WAHBE Board Meeting | March 28, 2024

# WAHBE Customer Journeys: Supporting Eligibility and Enrollment



# Supporting Customers after Open Enrollment



### WAHBE Eligibility Team



Missy Deinlein (She/Her)
WAHBE Eligibility Manager
melissa.deinlein@wahbexchange.org

#### Helping customers:

- Understand Complex Eligibility Nuances
- Verify Outstanding Eligibility Criteria
- Navigate Individual and Employer Appeals



### Steve's Journey: Conditional Verification Process, Income & Tax Credits













Steve applied for a
Qualified Health Plan
and tax credits. Since
his income could not be
verified by our
Healthplanfinder
system, he was
approved for
'conditional' eligibility.

Amber, the Eligibility
Specialist, was reviewing
three months of
paystubs Steve
submitted and noticed
the income reported on
his application looked
like net earnings. Amber
called Steve to explain
how income is
calculated using gross
wages.

She also let him know that if he left the net income amounts, he could receive too much in tax credits—which might require him to repay the IRS when filing his tax return. Steve changed his reported income from net to gross.

Amber verified Steve's income & removed Conditional Eligibility status. While his tax credit went down and his share of the premium went up, Steve was able to make an informed decision and is less likely to face a surprise tax bill.



## Carmen's Journey: Newly Eligible to Purchase Qualified Health Plan Coverage through the Conditional Verification Process & Tax Credit Impacts on Premium Costs.















Carmen applied for coverage on Washington Healthplanfinder. The system was unable to verify their lawful presence status, and approved them for conditional eligibility with \$381 federal tax credits and \$1 in Cascade Care Savings. They enrolled in a qualified health plan with a \$0 premium.

Carmen provided documents showing they are a DACA enrollee and our Eligibility Specialist was able to confirm their ongoing eligibility.

Unfortunately, they are not eligible for a federal tax credit. While Carmen is now eligible for a higher Cascade Care Savings Subsidy of \$250, they now have a higher premium payment of \$114.

With Qualified Health
Plan Expansion in
2024, we are excited we
could help Carmen as
they are now eligible to
purchase a Qualified
Health Plan.



### Lori's Journey: Appealing Denial of a Special Enrollment Period









Lori submitted a *Healthplanfinder* application on 2/28/2024. She was determined eligible for federal tax credits and Cascade Care Savings... but ineligible to enroll. Lori became unemployed on 11/1/2023 and lost her health insurance. If she had applied for coverage during Open Enrollment or within 60 days of her job loss, she would have been eligible to enroll.

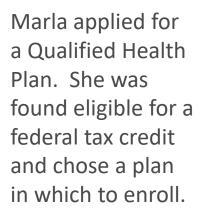
Lori filed an appeal disputing denial of a Special Enrollment Period. She wrote that she didn't know she had only 60 days to enroll in new coverage and since she'd always had employer coverage, she didn't know about *Healthplanfinder's* open enrollment period.

Crystal the WAHBE Appeals
Specialist reached out to Lori in
preparation for the appeal. She
shared the list of events that would
help Lori qualify for a Special
Enrollment Period if they happened
in the previous 60 days. Lori did
not have any qualifying event.
Crystal was able to share the
complex nuances of the enrollment
and eligibility process and Lori
chose to withdraw her appeal.



### Marla's Journey: Employer Appeal and Enrollment Options







The *Healthplanfinder* 

sent notice to her

employer that she

with tax credits.

enrolled in coverage





Marla's employer filed an appeal disputing her eligibility for tax credit. They provided documents showing that they offered affordable, ACA-compliant coverage and Marla waived it. The appeal was granted.



Kelly, the Appeals Specialist, followed up with Marla. Marla acknowledged that her employer offered coverage but said she wanted was happy with her *Healthplanfinder* coverage. Kelly explained that Marla could keep her QHP coverage, but that she would be ineligible to federal tax credits and would have to pay the full cost of premiums. Marla was able to make an informed decision and chose to maintain her full-priced coverage until her next Open Enrollment period for her Employer's coverage.

#### WAHBE Enrollment Team



**Erin Fluegal** (She/Her)
WAHBE Enrollment Manager
erin.fluegal@wahbexchange.org

#### Helping customers:

- Understand Complex Enrollment Nuances
- Obtain Special Enrollment Periods for Exceptional Circumstances
- Navigate Enrollment
   Corrections or Adjustments



### Jim's Journey: Employer Appeal and Enrollment Options













Jim enrolled in
Washington Apple
Health during the
pandemic. After his
income was updated,
he was no longer
eligible for WAH, but
was eligible to
purchase a Qualified
Health Plan (QHP)
and Qualified Dental
Plan (QDP).

After selecting his plan, Jim realized that his providers weren't in network for the plan he picked!

Jim called our
Customer Support
Center for help.
While they are not
able to open a
Special Enrollment
Period, they were
able to send a ticket
to our Enrollment
team to assist.

Elisabeth, the Enrollment Analyst was able to review Jim's application. She found that he was eligible for a Special Enrollment Period. She was also able to take actions in the system so that Jim could go into the system to select the plan he needed. In fact, Jim made his request in enough time that Elisabeth was able to cancel his originally selected coverage, communicate with the Carrier Partner and get his new coverage start with the same date as his old coverage.



#### Nina's Journey: Understanding 1095-A Tax Forms







Nina was getting ready to file her taxes and received the 1095-A tax form from the Washington Healthplanfinder. She noticed that the amount in column A was different than the premium amount she paid to her insurance carrier.

Nina sent us a message requesting review of her tax form.

Sam, the Enrollment Analyst, reviewed the information on the form. She was able to see that there was a misunderstanding about what the number in Column A was. It was showing the amount covered by tax credits (Essential Health Benefit Premium Amount), not the actual premiums amount paid by Nina.

Sam called Nina to help explain the information on the form.
Prepared with this information, Nina was able to successfully use the form and file her taxes.

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