



## Center for Medicaid and CHIP Services

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### Medicaid and CHIP FAQs: The Basic Health Program

#### **Q1: When will the Basic Health Program be operational?**

**A1:** Given the scope of the coverage changes that states and the federal government will be implementing on January 1, 2014, and the value of building on the experience that will be gained from those changes, HHS expects to issue proposed rules regarding the Basic Health Program for comment in 2013 and final guidance in 2014, so that the program will be operational beginning in 2015 for states interested in pursuing this option.

#### **Q2: What approaches are available to states that are interested in the Basic Health Program in the interim period before it becomes operational?**

**A2:** HHS is working with states that are interested in the concepts included in the Basic Health Program option to identify similar flexibilities to design coverage systems for 2014, such as continuity of coverage as individuals' income changes. Specifically, we have outlined options to states related to using Medicaid funds to purchase coverage through a Qualified Health Plan (QHP) on the Marketplace for Medicaid beneficiaries (<http://www.medicaid.gov/State-Resource-Center/Frequently-Asked-Questions/Downloads/Governor-FAQs-12-10-12.pdf>). Additionally, some states with current Medicaid adult coverage expansions are considering offering additional types of assistance with premiums to individuals who will be enrolled in QHPs through the Marketplace. HHS will review all such ideas.

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