

A look at the week's most recent employee benefits & announcements

IN THE NEWS THIS WEEK

Week of January 30th

The Time Has Come - Individual Open Enrollment is Ending!

As you are aware, 2017 Open Enrollment runs from 11/1/16 - 1/31/17. January 31st was the last day to enroll in or change a 2017 health plan. After this date, you can enroll or change plans ONLY if you qualify for an SEP (Special Enrollment Period).

Do I qualify for an SEP?

Yes, if you've had certain life events, such as: losing health coverage, moving, getting married, having a baby, or adopting a child.

How long do I have to enroll if I've had an SEP?

You usually have up to 60 days following the event to enroll in a plan. If you miss that window, you have to wait until the next Open Enrollment Period to apply. You can enroll in Medicaid and the Children's Health Insurance Plan (CHIP) any time of year, whether you qualify for a Special Enrollment Period or not. Employer-based plans must provide a special enrollment period of at least 30 days.

For more information, please contact broker support@martinins.com

CARRIER UPDATES

Horizon BCBSNJ - Alternate Enrollment Portal Reminder

As a reminder, Horizon has identified some technical issues with the Broker Portal. While they work to resolve this issue, consumer enrollments can be submitted by utilizing the alternate enrollment portal by [clicking here](#).

You will be prompted to enter your National Producer Number (NPN) and can then continue with entering enrollment information for off-exchange enrollees. This link is available for all registered and active users of Horizon BCBSNJ's Broker Online Services portal. If you are not an active Broker Online Services user, please contact our Contracting Dept at contracting@martinins.com to obtain your Internet Service Application.

Horizon - Group Size Info for MLR (Medical Loss Ratio)

Horizon Blue Cross Blue Shield of New Jersey is resuming its survey efforts to collect group-size information for 2015 from fully insured groups with between 35 and 75 enrollees. The group-size information is used to classify groups appropriately under the medical loss ratio

Upcoming Events

Horizon BCBSNJ Broker Education WebEx Series: 2017 Individual and Small Group SEPs

This presentation will provide an overview of Horizon's Special Enrollment guidelines in the IHC and Small Group markets. The presentation is scheduled for one hour and will include an opportunity for questions.

**February 2nd
11:00 AM - 12:00 PM**
[Click here to register
for this session!](#)

**February 2nd
2:00 PM - 3:00 PM**
[Click here to register
for this session!](#)

Qualcare Webinars

With the new 2017 NJ Small Group eligibility rules, Qualcare may be a new, viable solution for your employers.

Please join us for two upcoming webinars with Tim Connolly,

(MLR) rules established by the federal Affordable Care Act (ACA). Under the MLR rules, if a health insurer does not meet certain MLR requirements, customers in fully insured individual, and small and large group markets may be entitled to a health insurance rebate.

[Read More](#)

AmeriHealth - Reissuance of ID Cards for Large and Small Group Customers

In February, AmeriHealth will be reissuing ID cards to a population of existing Large and Small group customers. The reason for the reissuance of ID cards is due to a new PO Box for the submission of paper claims. The former PO Box is closed. All paper claims submitted to the former PO Box will be forwarded to the new PO Box, until May 4, 2017. Any paper claims submitted to the former PO Box after this date will not be forward.

[Read More](#)

NJ DOBI - Advisory Bulletin 17-SEH-01: Guaranteed Renewability When Crossing the 50 Employee Threshold

The purpose of this Advisory Bulletin is to address how the guaranteed renewability requirements set forth in 42 U.S.C. § 300 gg-2 and 45 C.F.R. § 147.106 apply when an employer group size fluctuates from year to year such that the employer is a small employer one year and a large employer another year or is a large employer one year and becomes a small employer during a subsequent year. Generally, an employer has the right to renew the group policy that was issued. However, as discussed in this Advisory Bulletin, there are exceptions to that right. This Advisory Bulletin also addresses the consequences of the definition of Small Employer as operative January 1, 2017.

Since small employer plans issued through the SHOP are administered by the SHOP, the guidance in this Advisory Bulletin does not address small employer plans purchased through the SHOP.

[Read More](#)

AmeriHealth- Information About the Distribution of Tax Forms

In the coming days, AmeriHealth New Jersey will begin mailing IRS 1095-B tax forms to subscribers who purchased plans individually off-exchange and to subscribers of fully insured group employers.

[Read More](#)

Oxford - Enroll OHP New York HMO Groups in an OHI Policy by 1/31/17

As a reminder, New York small groups that currently only offer an Oxford Health Plans (NY), Inc. (OHP) HMO plan need to take action to purchase a new Oxford Health Insurance, Inc. (OHI) policy before their current OHP plan ends. These groups did not receive a renewal package from Oxford and need to apply as a new group.

[Read More](#)

CMS Awards \$66 Million to Fight Zika

The Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) announced \$66.1 million in funding to health departments in American Samoa,

Manager of Business Development at Qualcare Management Resources LLC, to go over a variety of topics.

February 2nd

10:00 AM - 11:00 AM

Topics include: 2017 Products, Quoting, and New Business Process

[Click here to register!](#)

February 8th

2:00 PM - 3:00 PM

Topics include: Renewals Process, Terminations and Qualcare Quirks

[Click here to register!](#)

2017 Small Group Eligibility Webinar

As a follow-up to our initial series last year on the 2017 NJ Small Group eligibility changes, we have new content that goes deeper into the rules, the carrier underwriting guidelines, and lessons learned.

February 9th

2:00 PM - 3:00 PM

[Click here to register!](#)

February 24th

10:30 AM - 11:30 AM

[Click here to register!](#)

GeoBlue Lunch & Learn

Please join us for a Lunch and Learn to dive into the benefits of GeoBlue®, an international health care program from Horizon BCBS.

GeoBlue® is a leader and innovator serving the needs of global employees. GeoBlue® group health plans combine unsurpassed service with state-of-the-art mobile technology to help expatriates and

Puerto Rico, the U.S. Virgin Islands, and Florida to help combat the Zika virus. Congress authorized this funding in the Continuing Appropriations and Military Construction, Veterans Affairs, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 2017, and Zika Response and Preparedness Act (P.L. 114-223).

[Read More](#)

MARTIN UP-TO-THE-MINUTE

We have summarized the top announcements from the carriers and Martin to keep you up-to-the minute with the news and happenings in the industry! Check out what's happening below.

[AmeriHealth April 2017 Renewals Posted to Your Dashboard](#)

[Horizon BCBSNJ April 2017 Renewals Posted to Your Dashboard](#)

[Oxford March 2017 Renewals Posted to Your Dashboard](#)

IMPORTANT DEADLINES AND REMINDERS

New Business and Conversion Deadlines

Stay up-to-date and prepared with all the upcoming conversion and new business deadlines with the major SEH carriers in NJ.

[Click here](#) for 2017 Horizon BCBSNJ deadlines

[Click here](#) for the 2017 AmeriHealth deadlines

2017 MARKETPLACE REGISTRATION LINKS

[Horizon BCBS 2017 Sentinel Elite](#)

[AmeriHealth 2017 Registration Link](#)

For more information, please contact Greg Nocera at gnocera@martinins.com.

their families across trusted doctors and hospitals all around the world.

All GeoBlue® plans provide members with these unique benefits:

- * Access to an exceptional provider network
- * Concierge-level member services
- * Innovative mobile technology

**259 Prospect Plains Rd, Bldg F
Cranbury, NJ**

**February 16th
11:30 AM - 1:00 PM
[Click here to register!](#)**

CE Class: The Healthcare Landscape in the Trump Administration

President Trump signed an executive order between his inauguration and the inaugural ball signaling his goals to take a decisive action on health care reform. Please join us to understand what has changed, what has stayed the same, and what to expect as the year unfolds.

**259 Prospect Plains Rd, Bldg F
Cranbury, NJ**

**February 28th
9:00 AM - 12:00 PM
[Click here to register!](#)**

CJAHU Annual March Madness Meeting: Business Development

Keynote Speaker, Pery Marshall

online marketing strategist, entrepreneur, and author, most notable for his book 80/20 Sales and Marketing: The Definitive Guide to Working Less and Making More

Also featuring!
Marcy Buckner, Vice President of Government Affairs
Dave Mordo, Director of Compliance & Broker Education for SlatteryGA, Arthur J. Gallagher & Co.

We will also be having a one hour technology panel, with CE credits, taught by Colleen Patterson, Director, Employer Services from Savoy Associates. More to come!

**Hilton Garden Inn -
Rariten Center
50 Raritan Center
Parkway
Edison, NJ**

**March 9th
9:30 AM - 2:30 PM
[Click here to register!](#)**

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Any Questions or Feedback?
Please contact Jessica Martin at
jessmartin@martinins.com