State Marketplace Affordability At-A-Glance



Can Only Be Implemented if State has a State-Based Marketplace (SBM)

State Program/Initiative/Policy	California	Colorado	Massachusetts	Pennsylvania	Washington
Active Purchaser or Clearinghouse exchange model ¹	Active Purchaser	Clearinghouse	Active Purchaser	Clearinghouse	Clearinghouse
Easy/Tax-time Enrollment (can be done without an SBM but only for Medicaid/CHIP)	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No
Facilitated Enrollment (automatic enrollment) ²	Yes, for some people during Medicaid unwinding	No	Yes, for <150% FPL if they begin application but don't select a plan (opt-in program)	No	No
Option to have tax return shared with SBM	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No
State-funded CSR	Yes, on silver plans up to 250% FPL	Yes, on silver plans up to 250% FPL	Yes, on ConnectorCare plans (up to 500% FPL)	Under consideration for 2025	No, but Cascade Care plans emphasize lower out-of-pocket costs for various services
State-funded Premium Subsidies	No	Yes, for OmniSalud	Yes, on ConnectorCare plans (up to 500% FPL)	Under consideration for 2025	Yes, on silver or gold Cascade Care plans, up to 250% FPL

Can Be Implemented Regardless of Whether State has a State-Based Marketplace (SBM) or Federally Facilitated Marketplace (FFM)

State Program/Initiative/Policy	California	Colorado	Massachusetts	Pennsylvania	Washington
Individual Mandate	Yes, revenue used for state CSR subsidies	No	Yes, revenue used for ConnectorCare	No	No
Reinsurance (affordability impact varies by population)	No	Yes (attachment point of \$50k, cap of \$250k, coinsurance rate of 80%)	No	Yes (attachment point of \$60k, cap of \$100k, and coinsurance rate of 60%)	No
Premium Alignment (also called Silver Loading) approach ³	Carriers set their own load factor.	Carriers set their own load factor.	Carriers set their own load factor. Basic instructions here4.	1.22 - 1.26 load factor defined in state regulations <u>here</u> ⁵	Carriers set their own load factor. Instructions here on page 16.
Standardized Plans	Yes, all plans	Yes, Colorado Option plans	Yes, <u>ConnectorCare</u> <u>plans</u> ⁷	No	Yes, <u>Cascade Care</u> <u>Plans</u> ⁸

State Marketplace Affordability At-A-Glance



Public Option	No	Yes, Colorado Option plans	No	No	Yes, Cascade Select plans
State Age Rating rules (affordability impact varies by population)	No	No	Yes, 2:1	No	No
State MLR rules	No	No	Yes, 88%	No	No
Program for undocumented immigrants (an approach like Washington's would require an SBM)	Yes, Medi-Cal is available	Yes, OmniSalud (with state subsidies for up to 11,000 people). Cover All Coloradans begins in 2025, allowing children and pregnant people to enroll in Medicaid/CHP+ regardless of immigration status	Medicaid can be available for pregnant people regardless of immigration status ⁹	No	Yes, can enroll through Washington Healthplanfinder and receive up to \$250/month in state- funded premium subsidies
Merged individual/small group markets (affordability impacts vary for each market segment, depending on premerge stability, costs, size, etc.)	No	No	Yes	No	No

Acronyms					
CHIP	Children's Health Insurance Program	FPL	Federal Poverty Level		
CSR	Cost-Sharing Reduction	MLR	Medical Loss Ratio		
FFM	Federally Facilitated Marketplace	SBM	State-Based Marketplace		

Footnotes & Links

1. Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services, Initial Guidance to States on Exchanges, Sep 6 2023

https://www.cms.gov/cciio/resources/files/guidance_to_states_on_exchanges#:~:text=States%20have%20a%20range%20of,model%2C%20in%20which%20the%20Exchange

- 2. Urban Insititute, Expanding Health Coverage through Marketplace Facilitated Enrollment Programs, Dec 2023 https://digirepo.nlm.nih.gov/master/borndig/9918750488406676/9918750488406676.pdf
- 3. Health Affairs, How New Mexico Dramatically Reduced Marketplace Deductibles At Zero Cost To The State, Jul 20 2022

 $\underline{\text{https://www.healthaffairs.org/content/forefront/new-mexico-dramatically-reduced-marketplace-deductibles-zero-cost-state}$

- 4. Commonwealth of Massachusetts, Health Coverage Filing Guidance Notice 2023-B, Mar 17 2023
- https://www.mass.gov/doc/2023-b-rate-filing-materials-to-be-submitted-for-3q2023-4q2023-and-cy2024/download
- 5. Pennsylvania Insurance Department, 2024 ACA-Compliant Health Insurance Rate Filing Guidance, Mar 21, 2023
- $\underline{\text{https://www.insurance.pa.gov/Companies/ProductAndRateRequire/Documents/2024_QHP_Guidance/2024\%20ACA\%20Rate\%20Filing\%20Guidance.Final.03.21.23.pdf}$
- 6. Washington State Office of the Insurance Commissioner, 2025 Plan Year Individual Nongrandfathered Health Plan (Pool) Rate Filing Checklist, Mar 29 2024 https://www.insurance.wa.gov/media/7688
- 7. Massachusetts Health Connector, ConnectorCare Health Plans: Affordable, high-quality coverage from the Health Connector, Accessed May 14 2024 https://www.mahealthconnector.org/wp-content/uploads/ConnectorCare-Overview-2024.pdf
- 8. Washington Health Benefit Exchange, Draft 2024 Standard Plan Designs, Accessed May 14 2024 https://www.wahbexchange.org/content/dam/wahbe-assets/cascade-care/Draft%20204%20Standard%20Plans%20_Public%20Comment.pdf
- 9. Massachusetts Law Reform Institute, Understanding Non-Citizen Eligibility for Health Coverage from MassHealth and the Health Connector, March 2024

https://www.masslegalservices.org/system/files/library/Understanding%20eligibility%20of%20non-citizens%20for%20MassHealth%20and%20Health%20Connector%202024.pdf