

American Rescue Plan Fact Sheet

On March 11, 2021, President Biden signed into law the *American Rescue Plan Act of 2021* (American Rescue Plan or ARP), which greatly increases the amount of financial assistance Pennsylvanians will be eligible for in 2021 and 2022 to lower the cost of health coverage through Pennie. This law, in conjunction with Pennie's COVID-19 Enrollment Period, will help provide Pennsylvanians the ability to access affordable, comprehensive health coverage through Pennie.

Connecting Uninsured Pennsylvanians to Coverage

An estimated **376,000** Pennsylvanians who are currently uninsured will qualify for additional financial assistance to lower their monthly premiums so they can access the coverage they need through Pennie. This includes:

- An estimated **266,000** uninsured Pennsylvanians with incomes between 150% and 400% of the federal poverty level (FPL) now qualify for additional advance premium tax credits (APTC) to lower the cost of health coverage.
- An estimated **110,000** uninsured Pennsylvanians who were previously ineligible for APTC because their income was too high, can now access financial assistance to find the coverage that best meets their needs at a price they can afford through Pennie.¹

An estimated **15,900** uninsured Pennsylvanians are newly eligible to enroll in a Silver plan through Pennie with a zero-dollar premium.^{2,3,4} These Pennsylvanians, who earn a little bit too much to qualify for Medical Assistance, will also have the ability to shop for a silver plan with a zero-dollar deductible.⁵

¹ ASPE HHS Fact Sheet - <https://www.hhs.gov/about/news/2021/03/12/fact-sheet-american-rescue-plan-reduces-health-care-costs-expands-access-insurance-coverage.html>

² Note: Customers may need to pay a few dollars out-of-pocket if they enroll in a plan that includes non-Essential Health Benefits (EHB).

³ This number excludes the uninsured currently eligible for Medical Assistance.

⁴ Assistant Secretary for Planning and Evaluation: *Access to Marketplace Plans with Low Premiums on the Federal Platform: Availability Among Uninsured Non-Elderly Adults Under the American Rescue Plan*

<https://aspe.hhs.gov/system/files/pdf/265321/ASPE%20ACA%20Low%20Premium%20Plans%20Issue%20Brief%20II.pdf>

⁵ Pennie internal analysis of silver plans offered in each Commonwealth service area.

Helping those in Job-Transition Access Health Coverage and Care

Under the American Rescue Plan, any individual who is eligible to receive unemployment insurance (commonly known as unemployment compensation) for at least one week in 2021 will be eligible to receive the maximum amount of financial assistance, including APTC and cost sharing reductions (CSR) to dramatically lower the cost of health coverage and care in 2021.

- By enrolling in a Silver plan, Pennsylvanians in job-transition will be able to enroll in coverage with zero-dollar premiums in many cases. These Pennsylvanians will also have access to plans with reduced out-of-pocket costs such as zero-dollar deductibles, as well as lower co-pays and out-of-pocket maximums when they access health care services.

For example:

- 35-year-old, single individual, who eligible for unemployment insurance in Dauphin County (\$52,000 household income) who enrolls in the benchmark plan (second-lowest cost Silver plan)

FPL Amount	Cost of a benchmark plan (before ARP) *	Range of deductibles ^	Range of Out-of-pocket Maximums ^
408% FPL	\$501.42	\$2,900 - \$6,000	\$6,900 - \$8,550
138% FPL** (Unemployment)	\$0	\$0 - \$425	\$1,200 - \$2,600

*Essential Health Benefits only

**Household income is capped at 138%FPL for those eligible to receive unemployment insurance

^ Data gathered from plan display on Pennie

Making Coverage More Affordable for Current Pennie Customers

The American Rescue Plan also makes coverage more affordable for the 265,800 Pennsylvanians who currently receive financial assistance through Pennie, to further reduce the cost of health coverage.

- **More Affordable Options are Available:** Many people currently enrolled in health coverage through Pennie will qualify for additional financial assistance. This additional financial assistance will provide current customers with the ability to enroll in high-value plans, including Gold plans, with lower out-of-pocket costs. These increased APTC amounts will reduce premiums by \$87 per person per month and \$118 per policy per month, on average for these customers.⁶
 - Couples earning over \$70,000 (406% FPL) could save more than \$2,500 per month on their monthly premiums for the benchmark plan (second lowest cost Silver plan). Under ARP, many customers will be able to shop for higher-value Gold and Silver plans with similar monthly premiums as a Bronze plan in their area.

Example: Married couple, aged 64 in Northumberland County (\$70,000 household income)

- Benchmark plan premium is \$3,009/month
- ARP APTC = \$2,514

Type of Plan	Before ARP premium	American Rescue Plan*
Second Lowest Cost Silver	\$3,009	\$496
Lowest Cost Bronze (60%)	\$1,683	\$0
Lowest Cost Silver (70%)	\$2,422	\$0
Lowest Cost Gold (80%)	\$2,345	\$0

* Used Kaiser Family Foundation calculator (<https://pennie.com/arpa-savings-calculator>), please note that non-Essential Health Benefits are not considered in this calculation.

⁶ Assumption made using internal data on number of individuals and households

Example: A family of four making \$91,700 could see their premiums decrease by \$197 per month.

- Example: Two adults aged 40 and two children under age 15 in Philadelphia County
 - Benchmark plan premium is \$1,437/month
 - ARP APTC = \$883

Type of Plan	Before ARP premium	American Rescue Plan*
Second Lowest Cost Silver	\$751	\$554
Lowest Cost Bronze (60%)	\$350	\$153
Lowest Cost Silver (70%)	\$721	\$524
Lowest Cost Gold (80%)	\$718	\$521

* Used Kaiser Family Foundation calculator (<https://pennie.com/arpa-savings-calculator>), please note that non-Essential Health Benefits are not considered in this calculation.

- An individual making \$19,000 may be able to find health insurance coverage with no monthly premium, saving roughly \$66 per month on average. There may be a non-Essential Health Benefits premium, no more than a few dollars a month, that the individual will be responsible for paying.

Providing Benefits to Pennsylvanians

The enhanced financial assistance available under the American Rescue Plan represents a critical opportunity to connect Pennsylvanians to health coverage through Pennie.

Pennsylvanians will be able to take advantage of increased premium tax credits for high quality health plans when they enroll in coverage through Pennie. Every day, Pennie is working to make the customer experience even better, to ensure that Pennsylvanians have access to the help and support they need to enroll in quality, affordable health coverage. Pennie has extended its current COVID-19 Enrollment Period to August 15, to ensure that Pennsylvanians will have the opportunity to avail themselves of these new benefits.

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