

COVERED CALIFORNIA POLICY AND ACTION ITEMS

May 15, 2025 Board Meeting

COVERED CALIFORNIA'S PROPOSED FISCAL YEAR 2025-2026 BUDGET

Jim Watkins, CPA, Chief Financial Officer Financial Management Division



Introduction



FY 2025-26 BUDGET ENVIRONMENT - UNCERTAIN

The FY 2025-26 proposed budget is characterized by uncertainty

- yet-to-be-determined federal policy decisions
- □ an uncertain economic environment

In response to these challenges:

- □ The budget has been designed to provide flexibility in meeting future challenges,
- The budget ensures fiscal long-term sustainability across various possible scenarios.
- □ The budget acknowledges that various federal policy and legislative changes may significantly impact our adopted business plan during FY 2025-26, necessitating adjustments throughout the FY.



MAJOR UNCERTAINTY AHEAD- A CHALLENGING BUDGET CYCLE

- 1. Geopolitical risk
- 2. Changes in Federal policies
 - Expiration of enhanced subsidies (will they expire? how many may leave, when etc.)
 - Federal changes to Medicaid, FFP modifications, expenditure shifts
 - Federal Rule Changes (New costs for CalHEERS, Outreach, occurring outside open enrollment)
- 3. Macroeconomic Challenges
 - Labor market changes, softening employment market, rising unemployment
 - Inflation (May impact premiums growth, consumer affordability, slow economy)
 - Potential recession (changes to enrollment inflows and outflows, additional expenditures)
 - Tariffs (supply chain challenges, prices, inflation)



COVERED CALIFORNIA'S INCREMENTAL/STRATEGIC BUDGET PROCESS

Tie budget requests to strategic goals/objectives

FY 2024-25 Prior Year's Budget

Baseline Adjustments FY 2025-26 Baseline Budget FY 2025-26 Budget Requests FY 2025-26 Proposed Budget FY 2025-26 Approved Budget

Develop Base Enrollment

Estimate

Develop Forecasting

Model (Policy /

Economic)

Apply Premium Growth Estimate Finalize Revenue Projection

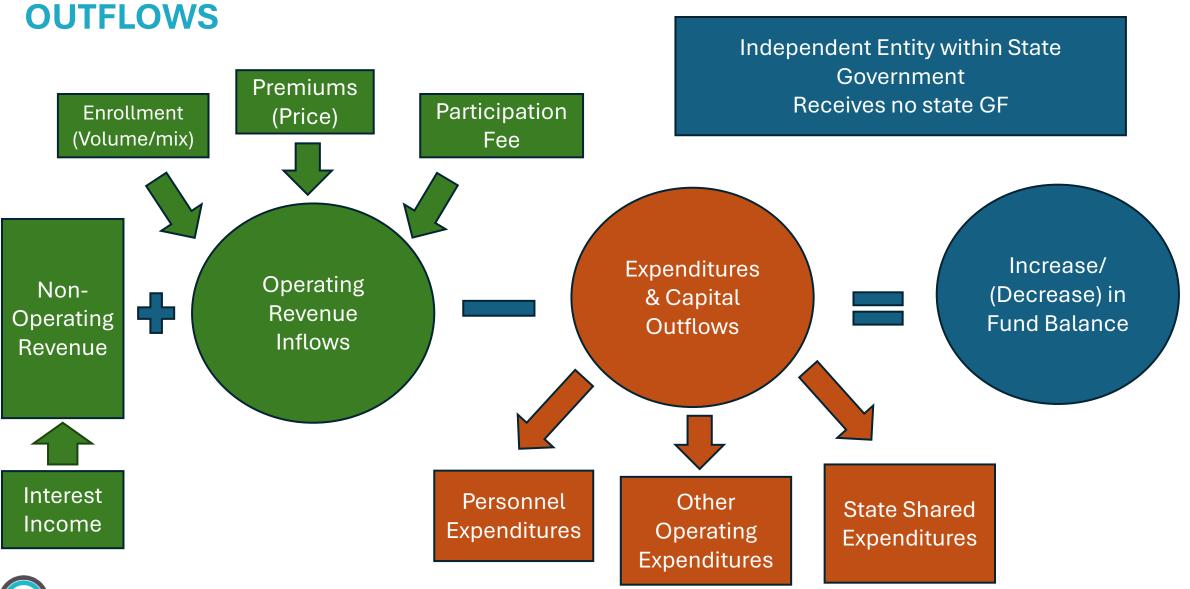
Covered California utilizes an incremental budgeting method. This means that we start with a base budget, or the "baseline" and then add or subtract to the base.

The baseline budget represents the prior year's approved budget, adjusted for inflation, the removal of one-time expenditures from the prior year, and adjustments for labor agreement changes.

Once the baseline budget is established, we look to Covered California programs. Each program submits budget proposals that reflect its recommendations for changing the baseline budget. These proposals generally identify new program implementation resource needs, workload issues, or resource requests prompted by newly enacted mandates. The budget request, or budget change proposals (BCP) are tied to Covered California's strategic plan goals and objectives.



COVERED CALIFORNIA'S REVENUE INFLOWS AND EXPENDITURE





Forecasting Enrollment

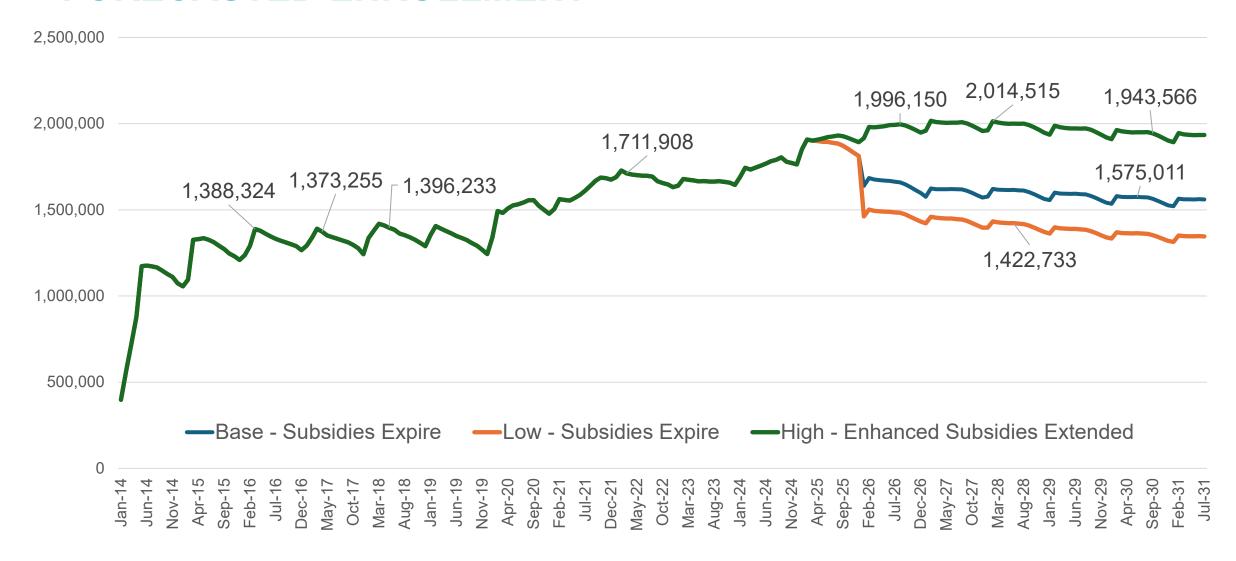


FY 2025-26 ENROLLMENT FORECAST ASSUMPTIONS

| Category | High Forecast | Base Forecast | Low Forecast | | |
|---|--|--|--|--|--|
| American Rescue Plan Act Enhanced Subsidies | Extended beyond December 2025 | Not extended beyond December 2025 Reduced subsidies beginning January 2026 | Not extended beyond December 2025 Reduced subsidies beginning January 2026 | | |
| Price Elasticity of Demand Substitution (enrollment losses) | Not forecasting losses induced by the expiration of enhanced federal subsidies. | Assumes a moderate level of consumer price sensitivity in response to increases in net premiums. | Assumes a greater level of consumer price sensitivity to increases in net premiums compared to the Base forecast. | | |
| State Affordability Program | Cost sharing reduction assistance | Premium Assistance | Premium Assistance | | |
| Average Monthly Enrollment Over Forecast Range | 1,963,804 | 1,617,931 | 1,442,043 | | |
| Timing of ARPA Losses from Existing Enrollment | N/A | 70% in December 2025 30% in 2026 | 96% in December 2025 4% in 2026 | | |
| Labor Market Impacts | rising unemployment, particularly | effectuations are expected above the in high-wage sectors, and a softening sed enrollment in Covered California | g economic outlook in 2025 has | | |
| Ongoing Medi-Cal New Effectuations | Assumes 14,000 average monthly new effectuations during plan years 2025-26 and 12,000 average monthly new effectuations starting 2027, all on the continuing ARPA subsidies baseline | Assumes 12,000 average monthly new effectuations, starting in plan year 2025, on the continuing ARPA subsidies baseline | Assumes 12,000 average monthly new effectuations, starting in plan year 2025, on the continuing ARPA subsidies baseline | | |

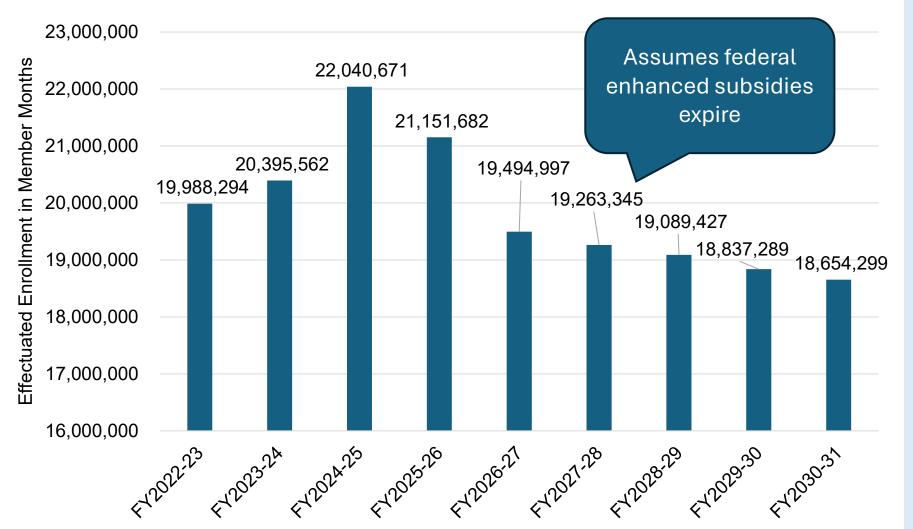


FORECASTED ENROLLMENT





MEMBER MONTHS BY FISCAL YEAR ASSUMING THE EXPIRATION OF ENHANCED FEDERAL SUBSIDIES (BASE FORECAST)



The Base enrollment forecast assumes that the enhanced federal marketplace subsidies, introduced under the American Rescue Plan Act in April 2021, will expire as scheduled on December 31, 2025.

FMD estimated the number of individuals enrolled in Covered California plans due to the availability of enhanced federal subsidies using a microsimulation. This represented the number of individuals who may disenroll when the subsidies expire.

FMD then applied substitutioneffects and elasticity-effects coefficients to determine the impact of the subsidy loss on consumers and the resulting change in enrollment.



Proposed FY 2025-26 Operating and Capital Expenditure Budget



COVERED CALIFORNIA'S FY 2025-26 PROPOSED BUDGET

Budget Summary

May December **February** March April June **Previous** FY 2025-26 FY 2025-26 FY 2025-26 Year's FY 2025-26 Adjustments Budget **Approved** Baseline Approved Proposed to Baseline Budget Changes Budget Budget Budget FY2024-25 1 position 1,506 positions 1,495 positions 1,494 positions Increase of 11 \$496.1 million \$474.4 million \$4.2 million \$478.6 million positions and \$17.5 million Develop Forecasting Develop Base Enrollment Apply Premium Growth **Enrollment and** Finalize Revenue Model (Policy / Projection Revenue Forecast **Estimate** Estimate Economic)



May 2025

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FY 2025-26 PROPOSED BUDGET

| | Fiscal Year 2024-25 | Fiscal Year 2025- 26 | Fiscal Year 2025-26 | Fiscal Year 2025-26 | Fiscal Year 2025-26 |
|-------------------------------------|----------------------------|------------------------------|----------------------------|-------------------------------------|----------------------------|
| Positions | Approved Budget 1494 | Baseline Adjustments 1 | Baseline Budget 1495 | Proposed Budget Changes 11 | Proposed Budget 1506 |
| Operating Expenditures | | | | | |
| Personnel Expenditures | \$ 189,644,435 | \$ 13,268,257 | \$ 202,912,692 | \$ 1,412,260 | \$ 204,324,952 |
| Other Operating Expenditures | \$ 258,351,875 | \$ (6,641,999) | \$ 251,709,876 | \$ 14,548,768 | \$ 266,258,644 |
| Subtotal | \$ 447,996,310 | \$ 6,626,258 | \$ 454,622,568 | \$ 15,961,028 | \$ 470,583,596 |
| Allocated Expenditures | | | | | |
| Prorata/Supp. Pension/Other | \$ 21,582,415 | \$ (2,914,945) | \$ 18,667,470 | \$ - | \$ 18,667,470 |
| Total Operating Expenditures | \$ 469,578,725 | \$ 3,711,313 | \$ 473,290,038 | \$ 15,961,028 | \$ 489,251,066 |
| Capital Investments | | | | | |
| | \$ - | \$ - | \$ - | \$ - | \$ - |
| Capital Investments | \$ 4,825,000 | \$ 501,000 | \$ 5,326,000 | \$ 1,500,000 | \$ 6,826,000 |
| Total Capital Projects | \$ 4,825,000 | \$ 501,000 | \$ 5,326,000 | \$ 1,500,000 | \$ 6,826,000 |
| Total Budgeted Expenditures | \$ 474,403,725 | \$ 4,212,313 | \$ 478,616,038 | \$ 17,461,028 | \$ 496,077,066 |

Covered California's baseline budget will increase by \$4.2 million in FY 2025-26, rising from \$474.4 million to \$478.6 million. This increase is primarily due to a \$ 13.3 million increase in personnel-related expenditures and a \$501,000 increase in capital investments. These increases were offset by a \$6.6 million decrease in other operating expenditures (OOE) and a \$2.9 million reduction in state-shared expenditures.

Covered California's proposed budget is \$496.1 million. Proposed budget augmentations total \$17.5 million, including \$14.5 million in additional other operating expenditures and \$1.4 million to fund 11 additional full-time permanent positions.



FY 2025-26 BUDGET AUGMENTATIONS

| Budget Topic | Investments | Dollars |
|--|--|--------------------|
| Capital Investments | Enterprise-wide IT equipment refresh plan | \$1,500,000 |
| Operations | Mail Support and Postage Change Management Training and Coaching Development and Modernization of New Consumer-Facing Website Audit, Internal Control, and Risk Management consulting – Gartner, Inc. | \$6,736,065 |
| Consulting Services and Research Support | California Advanced Primary Care Roadmap Quality Transformation Initiative and Population Health Implementations Comprehensive People Strategy for HR – Gartner, Inc. APTC Affordability and Financial Well-Being Study Increased funding for the Consumer Research Health Payments Database (HPD) User Access (4 Licenses) Maximus / policy and regulatory guidance for consumer-facing content | \$3,928,693 |
| Information Technology | Information Security Office Contractor Support CCSB Data Management for Billing and Payment | \$2,100,000 |
| Hearings and appeals | Inter-agency agreement with the California Department of Social Services | \$1,784,010 |
| Personnel | Add 11 new positions in six divisions | <u>\$1,412,260</u> |
| Total | | \$17,461,028 |



Proposed Restriction of Fund Balance For Uncertainties



CONTINGENCY FUND FOR FEDERAL UNCERTAINTIES- RESTRICTING FUND BALANCE

Covered California is facing several uncertainties regarding federal/state rule changes. These uncertain events may result in additional expenditures in FY 2025-26. It is anticipated that these expenditures may be prompted by federal rule changes and/or state policy changes that require CalHEERs changes and/or additional outreach efforts.

Given Covered California's current fund balance, Covered California proposes that a portion of Covered California's fund balance, not to exceed \$20 million for FY 2025-26, be restricted for this purpose. Covered California's forecasted fund balance on June 30, 2025, is estimated to total \$569.2 million.

Through delegated Board authority, these restricted funds shall be used by the executive director for this purpose up to the maximum amount of \$20 million. Any expenditures incurred for this purpose will be separately accounted for and reported in Covered California's accounting records.

Unrestricted fund balance
Restricted Fund Balance-Federal/State Contingencies

\$20,000,0000

\$20,000,0000



April 2025 16

Long-Term Budget Outlook and Fiscal Sustainability



WHAT IS FISCAL SUSTAINABILITY?

□ The ability to continue public <u>services</u> or existing programs.

The ability to meet <u>financial commitments</u> both now and in the future.

□ The ability to maintain the <u>stability</u> and <u>predictability</u> of future tax burdens, or in Covered California's case, participation fee rate.

□ The ability to <u>support long-term decision-making</u>.



FINANCIAL PRINCIPLES USED TO EVALUATE SCENARIOS

- 1. Maintain sufficient working capital equal to 6 to 8 months of budgeted operating expenditures.
- 2. Incrementally increase the participation fee for plan years 2026 and 2027, increasing the rate by 25 basis points each plan year.
- 3. Working capital can be utilized for "one-time" commitments that may disrupt interperiod equity for a specific period. "Bringing down working capital."
- 4. Covered California must achieve interperiod equity by the end of the forecast period.

Covered California created numerous "whatif" scenarios to stress test its long-term budget assessment and fiscal sustainability analysis.

This process was guided by specific financial principles concerning working capital levels, participation fee rate adjustments, using working capital for onetime commitments, and achieving interperiod equity.



PARTICIPATION FEE RATES – INDIVIDUAL MARKET

Forecasted Values Subject to Change

Lowering working capital

Achieving Breakeven, Maintaining Working Capital

| Forecast | PY 2026 | PY 2027 | PY 2028 | PY 2029 | PY 2030 | PY 2031 |
|----------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|
| High | 2.5% | 2.5% | 2.50% | 2.5% | 2.50% | 2.50% |
| Base | 2.5% | 2.75% | 3.15% | 3.14% | 3.14% | 3.14% |
| Low | 2.5% | 2.75% | 3.64% | 3.65% | 3.66% | 3.66% |

In the forecasts analyzed, the Financial Management Division (FMD) assessed revenues and expenditures over a forecast period, considering specific rates for participation fees, premium growth, and expenditure growth.

The projected financial outcomes for each scenario—base, low, and high — were reviewed to establish the breakeven participation fee rate.

Keeping operating expenditures and premium growth constant, Covered California adjusted the participation fee rate after a two-year phase-in period to achieve breakeven.

The participation fee rates provided are forecasts that will be adjusted each year during the budget process. Premium growth, enrollment trends, and expenditure trends may differ from the assumptions outlined here, which could lead to changes in the participation fee rates presented.



September 25, 2024 20

FY 2025-26 Base Budget Forecasted Long-Term Financial Outcomes



BASE FORECAST ASSUMPTIONS

Participation Fee Rate-Base Forecast

| Scenario | PY 2026 | PY 2027 | PY 2028 | PY 2029 | PY 2030 | PY 2031 |
|----------------------|--------------------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|
| Individual Market | <mark>2.50%</mark> | 2.75% | 3.15% | 3.14% | 3.14% | 3.14% |
| CCSB | <mark>4.75%</mark> | 4.75% | 4.75% | 4.75% | 4.75% | 4.75% |

Premium Growth Rate

| Scenario | PY 2026 | PY 2027 | PY 2028 | PY 2029 | PY 2030 | PY |
|------------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|------|
| Individual | 7.0% | 6.0% | 5.2% | 5.2% | 5.2% | 5.2% |
| market | | | | | | |
| CCSB | 6.0% | 6.0% | 6.0% | 6.0% | 6.0% | 6.0% |

Expenditure Growth Rates

| Category | FY 2026-27 | FY 2027-28 | FY 2028-29 | FY 2029-30 | FY 2030-31 |
|-----------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|
| Personnel | 3.50% | 3.50% | 3.50% | 3.50% | 3.50% |
| OOE | 3.40% | 3.40% | 3.40% | 3.40% | 3.40% |
| State Shared | 2.60% | 2.60% | 2.60% | 2.60% | 2.60% |
| Сар. Ехр. | 3.40% | 3.40% | 3.40% | 3.40% | 3.40% |

Under the Base forecast, the individual market participation fee rate is 2.5% in 2026, 2.75% in 2027, and roughly 3.14% from 2028 to 2031.

In addition, the CCSB participation fee rate is lowered from 5.2% to 4.75% in plan year 2025 and is held at 4.75% throughout the remainder of the forecast period.

This scenario also assumes expenditure growth will be managed in line with ECI and CPI. Over the forecast range, operating expenditures will increase by no more than 2.6% to 3.5%.

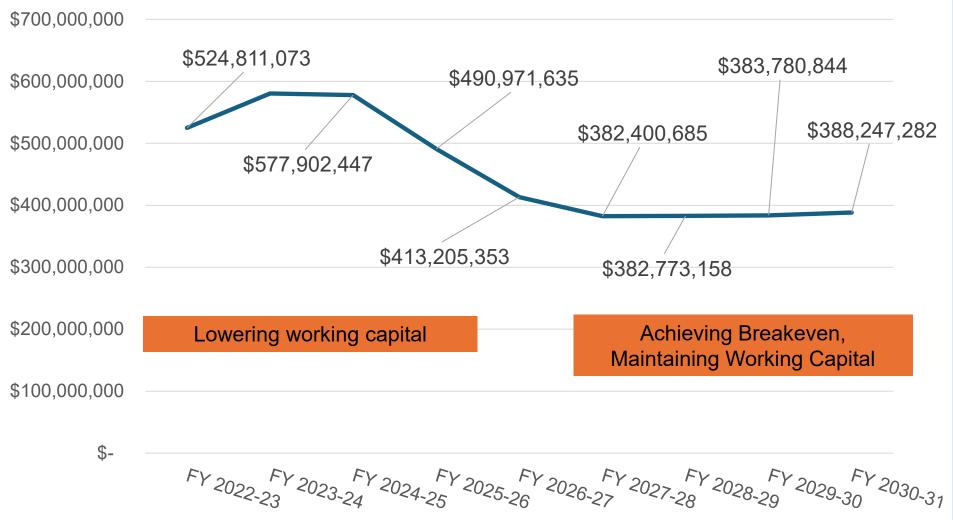


FISCAL SUSTAINABILITY AND LONG-TERM BUDGET ASSESSMENT- BASE FORECAST

| | | | Forecast Range | | | | | | | | | | |
|---|-----------|---------------------------|----------------|---------------------------|----------|-----------------------|----------|-----------------------|-----------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------|--------------------------|
| | | Est. Actual FY 2024-25 | | Budget Year FY 2025-26 | | Forecasted FY 2026-27 | | Forecasted FY 2027-28 | | Forecasted FY 2028-29 | Forecasted FY 2029-30 | | Forecasted FY 2030-31 |
| Beginning Fund Balance At July 1 | \$ | 580,407,234 | \$ | 577,902,447 | \$ | 490,971,635 | \$ | 413,205,353 | \$ | 382,400,685 | \$ 382,773,158 | \$ | 383,780,844 |
| Adjusted Beg. Fund Balance | \$ | 580,407,234 | \$ | 577,902,447 | \$ | 490,971,635 | \$ | 413,205,353 | \$ | 382,400,685 | \$ 382,773,158 | \$ | 383,780,844 |
| Additions | \$ | 457,767,531 | \$ | 409,146,254 | \$ | 436,639,099 | \$ | 502,605,465 | \$ | 553,489,381 | \$ 574,559,297 | \$ | 599,207,549 |
| Deductions | \$ | (460,272,318) | \$ | (496,077,066) | \$ | (514,405,381) | \$ | (533,410,134) | \$ | (553,116,907) | \$ (573,551,611) | \$ | (594,741,111) |
| Increase / Decrease in Fund From Operations | \$ | (2,504,787) | \$ | (86,930,812) | \$ | (77,766,282) | \$ | (30,804,669) | \$ | 372,474 | \$ 1,007,686 | \$ | 4,466,438 |
| Ending Fund Balance At June 30 (Working Capit | a \$ | 577,902,447 | \$ | 490,971,635 | \$ | 413,205,353 | \$ | 382,400,685 | \$ | 382,773,158 | \$ 383,780,844 | \$ | 388,247,282 |
| Unrestricted Working Capital/Fund Balance | \$ | 577,902,447 | \$ | 490,971,635 | \$ \$ | 413,205,353 | \$ \$ | 382,400,685 | \$ | 382,773,158 | \$ 383,780,844 | <u>\$</u> | 388,247,282 |
| Months of Budgeted Operations Funded | | 14.6 | | 11.9 | | 9.6 | | 8.6 | | 8.3 | 8.0 | | 7.8 |



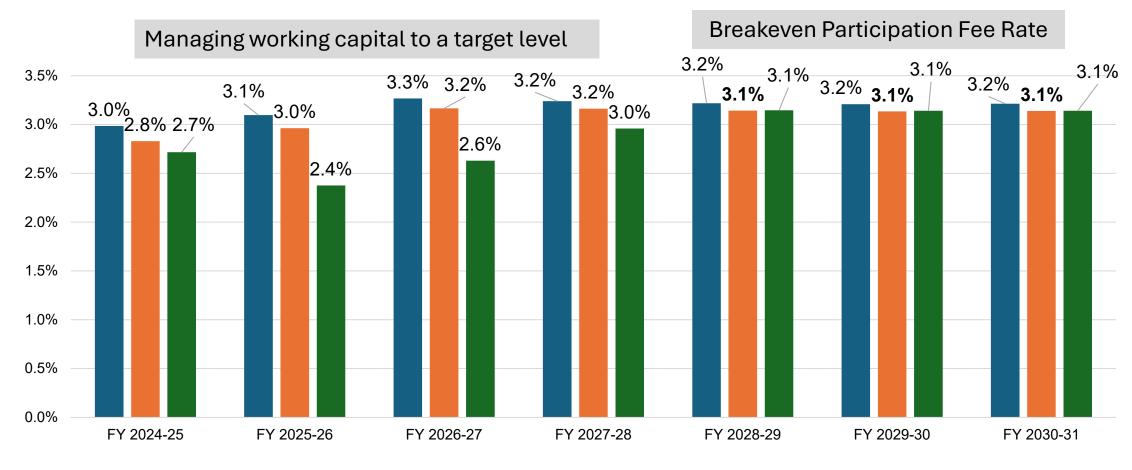
TREND IN WORKING CAPITAL – BASE FORECAST



Under the Base forecast, interperiod equity is achieved by FY 2028-29. Covered California's working capital falls to \$382.8 million, and funds roughly 8.6 months of budgeted operations by FY 2027-28.

Over a longer time horizon, Covered California's working capital would level off at \$388.2 million by FY 2030-31, funding roughly 7.8 months of budgeted operations by FY 2030-31.

BREAKEVEN PARTICIPATION FEE RATES – INDIVIDUAL MARKET (BASE FORECAST)



- Individual Market Break-Even Participation Fee Rate Operating Income Only
- Individual Market Break-Even Participation Fee With Non-Operating Income
- Participation Fee Rate (Charged)



FY 2025-26 Proposed Budget Recommendations



FY 2025-26 PROPOSED BUDGET RECOMMENDATIONS

- □ Increase the individual market participation fee rate by 25 basis points in plan year 2026, raising it from 2.25% to 2.50%
- □ Lower the CCSB participation fee rate from 5.2% to 4.75%
- □ Adopt a FY 2025-26 Operating and Capital Expenditure Budget totaling \$496.1 million
- □ Restrict \$20 million from the fund balance for contingencies associated with federal policy uncertainties



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.
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EACH CALLER WILL BE LIMITED TO TWO MINUTES PER AGENDA ITEM

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



2026 AFFORDABILITY CONTINGENCY PLANNING

Katie Ravel, Director
Policy, Eligibility & Research Division



LOSS OF ENHANCED TAX CREDITS AT THE END OF 2025 COULD RESULT IN SUBSTANTIAL REDUCTION IN COVERAGE

- □ The Inflation Reduction Act:
 - Increased the amount of premium tax credit for all consumers eligible to receive advanced premium tax credits (APTC),
 - Offered high-value plans with \$0 net premiums for the marketplace's lowest income consumers, and
 - Eliminated the "subsidy cliff" for middle-income consumers above 400 percent of the federal poverty level (FPL), who were previously ineligible for the premium tax credit.
- □ Since the implementation of the enhanced tax credit, marketplace enrollment has grown substantially, with the 2025 Open Enrollment Period ending nearly 2 million consumers enrolled in coverage. As of plan year 2025, IRA subsidies are worth approximately \$2.1 billion in California.
- Price increases without extension of the enhanced tax credit will results in a substantial loss of coverage. Covered California's "base" forecast without the enhanced tax credit assumes about 1.6 million enrollees for 2026 as opposed to about 1.9 million enrollees if the enhanced tax credit is extended.



INCREASE IN ENROLLMENT SINCE INTRODUCTION OF ENHANCED TAX CREDIT

| | | nium Tax Credit าไy | | ction of State sidy | 2024: Enhanced Premium Tax Credit from IRA | | |
|----------------------|-----------|------------------------|-----------|------------------------|---|----------------|--|
| | Count | Share of Total | Count | Count Share of Total | | Share of Total | |
| Under 150% FPL | 240,970 | 17% | 242,940 | 16% | 263,550 | 15% | |
| 150% FPL to 200% FPL | 394,250 | 29% | 401,470 | 27% | 434,190 | 25% | |
| 200% FPL to 250% FPL | 230,030 | 17% | 249,060 | 17% | 276,560 | 16% | |
| 250% FPL to 400% FPL | 378,720 | 27% | 405,480 | 27% | 452,480 | 26% | |
| Over 400% FPL | 60,550 | 4% | 97,190 | 7% | 227,570 | 13% | |
| Unsubsidized | 78,730 | 6% | 80,130 | 80,130 5% | | 5% | |
| Grand Total | 1,383,250 | 100% | 1,476,270 | 100% | 1,735,720 | 100% | |



CONSUMER PREMIUM SCENARIOS WITH AND WITHOUT ENHANCED FEDERAL TAX CREDIT

| | Gross Premium (before any tax credit) | Net Premium under ACA | Net Premium under IRA |
|------------------------|---------------------------------------|-----------------------|--------------------------|
| Income of \$30,100 per | | | |
| Age 30 | \$597 | \$152 | \$50 |
| Age 45 | \$760 | \$50 | |
| Age 60 | \$1,428 | \$152 | \$50 |
| Income of \$60,400 per | year - 400% FPL | | |
| Age 30 | \$597 | \$597 | \$428 |
| Age 45 | \$760 \$760 | | \$428 |
| Age 60 | \$1,428 | \$1,428 | \$428 |



THE ENHANCED TAX CREDIT PROVIDE AN ADDITIONAL \$2 BILLION IN ANNUAL PREMIUM SAVINGS

- In 2025, Californians are estimated to receive as much as \$11 billion in total savings for their monthly premiums due.
- □ The enhanced tax credit accounts for more than \$2 billion of the total savings.
- This translates to an average \$100 per month in additional premium savings for marketplace enrollees.

| FPL Group | Subsidized Enrollees | Annual Value of Enhanced Tax Credit | | |
|--------------|-------------------------|---|--|--|
| 0-150% FPL | 264,880 | \$125 million | | |
| 150-200% FPL | 531,460 | \$424 million | | |
| 200-250% FPL | 278,590 | \$308 million | | |
| 250-400% FPL | 500,780 | \$440 million | | |
| >400% FPL | 173,460 | \$795 million | | |
| Total | 1,749,550 | \$2.1 billion | | |



CALIFORNIA INVESTS IN MARKETPLACE AFFORDABILITY

- □ The Affordable Care Act (ACA) included a requirement that individuals maintain health insurance coverage or pay a penalty. Federal law was later amended to set the penalty amount to \$0 beginning in 2019.
- □ In 2019, California law enacted an individual mandate and penalty that mirrored the prior federal structure. The mandate became effective for tax year 2020 and is permanent.
- Also in 2019, California appropriated funds to implement a financial assistance program through Covered California for the 2020 coverage year.
- □ Covered California used the state appropriation to implement the California Premium Subsidy Program, becoming the first state in the nation to provide premium assistance to middle-income individuals making more than 400% FPL who were not eligible for the federal premium tax credit. Assistance was also provided to individuals under 400% FPL
- □ California's state subsidy program ran until the enactment of enhanced federal tax credits under the American Rescue Plan in 2021. The enhanced federal tax credit was extended through the 2025 plan year, by the Inflation Reduction Act (IRA).
- □ Later state action established the Health Care Affordability Reserve Fund (HCARF) into which penalty revenue is deposited and from which appropriations are made to provide financial assistance for Covered California enrollees beginning in coverage year 2024 and ongoing.
- □ For plan years 2024 and 2025, HCARF dollars are funding the California Cost Sharing Reduction Program.



GOVERNOR'S BUDGET AND COVERED CALIFORNIA AFFORDABILITY PROGRAMS

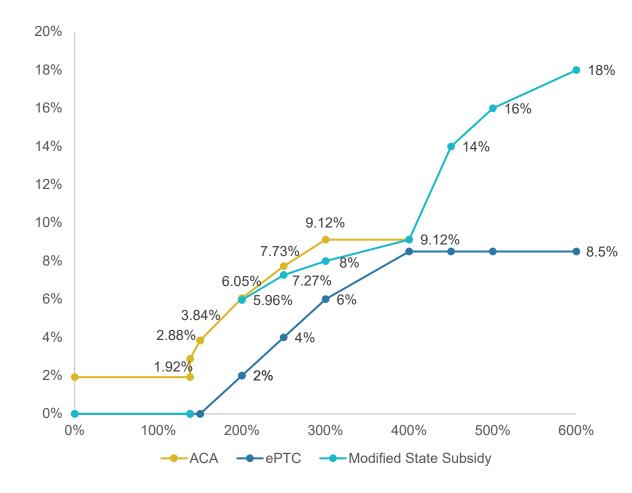
- The Governor's proposed budget appropriations for Covered California include:
 - \$165 million from the Health Care Affordability Reserve Fund (HCARF) to support a program of financial assistance.
 - \$20.35 million General Fund California Premium Credit (\$1 per member/per month).
 - \$2 million HCARF Striking worker benefit program, with additional increases up to \$3 million, if needed as specified.
- □ A loan of \$109 million will be made from HCARF to the General Fund in FY 2025-26.
- □ HCARF funding could be used to provide premium subsidies if Congress does not extend the federal premium tax credit beyond 2025.



COVERED CALIFORNIA ENROLLMENT HAS GROWN SIGNIFICANTLY SINCE 2021

- □ In 2020, Covered California spent about \$284 million on the premium subsidy program.
- □ Given Covered California's recent enrollment growth particularly among individuals above 400% FPL we estimate that reimplementing the 2021 program would cost approximately \$454 million, with 790,000 enrollees projected to receive state subsidies.

| | State Subsidy Amount* | Average Net Premium | Total Cost |
|-------------------|--------------------------|------------------------|------------|
| Under 138% FPL | \$37 | \$50 | \$19 M |
| 200-250% FPL | \$8 | \$178 | \$22 M |
| 250-300% FPL | \$22 | \$216 | \$56 M |
| 300-400% FPL | \$20 | \$282 | \$57 M |
| 400-600% FPL | \$359 | \$575 | \$301 M |
| Total | \$49 | \$258 | \$454 M |



Required contribution is used to calculate the share of the monthly premium a Marketplace enrollee must pay. Federal and/or state subsidies pay the difference between the enrollee's share and the total monthly premium. IRS applicable percentage: https://www.irs.gov/pub/irs-drop/rp-22-34.pdf



NEXT STEPS

- Develop premium subsidy options based on FY 25-26 proposed appropriation
- Develop draft a program design document
- □ Continue ongoing internal contingency planning for 2026 readiness



PUBLIC COMMENT

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