

RCW 70.47.015 Enrollment—Findings—Intent—Enrollee premium share—Expedited application and enrollment process—Commission for insurance producers. (1) The legislature finds that the basic health plan has been an effective program in providing health coverage for uninsured residents. Further, since 1993, substantial amounts of public funds have been allocated for subsidized basic health plan enrollment.

(2) Effective January 1, 1996, basic health plan enrollees whose income is less than one hundred twenty-five percent of the federal poverty level shall pay at least a ten-dollar premium share.

(3) No later than July 1, 1996, the *administrator shall implement procedures whereby hospitals licensed under chapters 70.41 and 71.12 RCW, health carrier, rural health care facilities regulated under chapter 70.175 RCW, and community and migrant health centers funded under RCW 41.05.220, may expeditiously assist patients and their families in applying for basic health plan or medical assistance coverage, and in submitting such applications directly to the health care authority or the department of social and health services. The health care authority and the department of social and health services shall make every effort to simplify and expedite the application and enrollment process.

(4) No later than July 1, 1996, the *administrator shall implement procedures whereby disability insurance producers, licensed under chapter 48.17 RCW, may expeditiously assist patients and their families in applying for basic health plan or medical assistance coverage, and in submitting such applications directly to the health care authority or the department of social and health services. Insurance producers may receive a commission for each individual sale of the basic health plan to anyone not signed up within the previous five years and a commission for each group sale of the basic health plan, if funding for this purpose is provided in a specific appropriation to the health care authority. No commission shall be provided upon a renewal. Commissions shall be determined based on the estimated annual cost of the basic health plan, however, commissions shall not result in a reduction in the premium amount paid to health carriers. For purposes of this section "health carrier" is as defined in RCW 48.43.005. The *administrator may establish: (a) Minimum educational requirements that must be completed by the insurance producers; (b) an appointment process for insurance producers marketing the basic health plan; or (c) standards for revocation of the appointment of an insurance producer to submit applications for cause, including untrustworthy or incompetent conduct or harm to the public. The health care authority and the department of social and health services shall make every effort to simplify and expedite the application and enrollment process. [2009 c 479 s 49; 2008 c 217 s 99; 1997 c 337 s 1; 1995 c 265 s 1.]

***Reviser's note:** The definition of "administrator" was changed to "director" in RCW 70.47.020 by 2011 1st sp.s. c 15 s 83.

Effective date—2009 c 479: See note following RCW 2.56.030.

Severability—Effective date—2008 c 217: See notes following RCW 48.03.020.

Effective date—1997 c 337 ss 1 and 2: "Sections 1 and 2 of this act are necessary for the immediate preservation of the public peace,

health, or safety, or support of the state government and its existing public institutions, and take effect July 1, 1997." [1997 c 337 s 9.]

Captions not law—1995 c 265: "Captions as used in this act constitute no part of the law." [1995 c 265 s 29.]

Effective date—1995 c 265: "This act is necessary for the immediate preservation of the public peace, health, or safety, or support of the state government and its existing public institutions, and shall take effect July 1, 1995, except that sections 13 through 18 of this act shall take effect January 1, 1996." [1995 c 265 s 30.]

Savings—1995 c 265: "This act shall not be construed as affecting any existing right acquired or liability or obligation incurred under the sections amended or repealed in this act or under any rule or order adopted under those sections, nor as affecting any proceeding instituted under those sections." [1995 c 265 s 31.]

Severability—1995 c 265: "If any provision of this act or its application to any person or circumstance is held invalid, the remainder of the act or the application of the provision to other persons or circumstances is not affected." [1995 c 265 s 32.]