



connecting Pennsylvanians to health coverage

Pennie™ American Rescue Plan General Talking Points:

- The American Rescue Plan, also known as the COVID-19 relief package, includes provisions specific to the Affordable Care Act (ACA) resulting in significant impacts, including huge, life-altering savings, for Pennsylvanians seeking individual market coverage and those already enrolled in coverage through Pennie.
- This is the largest coverage expansion since the ACA passed in 2010. The eligibility enhancements under this law allow for money to be put back in the hands of people and provide potentially life-altering coverage and relief to many Pennsylvanians who may be struggling with the pandemic and its economic repercussions.
- The plan includes an increase in the eligibility for, and the amount of, premium tax credits for Pennsylvanians at all income levels during the 2021 and 2022 plan years.
- Those earning more than the current cap of 400% of the federal poverty level -- about \$51,000 for an individual and \$104,800 for a family of four in 2021 – will be newly eligible for APTC. Under this law, no one will pay more than 8.5 percent of their income in premiums for the second lowest cost silver plan (SLCSP or benchmark plan) in their county. In some cases, lower-income enrollees could have their premiums eliminated completely.
- One scenario of how this law will affect customers include a 40-year-old single woman, non-smoker who lives in Philadelphia with a \$19,140 annual income. Under the old law she would be paying an estimated \$66/month for the benchmark plan. Under this new law, she will now be paying \$0/month.
- Another example would be for a married couple, who are both 64-year-old, non-smokers from Dauphin County with an annual income of \$77,580. Under the old law, they would be seeing a monthly payment of around \$2,400 and now under the new law, they will be paying \$550, capped at 8.5 percent of their income for the benchmark plan.
- **These types of changes take time to implement.** Pennie™ is currently working on updating our entire system to show new and current customers what their new monthly payments will be, and what new subsidies they qualify for. Pennie™ is working to have these updates ready as soon as possible.

- New and current customers may not see the new benefits on their account dashboard right away, and will have to pay their April premium based on their eligibility under the old rules. That's okay. **Pennie™ is working tirelessly to implement these changes to get customers the savings they deserve.** Pennie™ customers will be eligible for the new benefits from their first day of coverage, and will start to see those benefits in their accounts when the updates required under the new law are made.
- One of Pennie's main goals as a state-based marketplace, is to help connect the uninsured to quality, affordable health coverage. Pennie™ has never had a better opportunity to provide those who are uninsured health coverage they can afford.
- Pennie™ has invested significant resources to better understand the uninsured population in Pennsylvania. Pennie™ will work to educate, communicate and assist those who are uninsured to come to Pennie™ and get the health coverage they may have thought was not possible before.
- These eligibility changes also overwhelmingly affect the current customers at Pennie. During the 2021 Open Enrollment period 337,722 Pennsylvanians enrolled in health coverage through Pennie. Under this law, most of the existing enrollees will have an increase in the amount of the financial assistance they receive each month, this also includes individuals who will now become eligible for these Advanced Premium Tax Credits.
- Once the changes are implemented, Pennie™ will be reaching out to our current customers, letting them know they will start seeing a decrease in their monthly premium payments and will be doing direct targeted communications to those who are now eligible for financial assistance as to strongly encourage them to take advantage of these significant savings.
- Any Pennsylvanian who was eligible for unemployment income in 2021 will be eligible for coverage through Pennie™ with a \$0 premium for the remainder of 2021.
- Another key target audience affected by this law is those Pennsylvanians enrolled in off-exchange coverage. There are an estimated 100,000 individuals enrolled in non-group coverage that is ACA-compliant who can enroll in Pennie™ coverage with access to savings under this legislation.
- Pennie™ will be working with insurers and our certified brokers and assisters to make sure customers on the individual market are aware of these savings and to assist those who wish to make the transition and take advantage of this increase in financial assistance.

More information on these changes and FAQs will soon be available on pennie.com.