

Short Term Health Insurance

- Bridge the gaps in health insurance coverage

Short Term health insurance, underwritten by Golden Rule Insurance Company, is a flexible health insurance coverage solution when you need coverage for a period of transition in your life.

Is short term insurance for me?

Short Term insurance may be for you if you're:

•Unable to apply for Affordable Care Act (ACA), also called Obamacare, coverage because you missed Open Enrollment and you don't qualify for Special Enrollment

- •Waiting for your ACA coverage to start
- •Looking for coverage to bridge you to Medicare
- •Turning 26 and coming off your parent's insurance
- •Between jobs or waiting for benefits to begin at your new job
- •Healthy and under 65

For these situations and many others, Short Term health insurance, also called Temporary health insurance or Term health insurance, might be right for you. It can fill that gap in coverage until you can choose a longer term solution.

Offering short-term insurance for 30 years

The UnitedHealthcare commitment to the Short Term health insurance option hasn't just come about with recent shifts in the health insurance market. Golden Rule Insurance Company, which became a part of UnitedHealthcare in 2003 and still underwrites the Short Term Medical insurance product today, has been offering Short Term insurance plans for over 30 years.

The benefits of short term health insurance

Short Term health insurance offers you just the kind of flexible, fast coverage you need for those dynamic times of change in your life. With Short Term Medical plans1 you can: •Get covered fast, as soon as the day after application •Pick your deductible amount from several options •Drop coverage with no penalty and receive a refund on unused premium if a more permanent health insurance option comes along

•Access an extensive network of health care professionals, with 1.2 million physicians and other health care professionals and approximately 6,500 hospitals and other facilities2

•Get generally lower premiums than with ACA health insurance plans

Keep these short term insurance reminders in your long-term memory

With Short Term health insurance you are not buying an ACA health plan. That means you need to keep a few things in mind as you plan your coverage needs:

•ACA health plans are guaranteed issue, meaning you cannot be denied coverage based on preexisting conditions

Short Term insurance plans are not guaranteed issue, do not cover preexisting conditions, and you must answer a series of medical questions to apply for coverage
ACA health plans are required to cover 10 essential health benefits, including maternity and newborn care, mental health and substance abuse disorder services
Short Term insurance plans do not have coverage requirements, so plans vary in what they cover. Check your plan details carefully

So, it's true that you may save money by choosing Short Term health insurance. Just be sure you know what you are buying, and that it's a good choice for you. For the right situation, Short Term insurance plans can definitely provide fast, flexible, temporary health insurance coverage that fits your needs.

For 2016, the ACA tax penalty was 2.5% of your yearly household income or \$695 per person, \$347.50 per child under 18. You paid whichever was greater, and paid part of the total fee for each full month a family member had no coverage. The total tax penalty was \$2,085 or the total annual premium for the national average price of a Marketplace Bronze plan, again, whichever was greater. For 2017 and beyond, the penalty will be adjusted for inflation.

Short Term Health Insurance Frequently Asked Questions

1.) How do I know if Short Term health insurance is a good choice for me?

Short Term medical insurance, also called Temporary health insurance or Term health insurance, can provide a temporary solution to help fill gaps in coverage. Consider Short Term if you're:

•Between jobs

•Waiting for other coverage to begin

•Waiting to be eligible for Medicare coverage

•Without health insurance, outside of Open Enrollment

For these situations and more where you are stuck in a coverage gap, finding the best short term health insurance plan you can may be just the right solution for you.1

2.) Is Short Term health insurance available for families?

Yes, spouses and dependents can be covered under a Short Term insurance plan. However, because Short Term is medically underwritten, all family members will need to meet medical requirements of the plan.

Does Short Term health insurance provide coverage for preexisting conditions?

No. In most cases Short Term insurance plans do not cover preexisting conditions, which depending on your state's definition would mean something you received diagnosis or treatment for within the last 2 to 5 years. If you are in this situation, you may want to explore other options or see if you can extend your current insurance plan.

3.) How quickly can I get coverage?

The earliest a Short Term health insurance plan can take effect is the day after your application is received. You may also choose a later effective date based on your individual needs.

4.) Is preventive care covered under Short Term health insurance?

Preventive care can sometimes be covered under a Short Term plan but may be limited. Check plan details for more information.

5.) Will prescriptions be covered if I get temporary health insurance?

Prescriptions may be covered on some plans. Check specific plan details to learn more.

6.) Is my current doctor covered under this plan?

It is possible, but check the network offered by any short term health insurance you plan to buy for the inclusion of doctors that are important to you.

7.) Do I need to select a Primary Care Provider (PCP)?

While some plans may require you to select a PCP as your main point of contact for your health care management, temporary health insurance plans often give you the flexibility to see any qualified health care provider you choose.

8.) Do I need a referral from my PCP to see a specialist?

Referrals are not required to see a specialist with Short Term Medical plans underwritten by Golden Rule Insurance Company. You can see any specialist you wish. Other Short Term health insurance plans may differ, so be sure to check the details before you buy.

9.) Do Short Term plans meet federal requirements of the Affordable Care Act (ACA)?

No. Short Term medical insurance plans are not minimum essential coverage and, therefore, do not meet the mandated coverage necessary for you to avoid a tax penalty under the ACA. You may be subject to the tax penalty if other exemptions do not apply to you.

The total penalty a family could pay in 2016 was the greater of either \$2,085 or the total annual premium for the national average price of a Marketplace Bronze plan. For 2017 and beyond, the penalty will be adjusted for inflation. Keep this in mind when weighing your options, and consider consulting with a tax advisor for more information.

10.) Can I get a tax subsidy to help pay for my Short Term health insurance?

No. Short Term plans do not qualify for tax subsidies under the ACA. Generally speaking, temporary health insurance costs less than ACA health plans, so the option may still make sense for your situation.

11.) Is Short Term medical insurance limited to annual enrollment periods?

No. Short Term insurance plans have no such restrictions and are available year-round. There's no need to wait for Open Enrollment to apply.

12.) Are there multiple plan choices and price ranges available with Temporary health insurance plans?

Most often, the answer is yes. For example, Short Term Medical underwritten by Golden Rule Insurance Company offers multiple plans and deductible choices to meet a range of budgets and needs. As always, check the plan you are considering carefully.

13.) Do Short Term health insurance plans have high deductibles?

Short Term Medical plans offer deductible options starting at \$1,000 to meet your needs.

14.) What if I don't need my temporary insurance coverage for as long as I had planned?

Short Term health insurance plans can be cancelled at any time without penalty. Any premium paid beyond the new termination date will be returned to you.

15.) Can I renew this type of health insurance coverage?

No. Short Term coverage is limited to the duration selected; therefore, it is non-renewable. Durations may vary by state.

16.) If I'm looking for the best Short Term health insurance price, do I have options to help me reduce my premium payments?

Yes. Choosing a plan with fewer benefits, or a higher deductible, or a single up-front payment option are all effective ways to potentially reduce your premiums.

17.) Can I pair other plans with a Temporary health insurance plan?

Yes. Short Term is often combined with other supplemental health insurance plans to help round out coverage. Dental, Vision, Accident and Critical Illness plans are commonly paired with Short Term medical insurance plans.

Ready to See Some Short Term Options?

Short Term Medical plans may be the fast and flexible solution you've been looking for.

