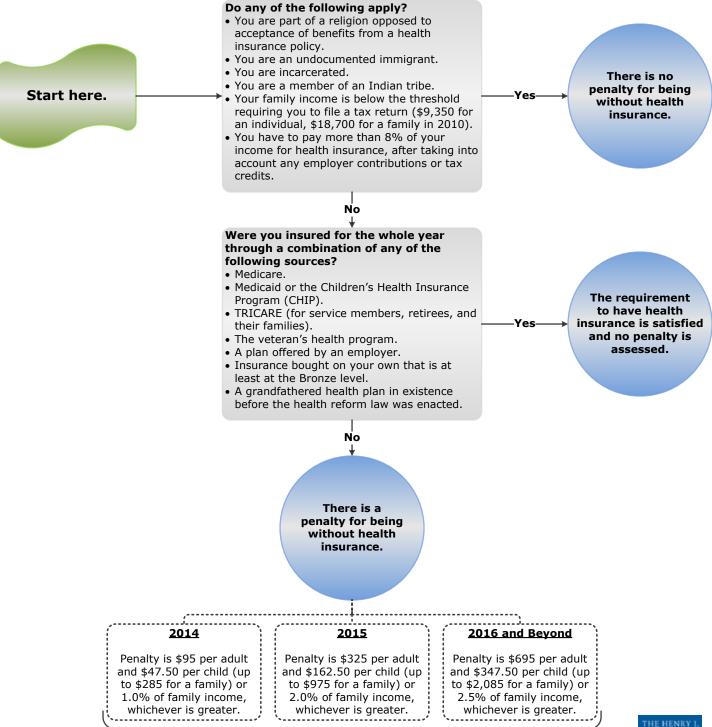
The Requirement to Buy Coverage Under the Affordable Care Act Beginning in 2014



The penalty is pro-rated by the number of months without coverage, though there is no penalty for a single gap in coverage of less than 3 months in a year. The penalty cannot be greater than the national average premium for Bronze level coverage in an Exchange. After 2016, penalty amounts are increased annually by the cost of living.



Key Facts:

- Premiums for health insurance bought through Exchanges would vary by age. The Congressional Budget Office estimates that the national average annual premium in an Exchange in 2016 would be \$4,500-5,000 for an individual and \$12,000-12,500 for a family for Bronze coverage (the lowest of the four tiers of coverage that will be available).
- In 2010 employees paid \$899 on average towards the cost of individual coverage in an employer plan and \$3,997 for a family of four.
- A Kaiser Family Foundation subsidy calculator illustrating premiums and tax credits for people in different circumstances is available at http://healthreform.kff.org/subsidycalculator.aspx.