

SAN MATEO-FOSTER CITY SCHOOL DISTRICT

September 20, 2021

All Staff

San Mateo-Foster City School District

Re: Notice to Employees of Coverage Options

This Notice is being provided to ALL employees of San Mateo- Foster City School District, as required by the Department of Labor, regarding the coverage options available through the Health Insurance Marketplace created under the Affordable Care Act (ACT) known as "Covered California".

"Covered California" is a health insurance marketplace that helps individuals select and enroll in affordable health plans, and also assists eligible individuals in receiving premium tax credits or coverage through other Federal or State health care programs. "Covered California" can be accessed on the internet at <u>www.coveredca.com</u> or by telephone at 1-800-300-1506 or 1-888-975-1142.

Our district chooses the option of using a model Notice provided by the Department of Labor. The model Notice is attached as Part A "General Information" and Part B "Information about Health Coverage Offered by Your Employer". Please read the attached Notice carefully and visit HealthCare.gov for more information.

Sincerely,

Patrick Gaffney Chief Business Official

1170 Chess Drive Foster City, California 94404 650.312.7700 Tel 650.312.7779 Fax www.smfcsd.net



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.¹

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 (if any) 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 payroll.

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.

¹ 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.

The information below corresponds to the Marketplace Employer Coverage Tool. Completing this section is optional for employers, but will help ensure employees understand their coverage choices.

13. Is the employee currently eligible for coverage offered by this employer, or will the employee be eligible in the next 3 months?										
 Yes (Continue) 13a. If the employee is not eligible today, including as a result of a waiting or probationary period, when is the employee eligible for coverage?(mm/dd/yyyy) (Continue) No (STOP and return this form to employee) 										
14. Does the employer offer a health plan that meets the minimum value standard*? Yes (Go to question 15) No (STOP and return form to employee)										
 15. For the lowest-cost plan that meets the minimum value standard* offered only to the employee (don't include family plans): If the employer has wellness programs, provide the premium that the employee would pay if he/ she received the maximum discount for any tobacco cessation programs, and didn't receive any other discounts based on wellness programs. a. How much would the employee have to pay in premiums for this plan? b. How often? Weekly Every 2 weeks Twice a month Monthly Quarterly Yearly 										
If the plan year will end soon and you know that the health plans offered will change, go to question 16. If you don't										

know, STOP and return form to employee.

r.

16. What change will the employer make for the new plan year?										
Employer won't offer health coverage										
Employer will start offering health coverage to employees or change the premium for the lowest-cost plan										
available only to the employee that meets the minimum value standard.* (Premium should reflect the										
discount for wellness programs. See question 15.)										
a. How much would the employee have to pay in premiums for this plan? \$										
b. How often? Weekly Every 2 weeks Twice a month Monthly Quarterly Yearly										

• A	An employer-sponsored	health plan r	meets the	"minimum	value standar	l" if the	plan's share	of the to	tal allowed	benefit o	costs	covered	by the
р	lan is no less than 60 p	percent of suc	ch costs (S	ection 36B	(c)(2)(C)(ii) of t	he Inter	nal Revenue	Code of	1986)				