The Affordable Care Act (ACA), passed in 2010, helps to reform the healthcare system by giving more Americans access to quality, affordable health insurance and helps to curb the growth of healthcare spending in the U.S. After its implementation, Americans with health insurance had access to a number of new benefits, rights, and protections. Multiple states, including Colorado, chose to open their own marketplaces where consumers could purchase health insurance online. Colorado’s marketplace is Connect for Health Colorado.

What are my plan options?
- Platinum (90%)
- Gold (80%)
- Silver (70%)
- Bronze (60%)

(coverage is the percent of medical treatment paid by my insurance)

Who is eligible for public insurance or financial assistance?

Public Insurance (Medicaid & CHIP)
- $15,654 - $22,951

Annual household income for one resident, depending on specific life circumstances, needs to be between 133% and 195% above Federal Poverty Level (FPL).

Financial Assistance
- $41,956
  - Tax Credits up to 400% of the FPL
- $26,222
  - Cost Sharing Reduction up to 250% of the FPL

Some people may be eligible to off-set the premium costs of insurance through tax credits or cost sharing reduction if the household income qualifies.
Besides health concerns, why do you need health insurance?

The ACA’s individual mandate requires you to have minimum essential coverage or pay a fee – either a percentage or your household income or a flat rate, whichever is higher. The fee will increase each year with inflation.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Percent of Household Income</th>
<th>Flat Rate</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2014</td>
<td>1%</td>
<td>$95</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2015</td>
<td>2%</td>
<td>$325</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2016</td>
<td>2.5%</td>
<td>$695</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Besides health concerns, why do you need health insurance?

How is my money spent on health insurance?

**Variable Costs**
- **Copay**: The amount you pay to your provider at the time of service.
- **Preventive Services**: Regular healthcare to find illness or problems before they get worse. Most preventive care is fully covered and you do not have to pay anything else.
- **Subsidies**: Depending on your income, you may be eligible for tax credits to help cover the cost of your health plan.

**Fixed Costs**
- **Premium**: The amount you pay for coverage to your insurance company on a monthly basis.
- **Coinsurance**: The percentage you pay for the cost of services. Your health insurance company will cover the difference.
- **Deductible**: The amount you have to pay for your healthcare before the insurance company begins to pay.
- **Out of pocket maximum**: The total amount you have to pay during the year before your health insurance pays 100% of your medical costs.

Open enrollment begins November 1st at: http://connectforhealthco.com