



THE OHIO DEPARTMENT OF MEDICAID

JOHN R. KASICH, GOVERNOR JOHN B. McCARTHY, DIRECTOR

MEDICAID BUY IN FOR WORKERS WITH DISABILITIES ANNUAL REPORT 2014

SUBMITTED DECEMBER 31, 2014



Department of Medicaid

John R. Kasich, Governor

John B. McCarthy, Director

Memorandum

To: Governor of Ohio, John R. Kasich
Ohio House Speaker, the Honorable William G. Batchelder
Ohio Senate President, the Honorable Keith Faber
Ohio House Minority Leader, the Honorable Tracy Maxwell Heard
Ohio Senate Minority Leader, the Honorable Joseph Schiavoni
Joint Medicaid Oversight Committee Executive Director, Susan Ackerman
Legislative Service Commission Director, Mark Flanders

From: John B. McCarthy, Ohio Medicaid Director

Subject: Annual Report of the Medicaid Buy-In for Workers with Disabilities

Date: December 31, 2014

Cc: Members of the 130th General Assembly

The attached report is provided in compliance with Section 5162.133 of the Ohio Revised Code requiring the Ohio Department of Medicaid to report annually on the Medicaid eligibility category of Medicaid Buy-In for Workers with Disabilities (MBIWD).

This Medicaid eligibility category was created by Amended Substitute House Bill 119 to allow workers with disabilities to maintain Medicaid health care coverage while they are working, earning income and establishing savings. Enrollment into MBIWD began on April 1, 2008, and current enrollment is more than 11,000 Ohioans.

The attached report highlights the number of individuals who have participated in MBIWD since its inception, the program costs and amount of revenue generated by the premiums paid by enrollees, and the amount of time participants have been enrolled. Also included is a general fact sheet for your reference.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "John B. McCarthy".

John B. McCarthy
Director
Ohio Department of Medicaid

This report is submitted in accordance with Ohio Revised Code Section 5162.133, which states:

“Not less than once each year, the medicaid director shall submit a report on the medicaid buy-in for workers with disabilities program to the governor, general assembly, and joint medicaid oversight committee. The copy to the general assembly shall be submitted in accordance with section 101.68 of the Revised Code. The report shall include all of the following information:

- (A) The number of individuals who participated in the medicaid buy-in for workers with disabilities program;*
 - (B) The cost of the program;*
 - (C) The amount of revenue generated by premiums that participants pay under section 5163.094 of the Revised Code;*
 - (D) The average amount earned income of participants' families;*
 - (E) The average amount of time participants have participated in the program;*
 - (F) The types of other health insurance participants have been able to obtain.*
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Background

The Scripps Gerontology Center of Miami University estimated that in 2010 that 9 percent of Ohioans live with some type of moderate or severe disability.¹ Additionally, Opportunities for Ohioans with Disabilities (OOD) has estimated that more than 1.5 million (13.6 percent of all Ohioans) have a disability.²

Table 1: Projected Ohio Population with Disabilities

Year	Total Population	Population with Severe Physical or Cognitive Disability	Population with Moderate Physical or Cognitive Disability	Population with Severe Developmental or Intellectual Disability	Population with Moderate Developmental or Intellectual Disability	Population with Severe Mental Illness	Population with Moderate Mental Illness	Total Population with Moderate or Severe Disabilities.	Percent of Total Population
2010	11,536,494	181,993	126,364	66,194	47,744	504,320	114,462	1,041,077	9.0%
2020	11,707,724	213,864	142,204	65,616	48,544	509,943	114,320	1,094,491	9.3%

Despite publicly funded supports and opportunities, most Ohioans with disabilities are unemployed. The employment rate among non-institutionalized working-age (ages 21-64) Ohioans with disabilities is 33 percent compared to 77 percent for workers with disabilities.³ Many individuals with disabilities want to work and may have the opportunity to work, but do not pursue employment because they fear that increasing their income and savings might cause them to lose their Medicaid health care coverage. Unlike most employer-sponsored health insurance benefits, Medicaid offers unique home-based supports and personal care services without which people with severe disabilities would not be able to function independently.

Creation of Medicaid Buy In for Workers with Disabilities

Ohio's Medicaid Buy In for Workers with Disabilities (MBIWD) program was authorized in Amended Substitute House Bill 119 (Ohio's 2008-2009 biennial budget) in response to the concern about the loss of Medicaid benefits among workers with disabilities. The MBIWD program created a new eligibility category within the Ohio Medicaid program, allowing workers with disabilities to maintain Medicaid coverage while they are working, earning income and establishing savings.

After income deductions, MBIWD enrollees may earn up to 250 percent of the federal poverty level. Participants may also accrue savings of up to \$10,000; a threshold will be adjusted annually. MBIWD participants with incomes above 150 percent of the federal poverty level must pay a monthly health care premium for their Medicaid coverage. Nevertheless, MBIWD encourages Ohioans with disabilities to go to work or accept more work or job promotions without risking the loss of Medicaid health care coverage.

Table 2: MBIWD and State Fiscal Year

Time Period: Paid State Fiscal Year	SFY 2011	SFY 2012	SFY 2013	SFY 2014
	MBIWD	MBIWD	MBIWD	MBIWD
Members	8,921	10,591	11,854	11,615
Net Payment	\$127,930,817.88	\$152,790,280.45	\$197,019,319.88	\$218,722,059.82
MBIWD Premium Amount EligFin	\$383,048.00	\$30,386.00*	\$0.00*	\$0.00*
Member Months	66,547	88,288	102,689	110,284
Average Number of Member Months	7.5	8.3	8.7	9.5

* Due to Medicaid information systems changes (converting from MMIS to the Medicaid Information Technology System [MITS]) ODM is not able to provide the premium data for all of SFY 2012, SFY 2013 and SFY 2014. In addition, ODM is not able to produce data for item D under ORC Section 5162.33. More information is expected to be included in the 2015 annual report.

¹ Mehdizadeh, S., Nelson, I., and Kunkel, S. (2014). Projections of Ohio's Population with Physical, Intellectual and/or Developmental Disabilities and Mental Illness by County, 2010-2030, Scripps Gerontology Center, Miami University, Oxford, OH. www.ohio-population.org

² Opportunities for Ohioans with Disabilities (formerly the Ohio Rehabilitation Services Commission)

³ Opportunities for Ohioans with Disabilities (formerly the Ohio Rehabilitation Services Commission)

MBIWD Enrollment

The MBIWD program has experienced moderate growth since enrollment began on April 2008, growing from 8,900 individuals in SFY 2011 to more than 11,600 in SFY 2014.

Other Health Insurance

One of the objectives of MBIWD is to encourage enrollees to pursue commercial health insurance through employers or another third party, thus reducing the overall health care cost to Medicaid. A review of MBIWD enrollment data showed that 84 percent of enrollees had insurance coverage through the Federal Medicare program either as full dual eligible or recipients of Medicare premium assistance⁴. The data also reveals that participants in the MBIWD eligibility category are enrolled in the program for the majority of the year. Thus, the majority of MBIWD enrollees do have at least Medicare insurance coverage in addition to Medicaid.

Table 3: MBIWD and Other Coverage

Time Period: Paid Month	Oct 2014
	Members
MBIWD-BASIC W PREMIUM	453
MBIWD-BASIC W PREMIUM DUAL	2,729
MBIWD-BASIC W PREMIUM QMB	167
MBIWD-BASIC W PREM SLMB	451
MBIWD-BASIC WO PREMIUM	1,116
MBIWD-BASIC WO PREMIUM DUAL	1,155
MBIWD-BASIC WO PREM QMB	2,480
MBIWD-BASIC WO PREM SLMB	1,010
Total	9561*
Premium	3800
No Premium	5761

* Due to Medicaid information systems changes (converting from MMIS to the Medicaid Information Technology System [MITS]) ODM is not able to provide other types of health insurance participants may have. More information is expected to be included in the 2015 annual report.

Attachment

MBIWD Fact Sheet

⁴ Medicare premium assistance is a program whereby the state Medicaid program pays the cost of Medicare insurance premiums for certain individuals based on their eligibility for both programs. More detailed information about the Medicare premium assistance program can be found at <http://www.medicare.gov/your-medicare-costs/help-paying-costs/get-help-paying-costs.html>

Ohio

Department of Medicaid

fact sheet

OVERVIEW

The federal Ticket to Work and Work Incentives Improvement Act of 1999 allows states to provide health coverage to workers with disabilities.

Historically, people with disabilities were often discouraged from working because their earnings and resources made them ineligible for benefits through Medicaid.

On June 30, 2007, House Bill 119 was signed into Ohio law creating the Medicaid Buy-In for Workers with Disabilities (MBIWD) program. Enrollment began April 1, 2008.

MEDICAID BUY-IN FOR WORKERS WITH DISABILITIES

The MBIWD program provides health care coverage to working Ohioans with disabilities. The program was created to enable Ohioans with disabilities to work and still keep their health care coverage.

A CLOSER LOOK AT OHIO'S PROGRAM:



WHO IS ELIGIBLE?

To qualify for MBIWD, a person must:

- » be a U.S. citizen or meet citizenship requirements;
- » be a resident of Ohio;
- » be 16 to 64 years old;
- » have a disability as defined by the Social Security Administration (SSA) or be eligible under the MBIWD medically improved category;
- » be employed in paid work (includes part time and full-time work);
- » pay a premium (if applicable); and
- » meet certain financial criteria.



FINANCIAL ELIGIBILITY

Income and resources (e.g., cash, stocks, bonds) are used to determine eligibility for MBIWD. An applicant's annual income must be less than or equal to 250% of the federal poverty level (FPL).

2014 Financial Criteria:

- » **income less than or equal to \$29,184***
- » **no more than \$11,281 in resources**

*Some income deductions may be applied.



PREMIUMS

Monthly premiums are required for those eligible for MBIWD with a household annual gross income greater than **\$17,508** (150% FPL). Enrollees required to pay a premium will receive a monthly statement.

How are premiums calculated?

Premiums are determined through a set of calculations based on household income, family size, and certain standard deductions (like health insurance premiums, impairment-related work expenses, etc.). Applicants should ask their county caseworker about standard deductions or their premium calculation.

LEARN MORE:

<http://medicaid.ohio.gov/FOROHIOANS/Programs/MBIWD.aspx>

APPLY FOR MEDICAID:

Visit: www.benefits.ohio.gov

ALREADY COVERED?

For more information about MBIWD, contact your county caseworker or call the Medicaid Consumer Hotline (800) 324-8680.

