

Practical Guide to the Affordable Care Act **Top things for people from Illinois to know**

- In Illinois as of Dec. 2011, 125,000 young adults (under age 26 and without job-based coverage) gained insurance coverage as a result of the health care law.
- Illinoisans with Medicare saved over \$235 million on prescription drugs since the law's enactment.
- Approximately two million women in Illinois will now have guaranteed access to additional preventive services without cost-sharing.
- In 2012, almost 1.3 million Illinoisans with traditional Medicare used one or more free preventive services.
- Already over 4.6 million people in Illinois – including 1.7 million women and 1.2 million children – are free from worrying about lifetime limits on coverage.
- Since 2010, Illinois has received \$31 million in grants from the Prevention and Public Health Fund created by the ACA. This new fund was created to support effective policies in Illinois, its communities and nationwide so that all Americans can lead longer, more productive lives.

Calendar of Health Insurance Marketplace:

October – open enrollment begins
January 2014 – coverage begins
March 2014 – open enrollment closes.

The Illinois Consumer Assistance Program helps with problems and questions about health coverage. Its walk-in location is 100 Randolph St, 9th Floor, Chicago, IL 60601. Call 877.527.9431, or visit insurance.illinois.gov to learn more.

Other helpful resources: advocatehealth.com, Campaign for Better Health Care (cbhconline.org), learn more about the Early Retiree Reinsurance Program (errp.gov), see if you qualify for the small business tax credit at irs.gov, and for suburban Cook County, AgeOptions (ageoptions.org).

Kaiser Family Foundation (kff.org) and Healthcare.gov are the sources for the above information. Please refer to those sites for further explanation and clarification.



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