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Anthem Confirms Participation in NH Exchange for 2018

Concord, NH – Anthem has confirmed to the New Hampshire Insurance Department that it will offer plans on the state’s exchange for 2018.

Anthem covers about 27,000 Granite Staters through HealthCare.gov and through the state’s Medicaid expansion program. Because of volatility in the individual markets, Anthem and other insurance companies have been considering whether to continue to offer exchange coverage in New Hampshire and around the country.

“I am very pleased that Anthem has decided to remain on New Hampshire’s exchange,” said New Hampshire Insurance Commissioner Roger Sevigny. “I have been deeply concerned about the stability of the state’s individual health insurance market this year, as insurance companies have faced increasing costs and instability from the federal government. My department has been working closely with the companies and with state policymakers to try to find a path forward for our state, and Anthem’s decision is welcome news.”

Two other companies, Ambetter and Harvard Pilgrim, announced intentions in May to offer plans on the exchange in 2018. Ambetter last week [confirmed its intention](#) to remain in the market for 2018; Harvard Pilgrim has not yet confirmed its plans. Minuteman Health [announced in June](#) that it would not offer plans in 2018 but its management team was attempting to form a new company by today to offer plans on the New Hampshire exchange for this coming year.

Last week, the federal government [extended the rate-filing deadline](#) from August 16 to September 5 for companies offering plans on the 2018 exchange to file revised rates with the states for review. Companies may file rates with the assumption that the federal government will not offer reimbursements called “Cost Sharing Reduction payments” to the companies in 2018. The Insurance Department is prohibited by law from releasing rate information prior to open enrollment (November 1), but the federal government has made publicly available proposed rate increases of 10 percent or more on its [rate review website](#).

Today, August 16, is the deadline for states to submit all 2018 plan information, other than rates, to the federal government, for plans to be offered on the NH exchange. Companies must sign a contract with the federal government by September 27 in order to offer plans on the exchange in 2018.

The New Hampshire Insurance Department’s mission is to promote and protect the public good by ensuring the existence of a safe and competitive insurance marketplace through the development and enforcement of the insurance laws of the State of New Hampshire. For more information, visit www.nh.gov/insurance.