The Affordable Care Act and you

Access to quality, affordable health care for everyone

THE AFFORDABLE CARE ACT...

- Makes changes to private health insurance coverage by creating the “Health Insurance Marketplace” - a new online way to compare and purchase insurance for individuals and small business under 50 employees
- Expands coverage for low-income individuals up through expansion of Medicaid:
  - ACA Adult group added to the current categories of people eligible for Medicaid to cover people ages 19 through 64 who are 138% FPL. No asset test will apply to this new group.
- Enacts premium tax credits, small business tax credits and cost-sharing reductions to help individuals and small business access more affordable insurance options
  - Premium Tax Credits are available to individuals and families with incomes between 100% t—400% of the Federal Poverty Level ($23,000 to $94,000 for a family of four)
  - Cost Sharing Reductions (for example, help with co-payments and coinsurance for doctor visits and hospital care) are also available to individuals and families with income between 100 - 250% of the Federal Poverty Limit ($23,000 - $50,000 for a family of four)
  - Out of pocket limits costs will be available for those earning above 400% FPL
- Provides new coverage details including:
  - No pre-existing condition exclusions are allowed in insurance plans for anyone after 2014
  - Wellness
  - No Annual limits on coverage
- Provides coverage determined by income, age, family size, location and smoker-non-smoker status
- Establishes that Illinois will have a Health Insurance Marketplace in addition to its Medicaid Program
  - This means that 1.6 million non-elderly adults in Illinois who don’t have insurance now will be able to access coverage through the Health Insurance Marketplace
  - [http://enrollhfs.illinois.gov](http://enrollhfs.illinois.gov)
- Is available for all lawfully present consumers. Consumers without access to alternative affordable essential coverage may be eligible for financial help for purchasing Marketplace Coverage.

Source: NASTAD.org “Health Reform Issue Brief”