Medicaid & the Children’s Health Insurance Program (CHIP)  
Low-Cost Health Coverage to Children and Families

If you are eligible for health coverage from your employer, but are unable to afford the premiums, some states have premium assistance programs that can help pay for coverage. These states use funds from their Medicaid or CHIP programs to help people who are eligible for employer-sponsored health coverage, but need assistance in paying their health premiums.

If you or your dependents are already enrolled in Medicaid or CHIP and you live in a state listed below, you can contact your state Medicaid or CHIP office to find out if premium assistance is available.

If you or your dependents are NOT currently enrolled in Medicaid or CHIP, and you think you or any of your dependents might be eligible for either of these programs, you can contact your state Medicaid or CHIP office or dial 877.KIDS.NOW or www.insurekidsnow.gov to find out how to apply. If you qualify, you can ask the state if it has a program that might help you pay the premiums for an employer-sponsored plan. Once it is determined that you or your dependents are eligible for premium assistance under Medicaid or CHIP, your employer’s health plan is required to permit you and your dependents to enroll in the plan – as long as you and your dependents are eligible, but not already enrolled in the employer’s plan. This is called a “special enrollment” opportunity, and you must request coverage within 60 days of being determined eligible for premium assistance. If you live in one of the following states, you may be eligible for assistance paying your employer health plan premiums. The following list of states is current as of April 16, 2010. You should contact your state for further information on eligibility.

State Program Contact Information (Website; Phone)
Alabama Medicaid [www.medicaid.alabama.gov] ; 800.362.1504
Alaska Medicaid [www.health.hss.state.ak.us/dpa/programs/medicaid/]; 888.318.8890; (Anchorage) 907.269.6529
Arkansas CHIP [www.arkidsfirst.com/]; 888.474.8275
California Medicaid [www.dhcs.ca.gov/services/Pages/TPLRD_CAU_cont.aspx]; 866.298.8443
Colorado Medicaid and CHIP Medicaid: [www.colorado.gov] ; 800.866.3513
CHIP: [www.CHPplus.org]; 303.866.3243
Florida Medicaid [www.fdhc.state.fl.us/Medicaid/index.shtml]; 866.762.2237
Georgia Medicaid [www.dch.georgia.gov/] (Click on Programs, then Medicaid); 800.869.1150
Idaho Medicaid and CHIP Medicaid: [www.accesstohealthinsurance.idaho.gov]; 800.926.2588 CHIP: [www.medicaid.idaho.gov]; 800.926.2588
Indiana Medicaid [www.in.gov/fssa/2408.htm]; 877.438.4479
Iowa Medicaid [www.dhs.state.ia.us/hipp/]; 888.346.9562
Kansas Medicaid [www.khpa.ks.gov] 800.766.9012
Kentucky Medicaid  [www.chfs.ky.gov/dms/default.htm; 800.635.2570]
Louisiana Medicaid  [www.la.hipp.dhh.louisiana.gov; 888.342.6207]
Maine Medicaid  [www.maine.gov/dhhs/oms/; 800.321.5557]
Massachusetts Medicaid and CHIP  [www.mass.gov/MassHealth  800.462.1120]
Minnesota Medicaid  [www.dhs.state.mn.us/ (Click on Health Care, then Medical Assistance); 800.657.3739]
Missouri Medicaid  [www.dss.mo.gov/mhd/index.htm; 573.751.6944]
Montana Medicaid  [www.medicaidprovider.hhs.mt.gov/clientpages/clientindex.shtml; 800.694.3084]

State Program Contact Information (Website; Phone)
Nebraska Medicaid  [www.dhhs.ne.gov/med/medindex.htm; 877.255.3092]
Nevada Medicaid and CHIP Medicaid:  [www.dwss.nv.gov/; 800.992.0900]
CHIP:  [www.nevadacheckup.nv.org/; 877.543.7669]
New Hampshire Medicaid  [www.dhhs.state.nh.us/DHHS/MEDICAIDPROGRAM/default.htm; 800.852.3345 x5254]
New Jersey Medicaid and CHIP Medicaid:  [www.state.nj.us/humanservices/dmahs/clients/Medicaid/; 800-356-1561]
CHIP:  [www.njfamilycare.org/index.html; 800.701.0710]
New Mexico Medicaid and CHIP Medicaid:  [www.hsd.state.nm.us/mad/index.html; 888.997.2583]
CHIP:  [www.hsd.state.nm.us/mad/index.html (Click on Insure New Mexico); 888.997.2583]
New York Medicaid  [www.nyhealth.gov/health_care/medicaid/; 800.541.2831]
North Carolina Medicaid  [www.nc.gov; 919.855.4100]
North Dakota Medicaid  [www.nd.gov/dhs/services/medicalserv/medicaid/; 800.755.2604]
Oklahoma Medicaid  [www.insureoklahoma.org; 888.365.3742]
Oregon Medicaid and CHIP [www.oregonhealthykids.gov; 877.314.5678]
Pennsylvania Medicaid  [www.dpw.state.pa.us/partnersproviders/medicalassistance/doingbusiness/003670053.htm; 800.644.7730]
Rhode Island Medicaid  [www.dhs.ri.gov; 401.462.5300]
South Carolina Medicaid  [www.scdhhs.gov; 888.549.0820]
Texas Medicaid  [www.gethipptexas.com/; 800.440.0493]
Utah Medicaid  [www.health.utah.gov/medicaid/; 866.435.7414]
Vermont Medicaid  [www.ovha.vermont.gov ; 800.250.8427]
Virginia Medicaid and CHIP Medicaid:  [www.dmas.virginia.gov/rcp-HIPP.htm; 800.432.5924]
CHIP:  [www.famis.org/; 866.873.2647]
Washington Medicaid  [www.hrsa.dshs.wa.gov/premiumpymt/Apply.shtm; 877.543.7669]
West Virginia Medicaid  [www.wvrecovery.com/hipp.htm; 304.342.1604]
Wisconsin Medicaid  [www.dhs.wisconsin.gov/medicaid/publications/p-10095.htm; 800.362.3002]
To see if any more states have added a premium assistance program since April 16, 2010, or for more information on special enrollment rights, you can contact either:

U.S. Department of Labor U.S.
Employee Benefits Security Administration Department of Health and Human Services
www.dol.gov/ebsa Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services
866.444.EBSA (3272) www.cms.hhs.gov
877.267.2323, Ext. 61565