

(ii)(I) represents low-income taxpayers in controversies with the Internal Revenue Service; or

(II) operates programs to inform individuals for whom English is a second language about their rights and responsibilities under this title.

(B) Representation of low-income taxpayers

A clinic meets the requirements of subparagraph (A)(ii)(I) if—

- (i) at least 90 percent of the taxpayers represented by the clinic have incomes which do not exceed 250 percent of the poverty level, as determined in accordance with criteria established by the Director of the Office of Management and Budget; and
- (ii) the amount in controversy for any taxable year generally does not exceed the amount specified in section 7463.

(2) Clinic

The term “clinic” includes—

(A) a clinical program at an accredited law, business, or accounting school in which students represent low-income taxpayers in controversies arising under this title; and

(B) an organization described in section 501(c) and exempt from tax under section 501(a) which satisfies the requirements of paragraph (1) through representation of taxpayers or referral of taxpayers to qualified representatives.

(3) Qualified representative

The term “qualified representative” means any individual (whether or not an attorney) who is authorized to practice before the Internal Revenue Service or the applicable court.

(c) Special rules and limitations

(1) Aggregate limitation

Unless otherwise provided by specific appropriation, the Secretary shall not allocate more than \$6,000,000 per year (exclusive of costs of administering the program) to grants under this section.

(2) Limitation on annual grants to a clinic

The aggregate amount of grants which may be made under this section to a clinic for a year shall not exceed \$100,000.

(3) Multi-year grants

Upon application of a qualified low-income taxpayer clinic, the Secretary is authorized to award a multi-year grant not to exceed 3 years.

(4) Criteria for awards

In determining whether to make a grant under this section, the Secretary shall consider—

(A) the numbers of taxpayers who will be served by the clinic, including the number of taxpayers in the geographical area for whom English is a second language;

(B) the existence of other low-income taxpayer clinics serving the same population;

(C) the quality of the program offered by the low-income taxpayer clinic, including the qualifications of its administrators and qualified representatives, and its record, if

any, in providing service to low-income taxpayers; and

(D) alternative funding sources available to the clinic, including amounts received from other grants and contributions, and the endowment and resources of the institution sponsoring the clinic.

(5) Requirement of matching funds

A low-income taxpayer clinic must provide matching funds on a dollar-for-dollar basis for all grants provided under this section. Matching funds may include—

(A) the salary (including fringe benefits) of individuals performing services for the clinic; and

(B) the cost of equipment used in the clinic.

Indirect expenses, including general overhead of the institution sponsoring the clinic, shall not be counted as matching funds.

(Added Pub. L. 105-206, title III, § 3601(a), July 22, 1998, 112 Stat. 774.)

EFFECTIVE DATE

Pub. L. 105-206, title III, § 3601(c), July 22, 1998, 112 Stat. 776, provided that: “The amendments made by this section [enacting this section] shall take effect on the date of the enactment of this Act [July 22, 1998].”

§ 7527. Advance payment of credit for health insurance costs of eligible individuals

(a) General rule

Not later than August 1, 2003, the Secretary shall establish a program for making payments on behalf of certified individuals to providers of qualified health insurance (as defined in section 35(e)) for such individuals.

(b) Limitation on advance payments during any taxable year

The Secretary may make payments under subsection (a) only to the extent that the total amount of such payments made on behalf of any individual during the taxable year does not exceed 72.5 percent of the amount paid by the taxpayer for coverage of the taxpayer and qualifying family members under qualified health insurance for eligible coverage months beginning in the taxable year.

(c) Certified individual

For purposes of this section, the term “certified individual” means any individual for whom a qualified health insurance costs credit eligibility certificate is in effect.

(d) Qualified health insurance costs eligibility certificate

(1) In general

For purposes of this section, the term “qualified health insurance costs eligibility certificate” means any written statement that an individual is an eligible individual (as defined in section 35(c)) if such statement provides such information as the Secretary may require for purposes of this section and—

(A) in the case of an eligible TAA recipient (as defined in section 35(c)(2)) or an eligible alternative TAA recipient (as defined in section 35(c)(3)), is certified by the Secretary of

Labor (or by any other person or entity designated by the Secretary), or

(B) in the case of an eligible PBGC pension recipient (as defined in section 35(c)(4)), is certified by the Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation (or by any other person or entity designated by the Secretary).

(2) Inclusion of certain information

In the case of any statement described in paragraph (1), such statement shall not be treated as a qualified health insurance costs credit eligibility certificate unless such statement includes—

(A) the name, address, and telephone number of the State office or offices responsible for providing the individual with assistance with enrollment in qualified health insurance (as defined in section 35(e)),

(B) a list of the coverage options that are treated as qualified health insurance (as so defined) by the State in which the individual resides, and

(C) in the case of a TAA-eligible individual (as defined in section 4980B(f)(5)(C)(iv)(II)), a statement informing the individual that the individual has 63 days from the date that is 7 days after the date of the issuance of such certificate to enroll in such insurance without a lapse in creditable coverage (as defined in section 9801(c)).

(e) Payment for premiums due prior to commencement of advance payments

(1) In general

The program established under subsection (a) shall provide that the Secretary shall make 1 or more retroactive payments on behalf of a certified individual in an aggregate amount equal to 72.5 percent of the premiums for coverage of the taxpayer and qualifying family members under qualified health insurance for eligible coverage months (as defined in section 35(b)) occurring prior to the first month for which an advance payment is made on behalf of such individual under subsection (a).

(2) Reduction of payment for amounts received under national emergency grants

The amount of any payment determined under paragraph (1) shall be reduced by the amount of any payment made to the taxpayer for the purchase of qualified health insurance under a national emergency grant pursuant to section 173(f) of the Workforce Investment Act of 1998 for a taxable year including the eligible coverage months described in paragraph (1).

(Added Pub. L. 107-210, div. A, title II, § 202(a), Aug. 6, 2002, 116 Stat. 960; amended Pub. L. 111-5, div. B, title I, §§ 1899A(a)(2), 1899B(a), 1899H(a), Feb. 17, 2009, 123 Stat. 424, 430; Pub. L. 111-344, title I, §§ 111(b), 112(a), 118(a), Dec. 29, 2010, 124 Stat. 3615, 3616; Pub. L. 112-40, title II, § 241(b)(2), Oct. 21, 2011, 125 Stat. 418.)

REFERENCES IN TEXT

Section 173(f) of the Workforce Investment Act of 1998, referred to in subsec. (e)(2), is classified to section 2918(f) of Title 29, Labor.

AMENDMENTS

2011—Subsec. (b). Pub. L. 112-40, § 241(b)(2)(A), substituted “72.5 percent” for “65 percent (80 percent in

the case of eligible coverage months beginning before February 13, 2011)”.

Subsec. (d)(2). Pub. L. 112-40, § 241(b)(2)(B), struck out “which is issued before February 13, 2011” after “in paragraph (1)” in introductory provisions.

Subsec. (e). Pub. L. 112-40, § 241(b)(2)(D), struck out introductory provisions which read as follows: “In the case of eligible coverage months beginning before February 13, 2011—”.

Subsec. (e)(1). Pub. L. 112-40, § 241(b)(2)(C), substituted “72.5 percent” for “80 percent”.

2010—Subsec. (b). Pub. L. 111-344, § 111(b), substituted “February 13, 2011” for “January 1, 2011”.

Subsec. (d)(2). Pub. L. 111-344, § 118(a), substituted “February 13, 2011” for “January 1, 2011” in introductory provisions.

Subsec. (e). Pub. L. 111-344, § 112(a), substituted “February 13, 2011” for “January 1, 2011” in introductory provisions.

2009—Subsec. (b). Pub. L. 111-5, § 1899A(a)(2), inserted “(80 percent in the case of eligible coverage months beginning before January 1, 2011)” after “65 percent”.

Subsec. (d). Pub. L. 111-5, § 1899H(a), amended subsec. (d) generally. Prior to amendment, text read as follows: “For purposes of this section, the term ‘qualified health insurance costs credit eligibility certificate’ means any written statement that an individual is an eligible individual (as defined in section 35(c)) if such statement provides such information as the Secretary may require for purposes of this section and—

“(1) in the case of an eligible TAA recipient (as defined in section 35(c)(2)) or an eligible alternative TAA recipient (as defined in section 35(c)(3)), is certified by the Secretary of Labor (or by any other person or entity designated by the Secretary), or

“(2) in the case of an eligible PBGC pension recipient (as defined in section 35(c)(4)), is certified by the Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation (or by any other person or entity designated by the Secretary).”

Subsec. (e). Pub. L. 111-5, § 1899B(a), added subsec. (e).

EFFECTIVE DATE OF 2011 AMENDMENT

Amendment by Pub. L. 112-40 applicable to coverage months beginning after Feb. 12, 2011, except that amendment by section 241(b)(2)(B) of Pub. L. 112-40 applicable to certificates issued after the date which is 30 days after Oct. 21, 2011, and amendment by section 241(b)(2)(D) of Pub. L. 112-40 applicable to coverage months beginning after the date which is 30 days after Oct. 21, 2011, see section 241(c) of Pub. L. 112-40, set out as a note under section 35 of this title.

EFFECTIVE DATE OF 2010 AMENDMENT

Amendment by section 111(b) of Pub. L. 111-344 applicable to coverage months beginning after Dec. 31, 2010, see section 111(c) of Pub. L. 111-344, set out as a note under section 35 of this title.

Pub. L. 111-344, title I, § 112(b), Dec. 29, 2010, 124 Stat. 3615, provided that: “The amendment made by this section [amending this section] shall apply to coverage months beginning after December 31, 2010.”

Pub. L. 111-344, title I, § 118(b), Dec. 29, 2010, 124 Stat. 3616, provided that: “The amendment made by this section [amending this section] shall apply to certificates issued after December 31, 2010.”

EFFECTIVE DATE OF 2009 AMENDMENT

Except as otherwise provided and subject to certain applicability provisions, amendment by Pub. L. 111-5 effective upon the expiration of the 90-day period beginning on Feb. 17, 2009, see section 1891 of Pub. L. 111-5, set out as an Effective and Termination Dates of 2009 Amendment note under section 2271 of Title 19, Customs Duties.

Amendment by section 1899A(a)(2) of Pub. L. 111-5 applicable to coverage months beginning on or after the first day of the first month beginning 60 days after Feb. 17, 2009, see section 1899A(b) of Pub. L. 111-5, set out as a note under section 35 of this title.

Pub. L. 111-5, div. B, title I, §1899B(b), Feb. 17, 2009, 123 Stat. 424, provided that: "The amendments made by this section [amending this section] shall apply to coverage months beginning after December 31, 2008."

Pub. L. 111-5, div. B, title I, §1899H(b), Feb. 17, 2009, 123 Stat. 431, provided that: "The amendment made by this section [amending this section] shall apply to certificates issued after the date that is 6 months after the date of the enactment of this Act [Feb. 17, 2009]."

CONSTRUCTION

Nothing in the amendments made by title II of Pub. L. 107-210, other than provisions relating to COBRA continuation coverage and reporting requirements, to be construed as creating a new mandate on any party regarding health insurance coverage, see section 203(f) of Pub. L. 107-210, set out as a Construction of 2002 Amendment note under section 2918 of Title 29, Labor.

TRANSITIONAL RULE

Pub. L. 111-5, div. B, title I, §1899B(c), Feb. 17, 2009, 123 Stat. 424, provided that: "The Secretary of the Treasury shall not be required to make any payments under section 7527(e) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as added by this section, until after the date that is 6 months after the date of the enactment of this Act [Feb. 17, 2009]."

§ 7528. Internal Revenue Service user fees

(a) General rule

The Secretary shall establish a program requiring the payment of user fees for—

- (1) requests to the Internal Revenue Service for ruling letters, opinion letters, and determination letters, and
(2) other similar requests.

(b) Program criteria

(1) In general

The fees charged under the program required by subsection (a)—

- (A) shall vary according to categories (or subcategories) established by the Secretary,
(B) shall be determined after taking into account the average time for (and difficulty of) complying with requests in each category (and subcategory), and
(C) shall be payable in advance.

(2) Exemptions, etc.

(A) In general

The Secretary shall provide for such exemptions (and reduced fees) under such program as the Secretary determines to be appropriate.

(B) Exemption for certain requests regarding pension plans

The Secretary shall not require payment of user fees under such program for requests for determination letters with respect to the qualified status of a pension benefit plan maintained solely by 1 or more eligible employers or any trust which is part of the plan. The preceding sentence shall not apply to any request—

- (i) made after the later of—
(I) the fifth plan year the pension benefit plan is in existence, or
(II) the end of any remedial amendment period with respect to the plan beginning within the first 5 plan years, or
(ii) made by the sponsor of any prototype or similar plan which the sponsor intends to market to participating employers.

(C) Definitions and special rules

For purposes of subparagraph (B)—

(i) Pension benefit plan

The term "pension benefit plan" means a pension, profit-sharing, stock bonus, annuity, or employee stock ownership plan.

(ii) Eligible employer

The term "eligible employer" means an eligible employer (as defined in section 408(p)(2)(C)(i)(I)) which has at least 1 employee who is not a highly compensated employee (as defined in section 414(q)) and is participating in the plan. The determination of whether an employer is an eligible employer under subparagraph (B) shall be made as of the date of the request described in such subparagraph.

(iii) Determination of average fees charged

For purposes of any determination of average fees charged, any request to which subparagraph (B) applies shall not be taken into account.

(3) Average fee requirement

The average fee charged under the program required by subsection (a) shall not be less than the amount determined under the following table:

Table with 2 columns: Category and Average Fee. Categories include Employee plan ruling and opinion, Exempt organization ruling, Employee plan determination, Exempt organization determination, and Chief counsel ruling.

(Added Pub. L. 108-89, title II, §202(a), Oct. 1, 2003, 117 Stat. 1132; amended Pub. L. 108-357, title VIII, §891(a), Oct. 22, 2004, 118 Stat. 1644; Pub. L. 110-28, title VIII, §8244, May 25, 2007, 121 Stat. 200.)

AMENDMENTS

2007—Subsec. (c). Pub. L. 110-28 struck out heading and text of subsec. (c). Text read as follows: "No fee shall be imposed under this section with respect to requests made after September 30, 2014."

2004—Subsec. (c). Pub. L. 108-357 substituted "September 30, 2014" for "December 31, 2004".

EFFECTIVE DATE OF 2004 AMENDMENT

Pub. L. 108-357, title VIII, §891(b), Oct. 22, 2004, 118 Stat. 1644, provided that: "The amendment made by this section [amending this section] shall apply to requests after the date of the enactment of this Act [Oct. 22, 2004]."

EFFECTIVE DATE OF 2003 AMENDMENT

Pub. L. 108-89, title II, §202(d), Oct. 1, 2003, 117 Stat. 1133, provided that: "The amendments made by this section [enacting this section, enacting provisions set out as a note under this section, and repealing provisions set out as notes under section 7801 of this title] shall apply to requests made after the date of the enactment of this Act [Oct. 1, 2003]."

LIMITATIONS

Pub. L. 108-89, title II, §202(c), Oct. 1, 2003, 117 Stat. 1133, provided that: "Notwithstanding any other provision of law, any fees collected pursuant to section 7528 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as added by subsection (a), shall not be expended by the Internal Revenue Service unless provided by an appropriations Act."