

### Healthcare Reform Strategies for Small Employers

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# **TODAY'S TOPICS**



- Employers with less than 50 employees
- Offering Insurance
- Funding the Purchase
- Pricing to employees

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## **Healthcare Reform – March 2010**

- Play or pay for employers & individuals
- Eligibility and cost rules
- Insurance Reform
  - Elimination of pre-existing
  - Guaranteed insurability
  - No medical underwriting
  - Mandated benefits
  - Community pricing structures
- Subsidies if "affordable" coverage not available
- Expanded Wellness coverage and incentives
- Accountable Care Organizations (ACO)



### The magic number is 50 employees

- Mandates (penalties)
- Community rates
- Access to State/Federal Exchanges (SHOP)
- Reporting of participation (self-insured)
- Reporting of Eligibility
- Tax Credits (under 25)



### **Employee counts – they count**

- Mandates (penalties)
  - No penalties < 50</p>
- Community rates
  - Required <50 unless "grandmothered" (renewals after 10/1/16)</li>
- Access to State/Federal Exchanges (SHOP)
  - Eligible <50</p>
- Reporting of participation
  - Insurance Carrier unless Self-Insured
- Reporting of Eligibility
  - Not required <50</p>
- Tax Credits
  - <25 and < \$50,000 average payroll</p>



### How many employees do we have?

- A. Full Time Employee = Employee working 30+ hours/week more than 120 days/year
- B. Part-time employees are those who worked on average less than 30 hours per week, but more than 120 days per year.
- C. Add up part-time hours per week and divide by 30
- D. Add A + C = TOTAL FTE

Full-time Equivalent (FTE) Employee Calculator

https://www.healthcare.gov/shop-calculators-fte/#Social responsibility



### Who is included?

- All full-time employees of a group with common ownership, or a part of a controlled group.
  - Title agencies affiliated with Real Estate Agencies
- Employees under a common group in other states even if you're enrolling in separate state SHOPs



### Who not to include?

- Owners of a sole proprietorship
- Partners
- Shareholders owning more than 2% of an S corporation
- Family members
- Seasonal employees working 120 days or less in a year
- Independent contractors (form 1099 workers)
- COBRA and retired enrollees



## **Small Business Tax Credit**

- Maximum for tax years 2010 to 2013
  - 35% of premiums paid for small for profit business employer
- Maximum for tax years 2014 or later
  - 50% of premiums paid for small business employers
  - <u>must purchase through the Small Business Health Options</u>
     <u>Program (SHOP) Marketplace.</u>
  - The credit will be available to eligible employers for <u>only two</u> <u>consecutive tax years</u>
- No tax? credit back, then forward
- Can file an amended return to claim



### **To Insure or not to insure?**

• Why do we offer health Insurance/employee benefits?

- Attract and retain quality employees
- Social responsibility
- Government mandates
  - Individual
  - Employer



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## If you do not offer insurance

- Employees subject to individual mandate
- Can purchase individual policies
- Pay with <u>after-tax</u> dollars
- Anytime direct from agent no subsidy, same policies and premiums
- Specific times through Exchange possible subsidy



### Individual Plans (on or off Exchange)

### "Metal Plans"

- Platinum covers 90% of medical for a population
- Gold covers 80% of medical for a population
- Silver covers 70% of medical for a population
- Bronze covers 60% of medical for a population

#### **Rating factors**

- Adults by age
- Number of Children <21
- Tobacco use
- Location

<del>Health</del> <del>Gender</del>

**Occupation** 



### **Silver Plan Examples**

	Plan A	Plan B	
Deductible	\$2,000	\$1,000	
Coinsurance	80%	70%	
Out-of-Pocket	\$5,000	\$6,350	
Office Visit	\$20	\$40 copay	
Urgent Care	\$50 copay	\$75 copay	
Emergency	\$100 copay	\$200 copay	
Prescription	Pharmacy: \$10/\$25/\$40 Mail Order \$10/\$25/\$120		



### **Hidden Differences**

- Network = which hospitals, physicians, etc.
- Accessibility = prior authorization, referrals, etc.
- Formulary = which prescriptions at each level
  - May not cover drugs off formulary

Healthcare Reform provisions are based on Network Benefits



### **Subsidies**

- Based on a percentage of Federal Poverty Wage Base
- Subsidizes healthcare to limit total spending to a percentage of total family Adjusted Gross Income
- Adjusted for number of family members
- Based on Silver Plans



### **Net Cost after Subsidy**

Family Members

		1	2	3	4	5
Je	\$25,000	\$142	\$92	\$42	\$42	Medicaid
Family Income	\$40,000	\$317	\$273	\$212	\$160	\$120
Annual Fan	\$65,000	No Subsidy	No Subsidy	\$515	\$471	\$403
A	\$80,000	No Subsidy	No Subsidy	No Subsidy	\$633	\$607

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### **Subsidies Calculator**

▶ Suggested Sites ▼ 🚑 Web Slice Gallery ▼ Home > Health Reform > Health Insu	ırance Marketplace Calcula	tor	
Health Insurance Mar Financial Help for Health Insuran			
ABOUT THIS TOOL			
Enter Information About Your Ho 1. Select a State	US Average 💙 🔋	<ol> <li>Number of adults (21 to 64) enrolling in Marketplace coverage</li> </ol>	1 Adult
		<ul> <li>6. Number of adults (21 to 64) enrolling in Marketplace coverage</li> <li>Age? 42 ∨ Uses Tobacco? No ∨</li> </ul>	1 Adult ?
1. Select a State	US Average V ?	in Marketplace coverage	?
<ol> <li>Select a State</li> <li>Enter income as</li> <li>Enter your yearly household</li> </ol>	US Average V ?	in Marketplace coverage Age? 42 VUses Tobacco? No V 7. Number of children (20 and younger)	?
<ol> <li>Select a State</li> <li>Enter income as</li> <li>Enter your yearly household income (dollars)</li> <li>Is coverage available from your</li> </ol>	US Average ✓         ?           2015 Dollars ✓         ?           25000         ?	in Marketplace coverage Age? 42 V Uses Tobacco? No V 7. Number of children (20 and younger) enrolling in Marketplace coverage	? ? 1 Child ~

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### **Subsidies Calculator**

### http://kff.org/interactive/subsidy-calculator/



## If you offer insurance

If Plan Meets Minimum Essential Coverage

- Employees participate in plan and pay with pre-tax dollars
- Employees meet individual mandate
- If Plan is "Affordable"
- Can purchase coverage elsewhere but no subsidy

### If Plan is **NOT** "Affordable"

- Can purchase coverage elsewhere and receive subsidy
- Employer should provide notice to employee



## What is "affordable"?

 Employee Only Coverage less than 9.66% of Adjusted Gross Family Income

Incudes all household members

- You may wish to make coverage unaffordable so employee can qualify for subsidy
- How do you know?
- You can make it unaffordable only for lower income employees



### Using "affordability" as a tool

- Assume Employee with two children, no spouse
- Employer charges 25% of premium
- Monthly Plan cost = \$550 Single (EE cost = \$137.50) \$1,200 Employee and Child(ren) (Employee cost = \$300)
- Employee Earns \$30,000/yr.
- 9.5% = \$237.50/mo.
- Raise contribution to 45% now "unaffordable"
- Employee purchases subsidized coverage for \$102/mo. aftertax
- Employee stops contributing \$300/mo. pre-tax
- Employer saves \$900/mo.



### **Caution:**

- Plans may have participation requirements
  - Usually 70-75%
- Plans may have minimum cost sharing requirements
  - Employer must pay 50% of Single
- Higher contributions may affect other employees
  - Non-discrimination provision in PPACA not enforced for fully-insured plans (subject to change)
  - Can charge different premiums by class (subject to change)
  - Can adjust compensation



## If you do offer Insurance

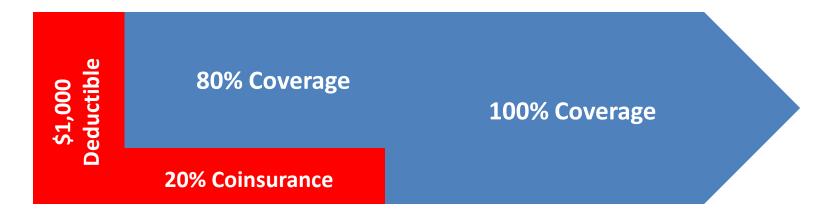
### **Health Plan Designs**

- Traditional
- High Deductible
  - With Health Care Savings Account (HSA)
  - With Health Care Reimbursement Account (HRA)
- Self-Insured
- Preferred Risk Pools



### **Traditional**

Employee Responsibility

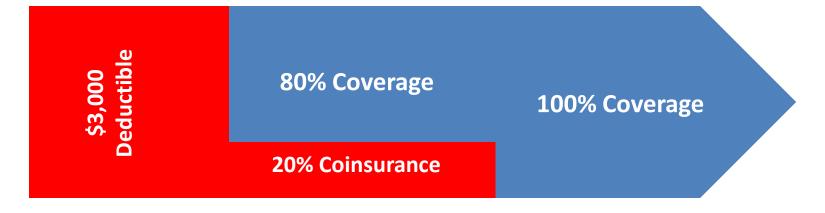


Copays: Office Visit Urgent/Emergency Care Prescriptions





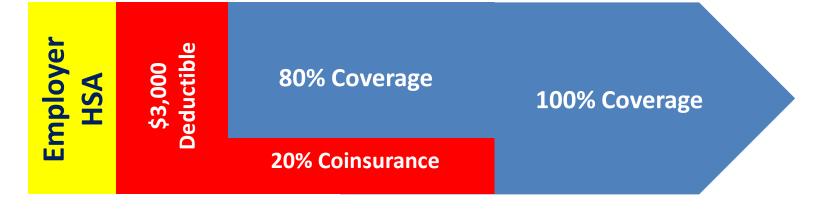
### **High Deductible Health Plan**



#### No Copays or first dollar coverage except 100% Wellness



## High Deductible Health Plan with Healthcare Savings Account (HSA)



No Copays 100% Wellness



### **HSA Rules**

- Employer contributions must be non-discriminatory
- Funds belong to employee
- Employee may contribute additional
  - 2016 maximums (ER & EE)
    - \$3,350 single/\$6,650 family
    - \$1,000 additional age 55+
- No tax on contributions or qualified distributions
- Employee can only have HDHP coverage: Min \$1,300 deductible, \$6,450 Max OOP



### **High Deductible Health Plan**

\$6,000 Deductible

100% Coverage

No Copays 100% Wellness



## High Deductible Health Plan with Healthcare Reimbursement Account (HRA)

50% Coverage by Employer Maximum = \$2,250/individual \$5,500/family

\$6,000 Deductible

**EE Max = \$3,750 single/\$7,500 family** 

100% Coverage

No Copays 100% Wellness

#### **Keep it Simple – Reimburse from EOB's – Schedule Reimbursements**



## **HRA Adoption**

Employer funds benefits not paid by employer sponsored group health plan

- Informal, communicated to all by letter or flyer describing benefit
- Eligible if participant in company sponsored group insurance plan
- For employers with 20+
  - Subject to Medicare Secondary Payer rules
  - COBRA Eligible



### **HRA Rules**

- IRS Code Section 105
   IRS Publication 969
- Benefits cannot discriminate in favor of highly compensated
- Can exclude highly compensated
  - Increase compensation
  - Use HSA



## **HRA Benefits**

### Sample:

- Employer will reimburse 50% of expenses over \$500 per participant (or over \$1,000 per family) for amounts credited to deductible by company group health plan.
- Payments will be based on amounts applied to deductible by company group health insurer per amounts shown on insurance company Explanation of Benefits
- Payments will be made quarterly or whenever amount due to employee exceeds \$250



### **HRA Sample Documentation**

VERAGE INFORMATION		
als	\$347.00 \$221.04	\$125.96
ductions		
our Coinsurance Amount	25.17	
tal Deductions		-\$25.17
tal Benefits Approved		\$100.79
ount You May Owe Provider		\$25.17
tal covered benefits approved for this claim: \$100.7 M PANY on 09-11-15.		I .
tient: Information About nefit Period: 01-01-15 Through 12-31-15	t Out-Of-Pocket Expenses	
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Information About	t Out-Of-Pocket Expenses	

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### **Traditional Plan**

\$1,000 calendar year deductible 80/20% next \$10,000 \$3,000 Single Out-of-Pocket maximum \$6,000 Family Out-of-Pocket maximum \$30 Office Visit \$10/\$25 Rx card

10 employees @ \$500/mo. 10 families@ \$1,500/mo. Total annual premium = \$240,000

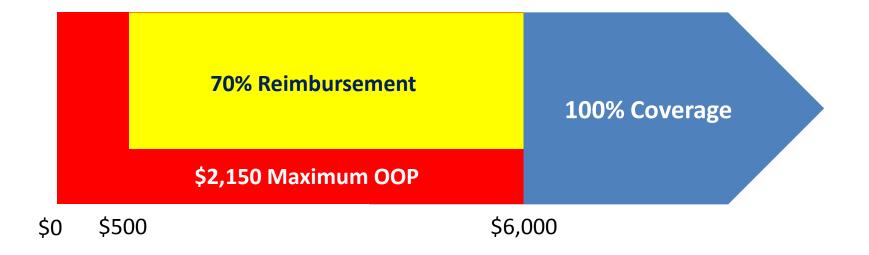


### **Alternate - High Deductible Plan**

\$6,000 Deductible 2X Family = \$12,000 100% therafter Annual Premium \$168,000



### **High Deductible Health Plan with HRA**



#### Wellness at 100% - Family maximum OOP = \$4,300



### **Claims Distribution per year**

### How many people have . . .

•	No claims	15%
•	Claims under \$500?	30%
•	Claims under \$1,000?	45%
•	Claims under \$2,500?	67%
•	Claims under \$5,000?	81%
•	Claims over \$10,000?	<b>9%</b>
•	90% of all claims	<b>10%</b>



### High Deductible Plan with HRA

\$6,000 Deductible Employer reimburses 70% = \$3,850 Employee Out-of-Pocket = \$2,150 (\$4,300 Family)

Employer exposure 10 @ \$3,850 + 10 @ \$7,700 = \$115,500 Expected reimbursements = \$32,340 (28%)

HDHP plan premium = \$168,000 (70%)

Plus expected reimbursements of \$32,340 = \$200,340

Breakeven reimbursements = \$72,000 or 62% of maximum to equal \$240,000



### **Plan Comparison**

Traditional Plan \$240,000

HDHP Plan with HRA Projected Cost = \$200,340 Maximum Liability is \$168,000 + \$115,500 = \$283,500

HDHP Plan with HSA

Employer deposits \$1,078 Single and \$2,156 Family Total cost = \$203,280

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### HSA vs. HRA

	HSA	HRA
Rewards Healthy	X	
Corresponds to Claims		Х
Short Term Cash Flow Issues	X	х
Allows Employee to add Pre-Tax contributions	X	
Predictable Cost	Х	
No reporting	X	Х
No Discrimination Testing	X	
Privacy issues		Х
Insurer may ask about Employer Participation in Claims	Х	X



## **Self Insurance**

- Avoids Exchange or Community Rating with generally high premiums except groups with high claimants
- Strips insurance down to transparent components
  - Administrative cost
  - High claim risk sharing
    - Specific Stop Loss
    - Aggregate Stop Loss
  - Claims
- Third Party Administrator

**Fixed cost** 



### Self Insurance – Third Party Administrator (TPA)

- Generally available for 25+ employees
- Specific Stop Loss \$10,000+ per insured
- Aggregate Stop Loss at 115%+ of expected claims
- Terminal liability (?)
- Fixed costs 30 50% of fully-insured plan
- Fixed plus claims generally 75 110% of fullyinsured plan



### **Self Insurance**

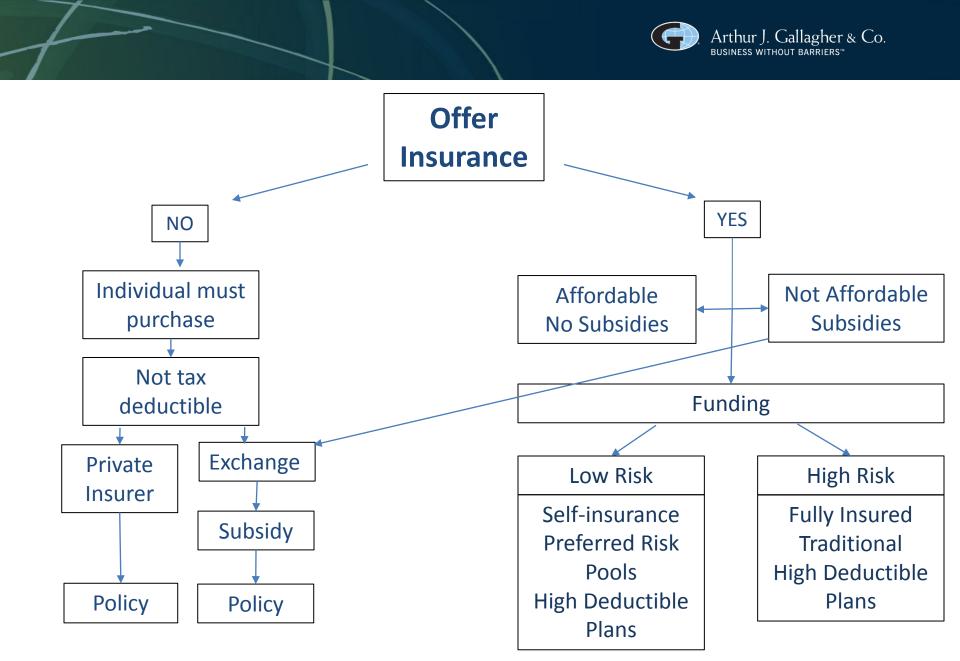
Important to use quality organizations

- When does the Specific Stop Loss reimburse?
  - Immediate assumption
  - After claim review
  - At year end
- Does Aggregate Stop Loss include monthly accumulation?
- Does Stop Loss cover all benefits in plan?



### **Preferred Risk Pools** – many names

- Looks like an insured plan
- Self-Insured trusts
- Avoids Exchange or Community Rating
- Savings of 5-35% vs. insured plans
- All employees complete health questionnaires
- Only written for healthy groups
- Variety of features
  - Available 10+ Enrolled
  - Maximum cost (premium equivalents)
  - Includes terminal liability
  - Potential refund for lower than expected claims



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### Help if you need it through ALTA:

Website for individuals and groups 2-20 Medical Individual and Group Exchanges open to 2/15/16 All other benefits available all year Life, Disability & Dental

Website for groups 20+

Preferred Risk Pools

ALTA Association Guaranteed Savings and Premium Stabilization for Life, Dental, Disability



