#### **ACA**

- Also known as PPACA, Obamacare, and Heath Care Reform
- Signed in 2010 with some reforms
- Additional reforms began January 2014

Grandfathered—existed before ACA

Nongrandfathered—existed after ACA

#### **Individual Mandate**

- U.S. citizens and legal residents are required to have qualifying health care coverage.
- There is a tax penalty if they do not have coverage (with some exceptions).

#### **EHB**

- Health plans must be qualified to fit ACA standards.
- QHPs, Medicaid state plans, and insurance on the health exchange must meet requirements.

## **Emergency Medical Services**

- No pre-authorization required
- In-network or out-of-network
- Normal cost-sharing requirements

### **Primary Care Provider**

• Every insured and dependent must have a PCP.

### Prohibition on Lifetime/Annual Limit

- On all EHBs (except for grandfathered plans)
- Limits allowed on non-EHBs

## **Metal Tiers**

- Four levels of coverage; each must cover minimum EHBs.
- Tiers represent average portion of expected costs.
- Percentages represent how much plan will pay.

### **Free Preventative Care**

• Take care of yourself now to prevent costly, future, chronic conditions.

# **Pre-existing conditions**

• Health plans can no longer exclude pre-existing conditions (except for grandfathered plans).

## Coverage of Children to Age 26

- Up to, not including, age 26
- Children can remain if:
  - married;
  - not living with parents;
  - attending school;
  - not financially dependent; or
  - eligible to enroll in employer's plan.
- Past age 26 if unmarried, financially dependent, and have physical or mental impairment

# **Eligibility**

- Depends on:
  - Income
  - Employment status
  - If you have coverage through employer

#### **Guaranteed Issue**

- Must be offered to any individual or employer in the state
- Subject to rules

## **Health Benefit Exchanges/Marketplaces**

- Required
- Operated by state or federal government
- Annual open enrollment and special enrollment depending on qualifying events

### **QHPs**

- Provide EHBs
- Only available on the exchange
- Only plan that provides tax credits and cost sharing

## **SHOP**

- Online application to compare health plans
- 50 or less full-time employees

### **Subsidies**

- A sum of money given by the federal government
- Advanced premium tax credits (APTC)
- Cost-sharing (only available in Silver tier)

# **Navigators**

- Funded by government through federal grants
- CANNOT sell insurance or provide advice
- Help determine eligibility for public assistance

# **Employer Responsibilities**

- Employer notification responsibilities
  - Required to let employees know their rights to affordable coverage
- Employer mandate—employer shared responsibility
  - For employers with 50 or more employees
  - Penalty if not followed

# **Health Care Tax Credit for Small Employers**

- Maximum credit
  - 50% of premiums paid for small business employers
  - 35% of premiums paid for small tax-exempt employers
  - Eligible for two years