

Healthy NY Program



“Health Insurance for the Uninsured”

Healthy NY Toll Free Phone No: 1-866-HEALTHY NY (1-866-432-5849)

Healthy NY Program Guidance

1. Increase in income levels for individuals and sole proprietors
2. Coverage for chemotherapy drugs
3. Upstate Pilot Project

1. 2009 Income Levels for Individuals and Sole Proprietors

The federal poverty levels have been adjusted for 2009. The amount of allowable household income for participation in the Healthy NY program for individuals and sole proprietors is equal to 250% of the federal poverty level and is therefore impacted by this adjustment. Health plans are to begin using these figures immediately.

The new income levels for individuals and sole proprietors are:

Family Size	Monthly Gross Income at or Below
1	\$ 2,257
2	\$ 3,036
3	\$ 3,815
4	\$ 4,594
5	\$ 5,373
Each Additional Person	\$ 780

Pregnant women count as two people.

The Department is starting the process of updating applications and the Healthy NY web site, located at www.healthyny.com. The new income levels should be posted to the web site soon. It may take some time before new applications can be printed. In the interim, we will be using inserts showing the new income amounts.

2. Coverage for Chemotherapy Drugs

Insurance Law section 4326(d)(12) requires Healthy NY contracts to cover chemotherapy. This benefit is separate and distinct from the prescription drug benefit a covered member may choose to have. The drug benefit is described in section 4326(d)(14). Although many chemotherapy drugs are injected, chemotherapy may instead be administered through oral drugs. These drugs may be prescribed to a Healthy NY member for use at home. Please note that chemotherapy drugs are covered under the chemotherapy benefit of Healthy NY, regardless of whether the covered member has prescription drug coverage, because the chemotherapy benefit is separate from the prescription drug benefit in the Healthy NY law.

3. Upstate Pilot Project

Beginning in the spring of 2009, Benefit Specialists of New York (BSNY) will launch a Healthy NY pilot project. The project is the result of legislation directing the Insurance Department to implement a pilot project in upstate New York. As a result of a Request for Proposals process (RFP), BSNY was selected as the winning bidder. The Upstate Pilot Project will take place in the central New York counties of Cayuga, Cortland, Herkimer, Jefferson, Madison, Onondaga, Oneida, Oswego and Lewis.

The pilot project will examine the impact of premium subsidies, cost sharing variations, wellness involvement, and community education and outreach. BSNY has partnered with United Health Care for this project. BSNY will work with the Greater Syracuse Chamber of Commerce, with whom they are affiliated, as well as numerous local chambers, health care centers, hospitals and community organizations to educate, and promote Healthy NY.