

# How to Report Your Household Size and Income

When you apply for health coverage through Maryland Health Connection, you'll enter information about your household size and income to see if you may qualify for lower costs.



## Household Size

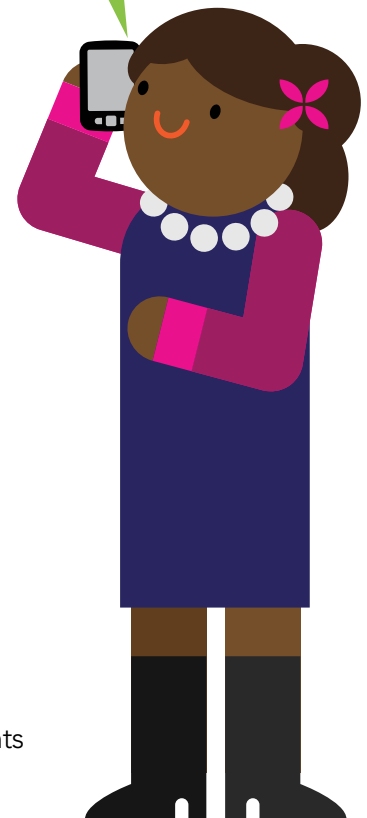
### Who to include:

- ✓ Yourself
- ✓ Your spouse
- ✓ Your children who live with you, even if they make enough money to file a tax return themselves
- ✓ Your unmarried partner if he or she is seeking health coverage
- ✓ Anyone you include on your tax return as a dependent,\* even if they don't live with you
- ✓ Anyone else under 21 who you take care of and lives with you

### Don't include:

- ✗ Your unmarried partner who doesn't need health coverage and is not your dependent\*
- ✗ Your parents who live with you, but file their own tax return and are not your dependents
- ✗ Other relatives who file their own tax return and are not your dependents

\*To learn who qualifies as a dependent, refer to **IRS Publication 501**.



## Household Income

You'll need to estimate your household income for the year in which you want health coverage. For example, when applying for health coverage effective in January 2017, you need to estimate your expected household income for 2017.



Your household income includes income for:

- ✓ You and your spouse, if you are married and will file a joint tax return
- ✓ Any dependents who make enough money to be required to file a tax return

The income amount used for determining what kind of coverage and savings you are eligible for includes:

- ✓ Income from your job
- ✓ Net income from any self-employment or business (generally the amount of money you take in from your business minus your business expenses)
- ✓ Unemployment income
- ✓ Social Security payments (including disability payments but not Supplemental Security Income)
- ✓ Alimony
- ✓ Retirement income
- ✓ Investment income
- ✓ Pension income
- ✓ Rental income
- ✓ Other taxable income such as prizes, awards and gambling winnings

Don't include in your household income:

- ✗ Gifts
- ✗ Supplemental Security Income
- ✗ Veterans disability payments
- ✗ Child support
- ✗ Proceeds from loans (like student loans, home equity loans or bank loans)
- ✗ Workers compensation

**Deductions:** You also may subtract these deductions from your household income (there may be limits on the amount you can claim):

- Student loan interest you pay
- Educator expenses if you're a teacher and pay for supplies out-of-pocket
- Contributions to your individual retirement account if you don't have a retirement account through a job
- Alimony you pay
- Moving expenses if you're moving to live much closer to your job
- Tuition costs for school if you pay for the costs out-of-pocket and deduct them on your tax return on line 34

For more information on reporting your income, see **IRS Publication 525**.

## Calculating your projected yearly income

Adjusted Gross Income (found on Line 37 on IRS Form 1040) **+** Foreign income **+** Tax-exempt interest **+** Non-taxable Social Security benefits (except for Supplemental Security Income) **=** Modified Adjusted Gross Income (MAGI)

To report changes in your household size and income, visit [MarylandHealthConnection.gov](http://MarylandHealthConnection.gov) or call **1-855-642-8572 (TTY: 1-855-642-8573)**.