

### **EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT**

Jessica Altman, Executive Director June 3, 2025 Board Meeting

### **COVERED CALIFORNIA 2025 BOARD MEETING DATES**

All meetings will be held at Covered CA Headquarters, 1601 Exposition Boulevard, Sacramento. Unless otherwise notified, meetings will begin at 10:00 am and are held the third Thursday of the month.

May 15	September 18	
June 3	October 16 *	
July 17 *	November 20	
August 21	December 18 *	
	July 17 *	

\*Possibly no meeting



### **COVERED CALIFORNIA 2026 BOARD MEETING DATES**

All meetings will be held at Covered CA Headquarters, 1601 Exposition Boulevard, Sacramento. Unless otherwise notified, meetings will begin at 10:00 am and are held the third Thursday of the month.

January 15	May 21	September 17
February 26	June 18	October 15 *
March 19 *	July 16 *	November 19
April 16	August 20 *	December 17 *

\*Possibly no meeting



### **EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT**

- □ Executive Director's Update
- □ Federal Update
- Data and Research



# **EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S UPDATE**

- On May 22, 2025, the House of Representatives passed the budget reconciliation package.
- The Marketplace provisions of the passed budget package reflected those discussed at the May board meeting, with the addition of a new provision to federally fund cost-sharing reductions and prohibit access to those funds by any Qualified Health Plans that cover abortion services.
- □ The reconciliation package moves to the U.S. Senate for deliberation.
- The proposed federal marketplace rule, which largely mirrors the reconciliation package provisions, is currently pending finalization at the federal Office of Management and Budget.



- Covered California continues to inform the policy dialogue related to the health and marketplace provisions in the budget reconciliation bill, including partnership and coordination with the State Marketplace Network, as well as continued engagement with the California Congressional delegation and stakeholders.
- On May 20, Covered California issued a <u>statement</u> the significant consequences the proposed Marketplace provisions would have to the health and financial security of hundreds of thousands of Californians.
- On May 21, Covered California along with 17 other state-based marketplaces sent a <u>letter</u> to the House of Representatives sharing concerns that the reconciliation bill will severely impact the ability of millions of Americans to access coverage and destabilize marketplaces and the health care system.



- On June 2, Covered California, again joined by 17 other state-based marketplaces, signed a letter to the United States Senate outlining key concerns that the reconciliation bill will unnecessarily increase costs and burden for consumers, end longstanding state autonomy that has driven efficiency in providing access to affordable coverage for millions, and the Congressional inaction to extend enhanced tax credits will result in millions more uninsured.
- Covered California also sent its own letter on June 2 to California's United States Senate representatives, echoing these concerns and also highlighting challenges of key reconciliation provisions including unnecessary and burdensome verification processes for consumers, eliminating eligibility for 90 percent of lawfully present immigration groups, shortening the open enrollment period to the detriment of consumers and the risk pool, and the compounding effects of the reconciliation provisions with the looming expiration of the enhanced premium tax credits.



## **DATA AND RESEARCH**

Katie Ravel, Director Policy, Eligibility, and Research Division



#### POTENTIAL COVERAGE IMPACTS OF THE BUDGET RECONCILIATION BILL

- According to preliminary projections from the non-partisan Congressional Budget Office (CBO), in addition to the 7.6 million Americans who would lose Medicaid coverage, another estimated 4.1 million current Marketplace enrollees would go uninsured as a result of the policies in the budget reconciliation bill.
- The CBO separately projected 4.2 million Marketplace enrollees would go uninsured if Congress fails to extend the enhanced premium tax credits that are due to expire at the end of this year, totaling as many as 8.3M - or over 1 in 3 - Marketplace consumers going uninsured if both scenarios are realized.
- We estimate that approximately 660,000 of the 8.3 million Americans forecasted to drop marketplace coverage are Covered California enrollees.



#### PROPOSED ELIGIBILITY VERIFICATION CHANGES WOULD IMPACT MANY COVERED CALIFORNIA APPLICANTS AND ENROLLEES

- The budget reconciliation bill would incorporate federal proposed Marketplace rules, including new verifications for applicants during special enrollment. It would also add new provisions that would prevent applicants from accessing premium tax credits and cost-sharing reductions while their eligibility paperwork is reviewed, and it would end the long-standing Marketplace process of automatic renewals.
  - **35 percent of new applicants (301,300 individuals)** during the 2024 open enrollment and special enrollment periods had to provide paperwork to finalize their eligibility. Under the reconciliation bill, these applicants would not have been able to access premium tax credits or enroll in a Silver cost-sharing reduction plan until their paperwork was submitted and verified.
  - 9 percent of enrollees with finalized 2024 eligibility (96,000 individuals) subsequently reported changes to their income or household (for example, adding a new baby) during the course of the year which required them to provide paperwork. Under the reconciliation bill, Covered California would have discontinued their premium tax credit and removed them from a Silver cost-sharing reduction plan (if they were enrolled in one), until their paperwork was submitted and verified.
  - 73 percent of renewing enrollees (1.2 million individuals) for 2025 were passively renewed. Under the reconciliation bill, all of these enrollees would have to reapply in order to continue receiving premium tax credits and cost-sharing reductions. Enrollees who miss the date to reapply could lose premium tax credit and be removed from a Silver cost-sharing reduction plan (if they were enrolled in one) for the rest of year.



#### MANY LAWFULLY PRESENT INDIVIDUALS WOULD LOSE PREMIUM TAX CREDITS AND COST SHARING SUPPORT UNDER THE BUDGET RECONCILIATION BILL

- Covered California's preliminary analysis shows that about 112,600 current enrollees who are lawfully present would not be classified as "eligible aliens" and would lose premium tax credits and cost sharing support under the budget reconciliation bill. These changes impact more than 90 percent of the immigration categories that have always been eligible for Marketplace coverage.
  - Note: under the budget reconciliation bill, lawfully present individuals in these immigration categories would also lose eligibility for Medicare.
- The 112,600 impacted Covered California enrollees include more than 35,000 with asylum or pending asylum status, nearly 1,000 admitted as refugees, and more than 500 victims of trafficking, domestic violence and other serious crimes, in addition to nearly 13,000 enrollees with work or student visas.
- □ Under the budget reconciliation bill, these enrollees would face an average \$650 per member per month premium when premium tax credits are removed.
- □ Separately, 2,300 DACA recipients would lose Marketplace coverage entirely.



# LAWFULLY PRESENT INDIVIDUALS WHO WOULD LOSE TAX CREDITS AND COST SHARING SUPPORT ARE YOUNGER THAN OTHER ENROLLEES

The distribution of age ranges skews older for citizens compared to lawfully present enrollees who would lose premium tax credits.

More than a quarter of citizens are age 55-64, compared to only one in 10 of lawfully present enrollees.

Age Bracket	Citizens	Lawfully present – proposed ineligible for premium tax credits and cost sharing support
Age 17 or less	9%	2%
Age 18 to 25	11%	13%
Age 26 to 34	19%	27%
Age 35 to 44	16%	26%
Age 45 to 54	17%	18%
Age 55 to 64	27%	11%
Age 65+	1%	1%



#### LAWFULLY PRESENT INDIVIDUALS WHO WOULD LOSE TAX CREDITS AND COST SHARING SUPPORT ARE HEALTHIER THAN OTHER ENROLLEES

Citizens and lawful permanent residents ("eligible aliens") have similar risk scores for most years.

Enrollees with other immigration statuses who would lose premium tax credits consistently have meaningfully lower risk scores than citizens and the overall average, which indicates that they are expected to have lower healthcare costs.

Year	Citizen	Eligible Alien	Lawfully present – proposed ineligible for premium tax credits and cost sharing support
2020	0.91	0.94	0.80
2021	0.96	0.98	0.80
2022	1.05	1.04	0.84
2023	1.04	1.04	0.82
2024	1.04	1.05	0.77

\*Prospective risk scores calculated using the <u>Chronic Illness Disability Payment System (CDPS)</u> algorithm using patient discharge (PDD), emergency department (ED), or ambulatory surgery (AS) data sets from the Department of Health Care Access and Information (HCAI). For more information on CDPS risk scores see: Gilmer, Todd PhD; Kronick, Richard PhD. Updating the Chronic Illness and Disability Payment System. Medical Care 62(3):p 175-181, March 2024. | DOI: 10.1097/MLR.000000000001968



### PUBLIC COMMENT CALL: (877) 336-4440 PARTICIPANT CODE: 6981308

- To request to make a comment, press 10; you will hear a tone indicating you are in the queue for comment. Please wait until the operator has introduced you before you make your comments.
- □ If watching via the live webcast, please mute your computer to eliminate audio feedback while calling in. Note, there is a delay in the webcast.
- □ The call-in instructions can also be found on page two of the Agenda.

#### EACH CALLER WILL BE LIMITED TO <u>TWO MINUTES</u> PER AGENDA ITEM

NOTE: Written comments may be submitted to **BoardComments@covered.ca.gov**.



## **APPENDICES**

### **APPENDICES: TABLE OF CONTENTS**

- 1. Covered California for Small Business Update
- 2. CalHEERS Update
- 3. Outreach and Sales Update



# Appendix 1: Covered California for Small Business Update



### **COVERED CALIFORNIA FOR SMALL BUSINESS**

- Group & Membership Update:
  - Groups: 9,121
  - Members: 77,116
  - Average Group Size: 8.4 members
  - YTD New Sales: 5,161 \*membership reconciled through 05/13/25





# Appendix 2: CalHEERS Update



Great, n	ow we n	eed to ve	rify MARIA	A's identity			
	these questi imary Contac		Primary Conta	act. If you do no	t know the answ	wers, you may	want to choose a
Consent							
personal	information f		se. Covered Ca	s with identify v lifornia requires			ise your d your personal
you can v		ntity in-persor		a to send your in ed enroller or yo			
Do you give your identit		lifornia conse	nt to send you	ır personal info	rmation to Soc	ure for purpo	ses of verifying
		_					

#### New Remote Identify Proofing (RIDP) solution for consumers using CalHEERS portal

This initiative integrates the Socure RIDP solution into CalHEERS to modernize the identity verification process for all user roles.

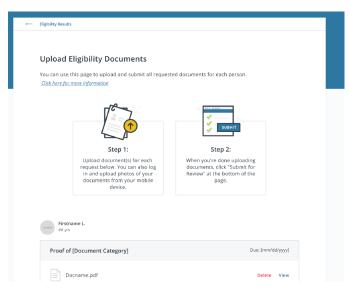


Great! Now we need to verify [HHM	/l]'s identity.
We only ask these questions about the Primary Contact choose a different Primary Contact.	. If you do not know the answers, you may want to
Click here to learn more	
l attest that I have visually confirmed this person's ider	ntity.
🛛 Yes 📄 No	
Upload one document from List A or two documents from one document at a time.	m List B to confirm [HHM]'s identity. You can only upload
List A	List B
Upload 1 document from this list	Upload 2 documents from this list
Driver's license issued by state or territory	Social Security Card
Identification card issued by the federal, state, or local	Notice from a public benefits agency
government  • U.S. passport	• U.S. Birth Certificate
Foreign passport	Foreign Birth Certificate
• Employment Authorization Document that contains a photograph (Form I-766)	Employer identification card
Show more options 💙	
Document needs to meet the following:	
Maximum document size: 10 MB     Accepted document formats: Excel, Word, PowerPoint, JPEG     Password protected documents not accepted     Document must be less than 15 pages	5, JPG, TIFF, PDF, RTF, PNG, GIF or JFIF

#### **Identity Document Upload**

This enhancement automatically verifies identity documents uploaded by Admin users, Agents, enrollers, including enroller bots.





#### Intelligent Document Processing Phase II

The project's expansion to include eleven additional document types and automatic identification will significantly enhance accuracy, reduce manual effort, and streamline document verification processes by enabling real-time error corrections and electronic income attestations.



Back to [previous page]	
Tell us why the income does not match	1
We could not verify the household income for the members listed below. Tell us why the income does not match our records. Household members may or you give a reason.	qualify for health programs after
Countable Household Income:	\$40,400 /year
Your countable household income is the total income amount of the tax filing household	members.
Why does Alex's (56) reported income not match our records?	Due: [mm/dd/yyyy]
Select a reason 🗸 🗸	
Why does [HHM]'s ([##]) reported income not match our records?	Due: [mm/dd/yyyy]
Select a reason	
Countable Household Income: Your countable household income is the total income amount of the tax filing household Why does [HHM]'s ((##)) reported income not match our records?	\$18,400 /year members. Due: [mm/dd/yyy]
Select a reason	

# Inclusion of Reasonable Explanation to CalHEERS

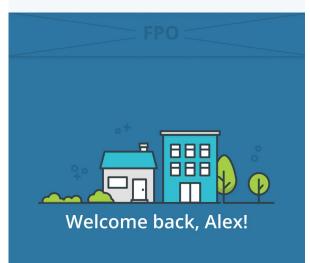
California updated its eligibility verification process for Medi-Cal to include "reasonable explanation" from applicants when their selfreported income does not match electronic data sources



Medi-Cal

×

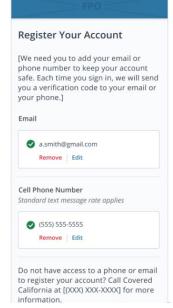
[Banner bold text] [Banner body text] [Banner link]



#### CalHEERS Banner Messaging

Incorporated targeted messaging capabilities within the CalHEERS portal to enhance communication versatility for users.



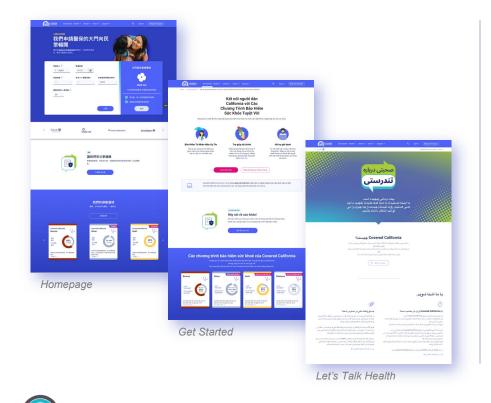


# Multifactor Authentication for Consumers

This critical update will significantly enhance the security of consumer accounts, addressing an essential gap in our system and ensuring robust protection against unauthorized access.



### **DOTCOM UPDATES**



#### **Expanding Our In-Language Experience**

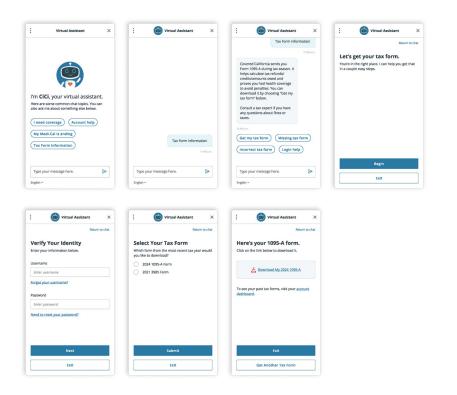
We've made significant strides in improving equitable user experiences on our website. We've translated key pages, including the Homepage, Quick Quote Calculator, Get Started, and Let's Talk Health resources into Spanish, Traditional Chinese, Simplified Chinese, Vietnamese, Korean, and Farsi.

This expansion allows a wider range of Californians to easily navigate our platform and understand important information about health coverage.

Additionally, these are the most commonly linked resources within Marketing campaigns that support our diverse California consumers.

EOPNIA

### **CHATBOT UPDATES**



#### Tax Forms Available through CiCi

We're excited to announce that we're working on a new Tax Forms feature which will release with CR 25.2 on February 10, 2025.

Soon, consumers will be able to easily access their Tax Forms, such as the 1095-A, directly through the chatbot. This will provide convenient access to tax documents directly from the Dotcom.



# Appendix 3: Outreach and Sales Update



### **OUTREACH & SALES ENROLLMENT PARTNER TOTALS**

Uncompensated partners supporting enrollment assistance efforts

ENROLLMENT ASSISTANCE PROGRAM	ENTITIES	COUNSELORS
<b>Certified Application Counselor</b>	189	1,325
Plan-Based Enroller	13	651
Medi-Cal Managed Care Plan	2	23



### **OUTREACH & SALES NON-ENGLISH ENROLLMENT SUPPORT**

#### Data as of May 13, 2025

