

ACA Overview

REQUIREMENT OR PROVISION	PLAN	TIMING	FULLY INSURED PLAN REVIEW	SELF-INSURED PLAN REVIEW
New HIPAA Electronic Transaction and Operating Rules specifying EDI standards for certain electronic transactions.	AP	In effect	Employers should verify that they or their Business Associates are complying with the regulations and their BA agreements are updated (if needed).	
Whistle Blower Protection extended to prevent insurance issuers from retaliating against individuals who report a violation of Title I of ACA, even if they are not employees of the insurance issuer.	AP	In effect	Managers should be trained to know that employees who receive a credit or subsidy (thus subjecting the employer to a possible “play or pay” penalty) are also protected from employer retaliation.	
Prohibition of Annual Dollar Limits on Essential Health Benefits (EHB). EHB must be equal in scope to benefits covered by a typical employer plan as determined by each State and must include items and services in ten general categories.	AP	In effect	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> » Plan should be modified accordingly. » Insurer responsibility 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> » Plan should be modified accordingly. » Plan sponsor responsibility
Group health plan Waiting Periods Cannot Exceed 90 Days for all enrollees.	AP	In effect	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> » Plan should be modified accordingly. Count calendar days to determine 90 day period, which can start after substantive eligibility conditions are met. » Insurer responsibility 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> » Plan should be modified accordingly. Count calendar days to determine 90 day period, which can start after substantive eligibility conditions are met. » Plan sponsor responsibility
Prohibition of Preexisting Conditions Exclusion for all enrollees.	AP	In effect	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> » Plan should be modified accordingly. » Insurer responsibility 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> » Plan should be modified accordingly. » Plan sponsor responsibility
Employers can offer Incentives up to 30% of the cost of coverage to participate in Wellness Programs .	AP	In effect	Employers should work with their wellness vendor (if applicable) to determine appropriate incentives for their participants. The reward cannot exceed 30% of the cost of coverage; however, an additional 20% can be added to the extent the additional percentage is connected to a program designed to decrease tobacco usage. However, other laws (e.g. ADA & GINA) may also limit incentives.	

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REQUIREMENT OR PROVISION	PLAN	TIMING	FULLY INSURED PLAN REVIEW	SELF-INSURED PLAN REVIEW
Group health plans must provide (and may not limit) coverage for individuals participating in Clinical Trials , which applies to all clinical trials that treat cancer or other life-threatening diseases.	NGP	In effect	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> » Plan should be modified accordingly. » Insurer responsibility 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> » Plan should be modified accordingly. » Plan sponsor responsibility
Plans must practice Nondiscrimination in Health Care Providers and not discriminate with respect to plan participation or coverage against any health care provider acting within the scope of the provider's license and certification.	NGP	In effect	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> » Plan should be modified accordingly. » Insurer responsibility 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> » Plan sponsors should have nondiscrimination practices in place. » Plan sponsor responsibility
Insurance issuers in the small group market must provide Essential Health Benefits Coverage , limit cost sharing, and cover at least 60% of the actuarial value of the covered benefits.	NGP	In effect	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> » Plan should be modified accordingly. » Insurer responsibility 	Does not apply to self-insured plans.
Plans must Provide Dependent Coverage for children under age 26	AP	In effect	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> » Plan should be modified accordingly. » Insurer responsibility 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> » Plan should be modified accordingly. » Plan sponsor responsibility
Plans must implement Cost Sharing Limitations that limit the annual out-of-pocket (OOP) maximums to no greater than the limits for high deductible health plans for 2014 and indexed thereafter. Plan limits for plan years beginning: 2017: \$7,150 (self); \$14,300 (family) 2018: \$7,350 (self); \$14,700 (family) 2019: \$7,900 (self); \$15,800 (family)	NGP	In effect	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> » Plan should be modified accordingly. » Insurer responsibility 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> » Plan should be modified accordingly. » Plan sponsor responsibility
Guaranteed Availability and Renewability of Coverage in both the small and large group markets requiring Insurers to accept every employer in the state that applies for coverage and renew coverage subject only to specified exceptions and restrictions.	NGP	In effect	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> » Plan should be modified accordingly. » Insurer responsibility 	Does not apply to self-insured plans.

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Employers with 50 or more full-time equivalent employees are liable for a Shared Responsibility payment (Play or Pay Penalty) if any full-time employee is certified to receive an applicable premium tax credit or cost-sharing reduction and the employer does not offer its full-time employees (and their dependents) the opportunity to enroll in minimum essential coverage; or the coverage offered is either unaffordable relative to an employee's household income or does not provide minimum value.	AP	In effect	Employers should have a method to determine which employees are considered full-time under the ACA guidelines. Also remember that a full-time employee for purposes of this requirement is someone who, for a given month, works at least 30 hours per week (130 hours per month).	
Employers must pay a 40% excise tax (Cadillac Tax) on the value of health plans that exceed \$10,200 for an individual and \$27,500 for a family indexed for inflation.	AP	2022	Employers should prepare to estimate plan costs and/or await further guidance.	
<p>Section 6055 reporting information to the IRS and to each individual for whom Minimum Essential Coverage is provided.</p> <p>Information is reported on Forms 1094-B & 1095-B. Large, self-insured employers may combine this information under Section 6056 reporting.</p>	AP	<p>Feb. 28 (March 31 for electronic filers) to IRS</p> <p>Jan. 31 to individuals</p> <p>Go to irs.gov/affordable-care-act for deadline extensions.</p>	» Insurer responsibility	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Review updated forms to report to IRS and individuals. 2. Determine whether TINs are available for each covered person. 3. Use reporting methods for IRS and individuals. 4. Coordinate with Sec. 6056 reporting where possible.
<p>Sec. 6056 reporting for employers subject to the Shared Responsibility requirements must report the terms and conditions of the health care coverage provided to its full-time employees and furnish related statements to employees.</p> <p>Information reported on Forms 1094-C & 1095-C.</p>	AP	<p>Feb. 28 (March 31 for electronic filers) to IRS</p> <p>Jan. 31 to individuals</p> <p>Go to irs.gov/affordable-care-act for deadline extensions.</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Review updated forms for report to IRS and individuals. 2. Determine whether TINs are available for each employee. 3. Use reporting methods for IRS and individuals and review alternative reporting options/certifications to determine if applicable. 4. Coordinate with Sec. 6055 reporting where possible. 	

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COMPLIANCE FORECAST: Awaiting Further Guidance or Repealed

REQUIREMENT OR PROVISION	PLAN	EFFECTIVE DATE	FULLY INSURED PLAN RECOMMENDATIONS	SELF-INSURED PLAN RECOMMENDATIONS	DATE COMPLETED
Quality of Care Reporting that discloses health care benefits and reimbursement structures.	NGP	Awaiting regulations	Employers should await further guidance.		
Fully-Insured Plans must comply with IRC Section 105(h) Nondiscrimination Rules that previously only applied to self-funded plans, including rules that prohibit discrimination in favor of highly-compensated individuals in relation to eligibility to participate and benefits provided.	NGP	Awaiting additional guidance	Employers should analyze fully insured plans in relation to requirements and prepare for changes when required under further guidance.	Employers should already be in full compliance.	
CDC Assistance with Employer-Based Wellness Programs , providing technical assistance, consultation, tools, and other resources in evaluating employer-based wellness programs.	NGP	Awaiting additional guidance	Employers should await further guidance.		
Transparency in coverage reporting and cost sharing disclosures made of the government, public, and individuals.	AP	Technically effective in 2010-2011, although enforcement unlikely until further guidance is issued.	Employers should await further guidance.		
Obtain Health Plan ID (HPID) . Application process can be found on CMS web site.	AP	Delayed	Insurer responsibility	Employers should await further guidance.	

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