



Kate Brown, Governor

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Memorandum

To: Oregon Legislature
From: Oregon Health Authority
Date: December 10, 2021
Subject: HB 3352 Implementation Update

As you are aware, the Legislature passed [HB 3352 \(2021\)](#), also known as Cover All People, and charged the Oregon Health Authority (OHA) with creating a process that includes community voices to decide who the new health care coverage will apply to when the program starts. We wanted to update you on the milestones in that process and outline the next steps.

To recap, HB 3352 expands health coverage to adults who would be eligible for comprehensive Oregon Health Plan (OHP) benefits except for their immigration status, beginning July 1, 2022. The bill gives OHA \$100 million in the 2021-2023 biennium to run the program and a statewide outreach, engagement, and education program with the goal of enrolling and assisting eligible people in the state. The bill also allows OHA to limit eligibility, in alignment with recommendations provided by an advisory workgroup of community members, to remain within the budget.

HB 3352 PROGRAM TIMELINE

JUNE 26, 2021: LEGISLATURE PASSED HB 3352

JULY 19, 2021: GOVERNOR KATE BROWN SIGNED HB 3352 INTO LAW

SEP. 2021: ADVISORY WORKGROUP BEGAN WORK

SEP. – DEC., 2021: WORKGROUP ADVISES ON INITIAL PROGRAM DESIGN

JAN. – JUNE, 2022: ODHS AND OHA IMPLEMENT SYSTEM CHANGES

APRIL 1, 2022: OUTREACH AND ENGAGEMENT EFFORTS BEGIN

JULY 1, 2022: OHP+ COVERAGE BEGINS FOR NEWLY-ELIGIBLE PEOPLE

In September, OHA formed the 12-member advisory workgroup who will help to guide the program's design and the outreach, engagement, and education strategy. This workgroup includes people from across Oregon and half are past or current OHP

members. Their lived experiences are invaluable and will ensure that equity and various community perspectives inform the decisions being made.

On November 4, 2021, the Advisory Workgroup voted to recommend that beginning July 1, 2022, OHA will provide full OHP health coverage to people who are 19-25 years old or 55 years and older who are not currently eligible for full OHP benefits because of their immigration status. The Advisory Workgroup grappled with extremely difficult decisions. Workgroup members reported a desire for everyone to be covered because the need spans all ages, regions and demographics. Nevertheless, they understood the need to start somewhere, and the members look forward to covering all people in 2023. More information will be developed about these recommendations along with communications plans in the coming weeks and months.

Through the end of the year, the Advisory Workgroup and OHA will be finalizing the outstanding program design decisions in preparation to implement the system changes that are necessary to enroll newly-eligible people. OHA and Oregon Department of Human Services (ODHS) staff are prioritizing system changes with the intent to have those system changes ready for the July 2022 implementation date. Additionally, the Advisory Workgroup will begin focusing on designing the outreach, engagement, and education efforts that will begin in the spring of 2022.

OHA is grateful for the difficult work that the workgroup is leading. The members' guidance and insights are vital to a successful program, and we thank them for their ongoing contributions to this effort to expand health coverage and fill in the gaps of the Affordable Care Act.

OHA is pleased with the progress made alongside the Advisory Workgroup towards standing this program up in the months since Governor Brown signed HB 3352 into law. This program is a key tool for improving the rates of health care coverage in immigrant populations, which will drive improvements in health and health outcomes. We look forward to sharing program updates with you in the future and ensuring that we collectively launch a robust program in July.

If you have questions about this work please reach out to Jeff Scroggin, on the OHA Government Relations team at jeffrey.scroggin@dhsoha.state.or.us. In coming weeks, OHA will launch a webpage to share information about this program.