Small Business Health Options Program (SHOP)

SHOP makes it easier for employers with 50 or less workers to provide employee health insurance. Employers decide plans, dates and more. Employers complete a quick four question application through kynect to verify their eligibility. Then they can enroll directly with the insurer of their choice. A kynect SHOP-registered insurance agent or kynector can also help.

To be eligible for a SHOP plan, an employer must:

- Have 50 or less employees
- Offer coverage to all full-time (30+ hours weekly) employees
- Have a business or primary worksite in Kentucky
- Have at least one employee that is not a business owner or spouse
- Meet a minimum of 50% of employees sign up for coverage (participation rate) at close of open enrollment*

*SHOP offers a Special SHOP Enrollment Period between NOVEMBER 15 and DECEMBER 15. During this time, the 50% participation rate does not apply. A business taking advantage of this Special SHOP Enrollment Period would have a JANUARY 1 effective date of coverage.

Tax credits may be available for businesses with less than 25 full-time equivalent employees who contribute at least 50% to their employees' premiums.

To learn more about the Small Business Health Care Tax Credit, see the Small Business Tax Credit Fact Sheet or visit: https://www.irs.gov/affordable-care-act/employers/small-business-health-care-tax-credit-and-the-shop-marketplace.

An employer interested in kynect SHOP will need to check their eligibility to participate through the four question application at kynect.ky.gov. Employers will get a decision right away and should keep it for their records. Employers may need this to enroll or apply for the Small Business Health Care Tax Credit.

An employer can apply and enroll in SHOP coverage throughout the year. Employers can create an initial open enrollment for any month.

CALL YOUR INSURANCE AGENT OR KYNECTOR TODAY!

kynect.ky.gov
1-855-459-6328   (TTY) 1-855-326-4654