHERE ARE THE STATES?

ISSUE.

Since the Supreme Court ruled the Affordable Care Act (ACA) to be Constitutional 9 months ago, the states have been deciding whether and how they will embrace their roles in ACA implementation. Some jurisdictions have moved forward rapidly; others have lagged; and still others have resisted, when it comes to creating the Health Insurance Marketplace – a core element of the ACA that used to be referred to as a “Health Insurance Exchange.”

As a reminder, the Health Insurance Marketplace is an online mechanism designed to organize a state’s health insurance opportunities in a way that helps consumers and small businesses shop for coverage. The Health Insurance Marketplace provides information that facilitates easy comparison of available plans and options that are based on price, benefits and services, and quality. Further, by pooling people together, reducing transaction costs, and increasing transparency, Health Insurance Marketplaces help create more efficient, competitive markets for both individuals and small employers, much the way economies of scale are achieved in health coverage by large employers and programs like Medicaid.

By 2014, Marketplaces will enable individuals and small businesses to compare health plans, enroll in the best plan for their needs, and check their eligibility for tax credits for private insurance or for health programs like CHIP or Medicaid; While most Americans will continue to get insurance through their jobs, sliding-scale subsidies for Marketplace-purchased insurance will be available for individuals who do not qualify for Medicaid and who earn up to 400% of the poverty level, (roughly \$43,560 this year).

States across the country received federal [grants](#) to establish new Health Insurance Marketplaces. The states were given three options. They could—

- (1) Create and operate their own marketplace, a **State-Operated Marketplace**;
- (2) Create a hybrid— a **State Partnership Marketplace**—in which the state runs certain functions and is allowed to make key decisions and tailor the marketplace to local needs and market conditions; or
- (3) Leave the job of establishing and operating a Marketplace to the federal government—a **Federally Facilitated Marketplace**.

Whatever form they ultimately take, each state’s Health Insurance Marketplace will begin open enrollment on October 1, 2013, and begin insurance coverage on January 1, 2014.

This *Under the Microscope* provides a snapshot of where each of the states stands at this point in time regarding creation of a Health Insurance Marketplace. Remember, states have degrees of freedom related to how they structure and provide information through the Marketplace. Transparency and simplicity are critical if the Marketplace is to function as the ACA intends for both consumer and small employer. That’s why you need to get involved and stay involved. Explore just what your state has planned for its Marketplace. Is it readily accessible to the people we serve? Will its content be readily understood to facilitate sound decisionmaking by consumers and small employers? Are there gaps in behavioral health and I/DD service coverage? Review what is available with an eye toward the best outcomes for people with behavioral disorders or I/DDs, especially those at greatest risk for co-occurring illnesses and in greatest need for coordinated care.

ANALYSIS.

The table that follows provides an up-to-the-minute snapshot of where the 50 states and the District of Columbia stand on establishing Health Insurance Marketplaces. Overall, 25 states and the District of Columbia have told DHHS that they either will create their own Marketplace (18) or will partner with HHS to do so (7). The remaining 26 states have defaulted to a Federally Facilitated Marketplace, established and managed by DHHS. In essence, these states have decided not to assume responsibility for managing this new insurance in their own states. Where available, we provide links to state-established Marketplace websites and share other known information about this key element of ACA implementation.

STATE	STATE OPERATED MARKETPLACE	STATE PARTNERSHIP MARKETPLACE	FEDERAL LY FACILITATED MARKETPLACE	OTHER INFORMATION
Alabama			x	<i>Type of Marketplace:</i> NA <i>Structure:</i> NA <i>Name:</i> NA <i>Website:</i> NA <i>Federal Approval:</i> NA
Alaska			x	<i>Type of Marketplace:</i> NA <i>Structure:</i> NA <i>Name:</i> NA <i>Website:</i> NA <i>Federal Approval:</i> NA
Arizona			x	<i>Type of Marketplace:</i> NA <i>Structure:</i> NA <i>Name:</i> NA <i>Website:</i> NA <i>Federal Approval:</i> NA
Arkansas#		x		<i>Type of Marketplace:</i> TBA <i>Structure:</i> TBA <i>Name:</i> TBA <i>Website:</i> TBA <i>Federal Approval:</i> Conditional Approval
California	x			<i>Type of Marketplace:</i> Clearinghouse <i>Structure:</i> Quasi-governmental <i>Name:</i> California Health Benefit Exchange <i>Website:</i> http://www.healthexchange.ca.gov/Pages/Default.aspx <i>Federal Approval:</i> Conditional Approval
Colorado	x			<i>Type of Marketplace:</i> Clearinghouse <i>Structure:</i> Quasi-govenmental <i>Name:</i> Connect for Health Colorado <i>Marketplace website is at:</i> http://www.getcoveredco.org/Index <i>Federal Approval:</i> Conditional Approval
Connecticut	x			<i>Type of Marketplace:</i> Clearinghouse <i>Structure:</i> Quasi-governmental <i>Name:</i> Access Health CT <i>Marketplace website is at:</i> http://www.ct.gov/hix/site/default.asp <i>Federal Approval:</i> Conditional Approval
Delaware		x		<i>Type of Marketplace:</i> NA <i>Structure:</i> NA <i>Name:</i> TBA <i>Website:</i> TBA <i>Federal Approval:</i> Conditional Approval
District of Columbia	x			<i>Type of Marketplace:</i> Clearinghouse <i>Structure:</i> Quasi-governmental <i>Name:</i> DC Health Reform <i>Marketplace website is at:</i> http://healthreform.dc.gov/DC/Health+Reform <i>Federal Approval:</i> Conditional Approval

STATE	STATE OPERATED MARKETPLACE	STATE PARTNERSHIP MARKETPLACE	FEDERALLY FACILITATED MARKETPLACE	OTHER INFORMATION
Florida			x	Type of Marketplace: NA Structure: NA Name: NA Website: NA Federal Approval: NA
Georgia			x	Type of Marketplace: NA Structure: NA Name: NA Website: NA Federal Approval: NA
Hawaii	x			Type of Marketplace: Clearinghouse Structure: Nonprofit Name: Hawai'i Health Connector Marketplace website is at: http://www.hawaiihealthconnector.com Federal Approval: Conditional Approval
Idaho	x			Type of Marketplace: TBD Structure: TBD Name: Idaho Health Insurance Exchange Marketplace website is at: http://www.healthexchange.idaho.gov Federal Approval: Conditional Approval
Illinois		x		Type of Marketplace: NA Structure: NA Name: TBD Website: TBD Federal Approval: Conditional Approval
Indiana			x	Type of Marketplace: NA Structure: NA Name: NA Website: NA Federal Approval: NA
Iowa		x		Type of Marketplace: TBD Structure: TBD Name: TBD Website: TBD Federal Approval: Conditional Approval
Kansas**			x	Type of Marketplace: NA Structure: NA Name: NA Website: NA Federal Approval: NA
Kentucky	x			Type of Marketplace: TBD Structure: State-operated Name: Kentucky Health Benefit Exchange Marketplace website is at: http://healthbenefitexchange.ky.gov/Pages/home.aspx Federal Approval: Conditional Approval
Louisiana			x	Type of Marketplace: NA Structure: NA Name: NA Website: NA Federal Approval: NA
Maine			x	Type of Marketplace: NA Structure: NA Name: NA Website: NA Federal Approval: NA

STATE	STATE OPERATED MARKETPLACE	STATE PARTNERSHIP MARKETPLACE	FEDERALLY FACILITATED MARKETPLACE	OTHER INFORMATION
Maryland	x			<i>Type of Marketplace:</i> Clearinghouse <i>Structure:</i> Quasi-governmental <i>Name:</i> Maryland Health Benefit Exchange <i>Marketplace website is at:</i> http://marylandhbe.com <i>Federal Approval:</i> Conditional Approval
Massachusetts	x			<i>Type of Marketplace:</i> Active purchaser <i>Structure:</i> Quasi-governmental <i>Name:</i> Massachusetts Health Connector <i>Marketplace website is at:</i> https://www.mahealthconnector.org/portal/site/connector <i>Federal Approval:</i> Conditional Approval
Michigan		x		<i>Type of Marketplace:</i> TBD <i>Structure:</i> TBD <i>Name:</i> TBD <i>Website:</i> TBD <i>Federal Approval:</i> Conditional Approval
Minnesota	x			<i>Type of Marketplace:</i> TBD <i>Structure:</i> TBD <i>Name:</i> MNSure <i>Marketplace website is at:</i> http://www.mn.gov/hix/ <i>Federal Approval:</i> Conditional Approval
Mississippi			x	<i>Type of Marketplace:</i> NA <i>Structure:</i> NA <i>Name:</i> NA <i>Website:</i> NA <i>Federal Approval:</i> State-based blueprint rejected
Missouri			x	<i>Type of Marketplace:</i> NA <i>Structure:</i> NA <i>Name:</i> NA <i>Website:</i> NA <i>Federal Approval:</i> NA
Montana*			x	<i>Type of Marketplace:</i> NA <i>Structure:</i> NA <i>Name:</i> NA <i>Website:</i> NA <i>Federal Approval:</i> NA
Nebraska*			x	<i>Type of Marketplace:</i> NA <i>Structure:</i> NA <i>Name:</i> NA <i>Website:</i> NA <i>Federal Approval:</i> NA
Nevada	x			<i>Type of Marketplace:</i> Clearinghouse <i>Structure:</i> Quasi-governmental <i>Name:</i> Silver State Health Insurance Exchange <i>Marketplace website is at:</i> http://exchange.nv.gov <i>Federal Approval:</i> Conditional Approval
New Hampshire		x		<i>Type of Marketplace:</i> TBD <i>Structure:</i> TBD <i>Name:</i> TBD <i>Website:</i> TBD <i>Federal Approval:</i> Conditional Approval
New Jersey			x	<i>Type of Marketplace:</i> NA <i>Structure:</i> NA <i>Name:</i> NA <i>Website:</i> NA <i>Federal Approval:</i> NA

STATE	STATE OPERATED MARKETPLACE	STATE PARTNERSHIP MARKETPLACE	FEDERALLY FACILITATED MARKETPLACE	OTHER INFORMATION
New Mexico	x			<i>Type of Marketplace:</i> TBD <i>Structure:</i> Quasi-governmental <i>Name:</i> New Mexico Health Insurance Alliance <i>Marketplace website is at:</i> http://www.nmhia.com <i>Federal Approval:</i> Conditional approval
New York	x			<i>Type of Marketplace:</i> Active purchaser <i>Structure:</i> State-operated <i>Name:</i> New York Health Benefit Exchange <i>Marketplace website is at:</i> http://healthbenefitexchange.ny.gov <i>Federal Approval:</i> Conditional Approval
North Carolina			x	<i>Type of Marketplace:</i> NA <i>Structure:</i> NA <i>Name:</i> NA <i>Website:</i> NA <i>Federal Approval:</i> NA
North Dakota			x	<i>Type of Marketplace:</i> NA <i>Structure:</i> NA <i>Name:</i> NA <i>Website:</i> NA <i>Federal Approval:</i> NA
Ohio*#			x	<i>Type of Marketplace:</i> NA <i>Structure:</i> NA <i>Name:</i> NA <i>Website:</i> NA <i>Federal Approval:</i> NA
Oklahoma			x	<i>Type of Marketplace:</i> NA <i>Structure:</i> NA <i>Name:</i> NA <i>Website:</i> NA <i>Federal Approval:</i> NA
Oregon	x			<i>Type of Marketplace:</i> Active purchaser <i>Structure:</i> Quasi-governmental <i>Name:</i> Cover Oregon <i>Marketplace website is at:</i> http://coveroregon.com <i>Federal Approval:</i> Conditional Approval
Pennsylvania			x	<i>Type of Marketplace:</i> NA <i>Structure:</i> NA <i>Name:</i> NA <i>Website:</i> NA <i>Federal Approval:</i> NA
Rhode Island	x			<i>Type of Marketplace:</i> Active purchaser <i>Structure:</i> State operated <i>Name:</i> Rhode Island Health Benefits Exchange <i>Marketplace website is at:</i> http://www.governor.ri.gov/healthcare/message/ <i>Federal Approval:</i> Conditional Approval
South Carolina			x	<i>Type of Marketplace:</i> NA <i>Structure:</i> NA <i>Name:</i> NA <i>Website:</i> NA <i>Federal Approval:</i> NA
South Dakota			x	<i>Type of Marketplace:</i> NA <i>Structure:</i> NA <i>Name:</i> NA <i>Website:</i> NA <i>Federal Approval:</i> NA

STATE	STATE OPERATED MARKETPLACE	STATE PARTNERSHIP MARKETPLACE	FEDERALLY FACILITATED MARKETPLACE	OTHER INFORMATION
Tennessee			x	Type of Marketplace: NA Structure: NA Name: NA Website: NA Federal Approval: NA
Texas			x	Type of Marketplace: NA Structure: NA Name: NA Website: NA Federal Approval: NA
Utah	x ¹			Type of Marketplace: Clearinghouse Structure: State operated Name: Avenue H Marketplace website is at: http://www.avenueh.com Federal Approval: Pending
Vermont	x			Type of Marketplace: Structure: Name: Vermont Health Connect Marketplace website is at: http://dvha.vermont.gov/administration/health-benefit-exchange Federal Approval: Conditional Approval
Virginia			x	Type of Marketplace: NA Structure: NA Name: NA Website: NA Federal Approval: NA
Washington	x			Type of Marketplace: Clearinghouse Structure: Quasi-governmental Name: Washington Health Care Finder Marketplace website is at: http://wahbexchange.org Federal Approval: Conditional Approval
West Virginia		x		Type of Marketplace: TBD Structure: TBD Name: TBD Website: TBD Federal Approval: Conditional Approval
Wisconsin			x	Type of Marketplace: NA Structure: NA Name: NA Website: NA Federal Approval: NA
Wyoming			x	Type of Marketplace: NA Structure: NA Name: NA Website: NA Federal Approval: NA

Researched and written by Teddi Fine

* * Four states, KS, MT, NE, and OH, have received approval from HHS to conduct plan management activities to support certification of qualified health plans in the Federally Facilitated Marketplace.

¹ In February 2013, the Governor proposed to let Utah run small business part of Marketplace, leaving creation and management of individual Marketplace to Federal government. This is now pending a Federal response.

Arkansas and Ohio are considering using their Marketplaces for undertaking their Medicaid Expansions.