

Implementation of the Affordable Care Act of 2010 (the healthcare reform law) requires the enclosed notice be sent to every employee. The notice describes the new online Health Insurance Marketplace, also called an exchange, available at <a href="https://www.healthcare.gov">www.healthcare.gov</a> beginning October 1, 2013. The Marketplace describes options you may have available for health insurance (other than employer-based plans) and is designed for easy cost and coverage comparisons. The enclosed notice also includes information about coverage you may be eligible for through Occidental College.

Starting in 2014, if you do not have medical coverage, you will have to pay a penalty (in the form of a tax). If you do not qualify for coverage through Occidental College or you do not enroll yourself or a dependent, you will have to obtain coverage or pay the penalty. This penalty is known as the individual mandate penalty.

For eligible employees, the health plan offered by Occidental College qualifies as affordable and meets minimum essential coverage standards set by the Affordable Care Act. Because of this, you and your family won't qualify to receive any credits or subsidies, if you purchase coverage from a Marketplace, regardless of your income or family size. If you are a part-time, temporary, casual or seasonal employee or are on your waiting period for benefits and do not have access to other coverage, you may still qualify for reduced premiums through a Marketplace plan. You can visit <a href="www.healthcare.gov">www.healthcare.gov</a> to determine if you and/or your family qualify for subsidies under the Health Insurance Marketplace in your state.

If you are considered to be low income, you may qualify for Medicaid. Some states will also be expanding the eligibility rules and income requirements to qualify for Medicaid. To determine if the state where you live is expanding Medicaid coverage and to learn about Medicaid, please visit www.healthcare.gov/do-i-qualify-for-medicaid.

### What do I do next?

Review the information provided in the notice. You can learn more about the Marketplace at <a href="https://www.healthcare.gov">www.healthcare.gov</a>. The open enrollment period for the Occidental College plan will begin on November 15. You will receive more information on your employer-based options at that time.

Form Approved OMB No. 1210-0149 (expires 11-30-2013)

# **PART A: General Information**

When key parts of the health care law take effect in 2014, there will be a new way to buy health insurance: the Health Insurance Marketplace. To assist you as you evaluate options for you and your family, this notice provides some basic information about the new Marketplace and employment-based health coverage offered by your employer.

### What is the Health Insurance Marketplace?

The Marketplace is designed to help you find health insurance that meets your needs and fits your budget. The Marketplace offers "one-stop shopping" to find and compare private health insurance options. You may also be eligible for a new kind of tax credit that lowers your monthly premium right away. Open enrollment for health insurance coverage through the Marketplace begins in October 2013 for coverage starting as early as January 1, 2014.

# Can I Save Money on my Health Insurance Premiums in the Marketplace?

You may qualify to save money and lower your monthly premium, but only if your employer does not offer coverage, or offers coverage that doesn't meet certain standards. The savings on your premium that you're eligible for depends on your household income.

## Does Employer Health Coverage Affect Eligibility for Premium Savings through the Marketplace?

Yes. If you have an offer of health coverage from your employer that meets certain standards, you will not be eligible for a tax credit through the Marketplace and may wish to enroll in your employer's health plan. However, you may be eligible for a tax credit that lowers your monthly premium, or a reduction in certain cost—sharing if your employer does not offer coverage to you at all or does not offer coverage that meets certain standards. If the cost of a plan from your employer that would cover you (and not any other members of your family) is more than 9.5% of your household income for the year, or if the coverage your employer provides does not meet the "minimum value" standard set by the Affordable Care Act, you may be eligible for a tax credit.<sup>1</sup>

Note: If you purchase a health plan through the Marketplace instead of accepting health coverage offered by your employer, then you may lose the employer contribution to the employer-offered coverage. Also, this employer contribution -as well as your employee contribution to employer-offered coverage- is often excluded from income for Federal and State income tax purposes. Your payments for coverage through the Marketplace are made on an after-tax basis.

#### **How Can I Get More Information?**

For more information about your coverage offered by your employer, please check your summary plan description or contact Karen Salce - 323.259.2945

The Marketplace can help you evaluate your coverage options, including your eligibility for coverage through the Marketplace and its cost. Please visit HealthCare.gov for more information, including an online application for health insurance coverage and contact information for a Health Insurance Marketplace in your area.

An employer-sponsored health plan meets the "minimum value standard" if the plan's share of the total allowed benefit costs covered by the plan is no less than 60 percent of such costs.

# PART B: Information About Health Coverage Offered by Your Employer This section contains information about any health coverage offered by your employer. If you decide to complete an

This section contains information about any health coverage offered by your employer. If you decide to complete an application for coverage in the Marketplace, you will be asked to provide this information. This information is numbered to correspond to the Marketplace application.

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3. Employer name		the state of the same of the s	4. Employer Identification Number (EIN)	
Occidental College		95-160	5/1//	
5. Employer address			6. Employer phone number	
1600 Campus Road			323-259-2613	
		8. State	9. ZIP code	
Los Angeles		CA	90041	
10. Who can we contact about employee health coverage	ge at this job?			
Karen Salce				
11. Phone number (if different from above) 12. Email address			SEE UP BY SOME SEE	
323-259-2945	ksalce@oxy.edu			
<ul> <li>✓ All employees.</li> <li>✓ Some employees. Eligible employees a working 30 hours on a continuous basis</li> </ul>	ıre:			
<ul> <li>With respect to dependents:</li> <li>We do offer coverage. Eligible dependents are:</li> <li>spouse, domestic partner, dependent children to age 26</li> </ul>				
<ul> <li>☐ We do not offer coverage.</li> <li>☑ If checked, this coverage meets the minimum value standard, and the cost of this coverage to you is intended to</li> </ul>				
be affordable, based on employee wages.  ** Even if your employer intends your cover discount through the Marketplace. The Note to determine whether you may be eligible week to week (perhaps you are an hourly employed mid-year, or if you have other	rage to be affordable, y Marketplace will use you e for a premium discour y employee or you work	ou may still be household ind nt. If, for exam on a commiss	e eligible for a premium come, along with other factors, aple, your wages vary from sion basis), if you are newly	

If you decide to shop for coverage in the Marketplace, HealthCare.gov will guide you through the process.