

Issuers of Stand-alone Dental Plans: Intent to Offer in FFM States

HHS is releasing the attached table that lists the number of issuers that intend to offer stand-alone dental plans (SADPs) in 2018 in states that are expected to have a Federally-facilitated Marketplace (FFM), including State Partnership Marketplaces, based on the current Marketplace Blueprint Approvals. This information is current as of March 9, 2017.

The Affordable Care Act permits an SADP to participate in a Marketplace if the plan provides the pediatric dental benefits that the Secretary has defined as part of the essential health benefits (EHB).¹ The Affordable Care Act also permits a health plan that does not provide the pediatric dental EHB to be certified as a qualified health plan (QHP) eligible for Marketplace participation so long as an issuer offers at least one SADP through such Marketplace.²

In order to allow QHP issuers to exercise the statutory option to omit the pediatric dental EHB, the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) established a voluntary reporting process for issuers to communicate their intent to offer pediatric dental EHB through SADPs in Marketplaces by state, market (individual or group), and service area by county (and zip code if partial counties). The voluntary reporting program was established in the *EHB Data Collection Final Rule*, published on July 20, 2012,³ and the reporting data elements were included in an associated Information Collection Request.⁴

Although the voluntary reporting program is not legally binding, we encouraged SADP issuers to indicate only a serious intent to offer plans in a Marketplace because QHP issuers will design plans based on this report. In order to formally offer coverage through the Exchange, SADP issuers will need to submit and receive certification for their plans.

The following charts contain the results of the voluntary reporting program. The numbers represent the number of issuers that intend to offer SADPs through the Marketplace: 1) statewide in the individual market and 2) statewide in the small group market. We did not include responses that indicated participation in part of a state in this count.

Given that there is **at least one issuer** planning to offer SADPs through the Marketplace in the individual or small business markets statewide in each state that is expected to have an FFM, we

¹ Section 1311(d)(2)(B)(ii) of the Affordable Care Act.

² Section 1302(b)(4)(F) of the Affordable Care Act.

³ Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act; Data Collection to Support Standards Related to Essential Health Benefits: Recognition of Entities for the Accreditation of Qualified Health Plans (77 Fed. Reg. 42,658 (Jul.20, 2012), available at: <http://www.gpo.gov/fdsys/pkg/FR-2012-07-20/pdf/2012-17831.pdf>

⁴ CMS-10448: Notice of Intent to Provide Dental Coverage in the Exchange; OMB Control Number: 0938-1174 (Aug. 28, 2015), available at: https://www.reginfo.gov/public/do/PRAViewDocument?ref_nbr=201508-0938-010

believe that CMS can reasonably expect there to be sufficient SADP coverage to permit QHPs in the FFMs in these states and markets to omit the pediatric dental EHB if they choose to do so.

Number of Dental Issuers Intending to Offer SADPs through the Marketplace Statewide in Small Group Markets

Alabama	1
Alaska	2
Arizona	4
Delaware	1
Florida	4
Georgia	7
Illinois	3
Indiana	3
Iowa	1
Kansas	1
Louisiana	1
Maine	1
Michigan	4
Missouri	3
Montana	2
Nebraska	1
New Hampshire	2
New Jersey	2
North Carolina	3
North Dakota	1
Ohio	6
Oklahoma	1
Pennsylvania	4
South Carolina	1
South Dakota	1
Tennessee	2
Texas	5
Virginia	5
West Virginia	2
Wisconsin	4
Wyoming	1

Number of Dental Issuers Intending to Offer SADPs through the Marketplace Statewide in Individual Markets

Alabama	3
Alaska	3
Arizona	5
Delaware	2
Florida	7
Georgia	9
Hawaii	1
Illinois	6
Indiana	6
Iowa	3
Kansas	4
Louisiana	4
Maine	3
Michigan	5
Mississippi	4
Missouri	5
Montana	3
Nebraska	2
New Hampshire	2
New Jersey	4
North Carolina	3
North Dakota	2
Ohio	7
Oklahoma	5
Pennsylvania	5
South Carolina	1
South Dakota	1
Tennessee	5
Texas	7
Utah	3
Virginia	6
West Virginia	3
Wisconsin	7
Wyoming	1