

Marketplace (Exchange) Notice – Your ACA Coverage Options

To assist you as you evaluate options for you and your family, this notice provides some basic information about the ACA Health Insurance Marketplace (the “exchange”) and employment based health coverage offered.

What is the Government-run Health Insurance Marketplace (exchange)?

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 tax credit that lowers your monthly premium right away. Open enrollment for health insurance coverage occurs on an annual basis, and Special enrollment Periods are available throughout the year to those with a qualifying life event such as marriage, divorce, birth or adoption of a child, loss of a job and other events.

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 and a reduction in plan cost-sharing if your employer a) does not offer coverage to you at all or b) does not offer coverage that meets certain standards. Specifically, if your cost for SELF-ONLY coverage on a plan offered to you by your employer is more than 9.5% of your household income for the year (plus all applicable adjustments for inflation), OR if the coverage your employer provides does not meet the "Minimum Value (MV) Standard" set by the Affordable Care Act, you may be eligible for a tax credit. ¹

Note: There may be some disadvantages if you purchase a health plan through the Marketplace instead of accepting coverage offered by your employer. First, current regulations generally prohibit employers from contributing funds toward non-group health premiums. This means that you will lose any employer premium contributions that would have otherwise been payable. Second, the costs paid toward employer-offered health coverage are generally excluded from income for Federal and State income tax purposes. However, payments for coverage through the Marketplace are made on an AFTER-tax basis.

When can I enroll in Health Insurance Coverage through the Marketplace?

You can enroll in a Marketplace health insurance plan during the annual Marketplace Open Enrollment Period. Open Enrollment varies by state but generally starts each Nov. 1 and continues through at least Dec. 15. Certain events may also trigger a midyear Special Enrollment Period, such as when getting married, having a baby or adopting a child, or losing eligibility for other health coverage.

How can I get more information?

For more information about your coverage offered by your employer, please check your coverage materials or contact Merrillville Community School Corporation at (219)650-5300 or mcsc.insurance@mvsc.k12.in.us. The Marketplace or a licensed insurance broker can help you evaluate your coverage options, including your eligibility for coverage through the Marketplace and its cost. Please visit HealthCare.gov to find more information.

¹ An employer-sponsored health plan meets the “Minimum Value (MV) 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 and meets other requirements.

Employer-Specific Information

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 Merrillville Community School Corporation		4. Employer Identification Number 35-1104431	
5. Employer address 6701 Delaware St.		6. Employer phone number (219)650-5300	
7. City Merrillville	8. State IN	9. Zip code 46410	
10. Who can we contact about employee health coverage at this job? Andrea Hunter			
11. Phone number (if different from above)		12. Email address mcsc.insurance@mvsc.k12.in.us	

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

As your employer, we offer a health plan to:

All employees we deem eligible for health coverage under the plan's eligibility rules. Generally speaking, coverage is offered to full-time employees working at least 30 hours per week, but other criteria may apply based on employment class and other facts and circumstances.

With respect to dependents:

All eligible spouses and dependents under the age of 26, as well as others who meet specified criteria (e.g., those who meet disabled dependent definitions). Please contact the individual listed in Box 10 (above) with any questions.

- ☒ If checked, this coverage meets the minimum value standard and the cost of this coverage is intended to be affordable for most or all full-time employees under one of the §4980H Affordability Safe Harbors.
- ** 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. You may need to get information from your employer, about their coverage, in order to find out if you qualify for a tax credit to lower your monthly premiums.