

# What's New



West Virginia Offices of the Insurance Commissioner



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## Federal News

In a [letter](#) dated November 9, 2012, HHS Secretary Kathleen Sebelius extended the deadline for states to set up State-based Exchanges. The Kaiser article is located [here](#).

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The NAIC announced a three month delay with the System for Electronic Rate and Form Filing (SERFF) and may cause delays with Exchange development. Additional information is located [here](#).

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Manatt Health Solutions, with support from the State Network, has prepared a high level summary of the tasks that states must accomplish to achieve certification of a State Partnership Exchange for Plan Management and/or Consumer Assistance. The report is located [here](#).

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## Federal Rules

CMS released the following rules and documents in November 2012. For additional information follow the links listed.

- A proposed rule: The HHS Notice of Benefit and Payment Parameters for 2014 provides details on the 3Rs, user fees and a proposed 3.5% monthly premium charge on issuers for particular policies. For additional information click [here](#).
- Guidance to the state Medicaid Agencies on Medicaid benchmark plans. Additional information is located [here](#).
- Answers to FAQs concerning Medicaid and CHIP provisions on implementation of the ACA. The topics include: 90/10 matching funds for eligibility and enrollment systems; interactions between the FFE, Medicaid agencies and CHIP; and other topics. The FAQs are located [here](#).
- A final rule that raises rates to primary care physicians, ensuring they are paid the same for treating Medicaid and Medicare patients. The rate increase does not increase any cost to states. For additional information click [here](#).

The following rules were released during the month of November:

[HHS Press Release](#)

**Market Reforms:**

[Fact Sheet:](#)

[Rule:](#)

[Technical fact sheet on market reforms:](#)

[Technical fact sheet on rate review provisions](#)

**Essential Health Benefits:**

[Fact Sheet:](#)

[Rule:](#)

[AV Calculator:](#)

[EHB Benchmark info:](#)

[Recognition of Entities for Accreditation Notice](#)

**Wellness:**

[Fact Sheet:](#)

[Rule:](#)

[PRA Packages](#)



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Calendar grid for December 2012 with days of the week (Sun-Sat) and dates. Includes notes for Dec 17 (Conference Call), Dec 24 (Holiday), Dec 25 (Holiday), and Dec 31 (Holiday).

Additional information is available on our web site: www.bewv.com



Upcoming Calendar Meetings
Monday December 17, 2012
All Stakeholder Conference Call
1:00 PM
Call in Number: 1-866-479-6576
Participant Code: 61014578#

Reform Activity In Other States

- New Mexico released a draft Blueprint Evidence Document. The document is located here.
New York submitted a Level 2 Exchange Establishment Grant application on November 20, 2012. The application can be found here.
West Virginia Governor Tomblin's Administration states that they will likely pursue a Partnership Exchange. The press release is located here.

Other Information

- In a new study on how to rein in health care costs, one area is the systems environmental footprint. The study shows that hospitals that have implemented programs to reduce energy save money; up to \$5.4 billion over a five year period and projections of up to \$15 billion in ten years. The study is located here.
The number of small businesses that offer health insurance has declined over the last decade. Less than half of companies with fewer than 50 employees offer health insurance. According to a recent study by The Commonwealth Fund located here.
Kaiser Health News released a brief consumers guide to the Health Law and the election. The brief answers questions from consumers about the law and what it means to them. The article is located here.



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