

Brief Notes

News for
Brokers and Consultants

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Three Penn Plaza East, Newark, NJ 07105-2200

Applies to: All Markets

Insurance Coverage Reporting Requirement

Under the Affordable Care Act (ACA), most Americans will be required to report on their income tax return whether they, their spouse and any individuals claimed as dependents had qualifying health insurance coverage (also known as “minimum essential coverage”) for some or all months during 2014. Most Horizon Blue Cross Blue Shield of New Jersey medical plans qualify as minimum essential coverage.

Horizon BCBSNJ is not required to provide any information for the 2014 tax year. Horizon BCBSNJ will begin reporting in 2016 for the 2015 tax year, where applicable.

Only individuals who enrolled through the Health Insurance Marketplace for coverage in 2014 will receive Form 1095-A from the Federal government. This form includes information that consumers will need to complete the Form 8962, the premium tax credit form, as part of their 2014 tax returns. Horizon BCBSNJ members who did not use the Health Insurance Marketplace to enroll for coverage will not receive this form for their 2014 tax returns.

Learn more.

Social Security Number Reporting Requirement

To assist in the enforcement of the Individual mandate, the ACA requires all health insurers to report to the Internal Revenue Service (IRS) certain information of applicable insured members, including the Social Security Number (SSN) and months of coverage, starting with the January 2015 enrollment files. Reporting is required by January 31, 2016 (to the insured) and March 31, 2016 (electronically to the IRS).

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Members can sign in to Member Online Services at HorizonBlue.com to manage their health care benefits and information.



Additionally, the IRS issued final regulations clarifying that self-insured group health plans are responsible for the reporting obligations under the ACA. As a result, Horizon BCBSNJ will not solicit or report SSNs on behalf of its clients with self-insured plans.

Horizon BCBSNJ is currently evaluating options to determine if there is any way it can reasonably assist its clients in meeting their reporting obligations. Horizon BCBSNJ is developing a workflow and process for collecting SSNs from members of our insured groups. Shortly, we will begin contacting members to collect this information. We will provide you with updates throughout the year.

If you have questions, please contact your Horizon BCBSNJ sales executive or account manager.

This information should not be construed as tax or legal advice. Questions about your specific circumstances should be referred to your tax or legal professional.