

Healthcare Key Terms

Affordable Care Act (ACA, also called ObamaCare)

With few exceptions, this requires all Americans to have health insurance. For 2016, the penalty is the greater of 2.5% of income or \$695 per person, which shows up as an additional tax or a reduction on your federal tax return.

Coinsurance

The percentage an individual pays for service after the deductible has been paid.

Copayment/Copay

A specific dollar amount a health insurance plan requires an individual to pay for a specific medical service or supply, such as an office visit or brand-name prescription drug.

Deductible

A flat amount an individual must pay before the insurer will make any benefit payments.

Explanation Of Benefits / EOB

A statement sent by a health insurance company that lists services billed by a healthcare provider, how those charges were processed and the total amount of patient responsibility for the remaining balance.

Health Maintenance Organization (HMO)

These plans have select facilities for services and require a Primary Care Physician (PCP) to oversee all treatments.

Health Savings Account (HSA)

A savings account used with qualifying, high deductible, low premium health plan (see HDHP below) for qualifying medical expenses

High Deductible Health Plan

A health insurance plan with lower premiums and higher deductibles than a traditional health plan.

Open Enrollment November 1, 2016 – January 31, 2017

This is the one time of the year that individuals can enroll in a health care plan without a qualifying life event (marriage, birth of a child, loss of coverage due to turning 26 or termination of employment, etc.)

Preferred Provider Organization (PPO)

These plans allow the individual to Select from physicians within their network for treatment.

Special Enrollment Period February – October 31, 2017

Health plan enrollment requires a Qualifying Life Event along with supporting documentation.