

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING:
Determination of an Essential Health Benefits Package
Under the Federal Affordable Care Act

DATE: June 19, 2012

TIME: 4:30 p.m.–7:00 p.m.

LOCATIONS AND HOW TO PARTICIPATE: Participants will meet in Room 210, Senate Building, Utah State Capitol Complex (public parking is available on the northeast side of the capitol) and ten other locations throughout Utah (the other locations are listed at the end of this notice). All locations will be connected by audio and video transmission. Those unable to join the meeting at one of the designated locations are invited to view and listen to the meeting over the internet at: http://stream.utah.edu/m/show_clip.php?c=bb6a99353342f840120.

Participants at each location will be invited to take up to two minutes to offer comments. Those participating over the internet—and others—may submit comments during the meeting by email to LRammell@Le.Utah.gov. Comments and other materials may also be submitted after the meeting to the same email address through July 3, 2012.

CONVENER: The Insurance Market Issues Workgroup, organized to provide input to the Utah Legislature's Health System Reform Task Force, is convening this meeting.

PURPOSE: This public hearing is being held to gather public opinion on the determination of an essential health benefits package for health insurance coverage under the federal Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act and the Health Care and Education Reconciliation Act of 2010 (referred to jointly as the Affordable Care Act or ACA).

All interested parties are invited to indicate which of 10 potential benchmark plans designated by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services should be selected by the state as a benchmark or reference plan. Interested parties may also indicate how any of the plans might be modified, either to ensure the benchmark covers each of the 10 ACA-required benefit categories, or for other reasons.

The Insurance Market Issues Workgroup will report public input it receives during and after this public hearing to the Health System Reform Task Force.

After considering the public input, the Health System Reform Task Force will recommend an essential health benefits benchmark to the Utah Insurance Commissioner.

Within 30 days of the Task Force's recommendation, the Insurance Commissioner will enact an administrative rule, based on the recommendation, that designates the essential health benefit package that must be included in individual and small employer group health insurance plans offered on or after January 1, 2014.

MEETING FORMAT: Following brief introductory comments reviewing the purpose of the hearing, interested parties will be invited to take up to two minutes to offer comments. Written comments and related materials may also be submitted by email both during the meeting and through July 3, 2012, at LRammell@Le.Utah.gov.

BACKGROUND
MATERIALS:

The attached .pdf documents are five items related to the discussion of an essential health benefits package:

1. Slides outlining what is known about the determination of an essential health benefits package, including:
 - required coverage categories and allowed variations;
 - what the U.S. Secretary of Health and Human Services intends to propose as federal rules; and
 - related issues.
2. Slides outlining the benefits covered by the three state employee health benefit plans (three of the ten essential health benefit benchmark options).
3. A bulletin by a U.S. Department of Health and Human Services agency on how the department proposes to define essential health benefits.
4. A follow-up clarification to the bulletin (an FAQ).
5. A related list produced by HHS identifying the three federal employee plans that may qualify as benchmark options and the three largest small employer group products from which a benchmark may be selected. The Utah Insurance Department has not confirmed the accuracy of the small employer product designations.

MEETING
LOCATIONS:

Blanding

Utah State University–College of Eastern Utah (639 West 100 South)
Room 129

Map: <http://sjc.usu.edu/campusinformation/files/uploads/campusmap.pdf>

Cedar City

Southern Utah University (351 West University Blvd.)
Room 111, Electronic Learning Center

Map: <http://suu.edu/campmap/campus.html>

Logan

Utah State University
Room 119, College of Education

Map: <http://usu.edu/map/>

Ogden

Weber State University (3104 University Circle)
Room 205, Lampros Hall

Map: http://www.weber.edu/wsuiimages/WeberStateMap/ogdenmap_large.gif

Orem

Utah Valley University (600 West University Avenue)
Room 122, Extended Education

Map: http://www.uvu.edu/maps/main/uvu_map_2011.pdf

Price

Utah State University–College of Eastern Utah
Room 127, Reeve Building

Map: <http://www.ceu.edu/map/htm/>

Salt Lake City

Utah State Capitol Complex

Room 210 Senate Building (building on the east side of the quad)

Map:

<http://www.utahstatecapitol.utah.gov/index.php/visittours/parkingtransportation>

Utah State University Granite Education Center (2500 S. State Street)

Room 520A

St. George

University of Utah, Dixie Campus (1071 East 100 South)

Room 105, Suite A

Map: <http://www.dixie.edu/campus/File/MAPS/DSC-SITEMAP.pdf>

Tooele

Utah State University (1021 West Vine)

Room 122

Map: <http://tooele.usu.edu/contact/map.cfm>

Vernal

Utah State University (320 North Aggie Blvd.)

Room B135

TO SUBMIT
WRITTEN
COMMENTS:

Interested parties may submit written comments and related materials to the Insurance Market Issues Workgroup by emailing them either during the meeting or anytime through July 3, 2012, to LRammell@Le.Utah.gov or by mailing them to:

Office of Legislative Research and General Counsel
Attn: Insurance Market Issues Workgroup
210 House Building
Utah State Capitol Complex
Salt Lake City, UT 84114-5210

FURTHER
INFORMATION

This notice and any additional materials available before the meeting will be posted at <http://le.utah.gov/asp/interim/Commit.asp?Year=2012&Com=TSKHSR>.

For additional information, including how to find meeting locations, please contact Ms. Lori Rammell, Office of Legislative Research and General Counsel, at 801-538-1032 or LRammell@Le.Utah.gov.