



STATE OF WASHINGTON  
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

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**EXECUTIVE ORDER 13-05**

**IMPLEMENTING THE AFFORDABLE CARE ACT**

**WHEREAS**, the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act (Affordable Care Act or ACA) offers comprehensive health insurance reforms designed to provide all Americans access to quality and affordable health insurance; and

**WHEREAS**, as a result of the ACA and the hard work of many state employees and our public and private partners, Washington residents will have a comprehensive way to find, compare, and enroll in health insurance, called Washington Healthplanfinder, that will give individuals, families, and small business owners the ability to choose a plan that best fits their needs and budgets; and

**WHEREAS**, the ACA, through the Washington Healthplanfinder, will offer affordable choice of health insurance through qualified (private) health plans and state-sponsored “Apple Health” that will help many of the nearly one million currently uninsured low-income working families and vulnerable Washingtonians; and

**WHEREAS**, trained experts, including in-person assisters, specially-trained registered insurance brokers, and other certified representatives will be available to assist Washingtonians; and

**WHEREAS**, Washington State’s decision to take advantage of the ACA coverage expansion options will directly create thousands of working wage jobs and provide needed health care to upwards of 500,000 uninsured Washingtonians; and

**WHEREAS**, the ACA changes will support small businesses through a variety of measures such as offering workplace wellness incentives, lower premium cost growth, and increased access to quality, affordable health insurance through the Small Business Health Insurance Options Program (SHOP) in southwest Washington; and

**WHEREAS**, the ACA has made a number of reforms like assuring preventative and wellness care, and has provided resources for important public health improvements, in which investments in these services improves the overall health, productivity, and quality of life of Washingtonians; and

**WHEREAS**, the ACA provides a framework for payment reform and quality improvement towards a sustainable, integrated, and transparent health system where costs are controlled and quality is improved;

**NOW THEREFORE**, I, Jay Inslee, Governor of the state of Washington, by virtue of the power vested in me by the Constitution and statutes of the state of Washington do hereby order and direct as follows:

**1. Create the Governor’s Health Leadership Team to ensure on-going coordination and collaboration.**

The Governor’s Health Leadership Team (Team) shall be comprised of permanent members from the Health Care Authority (HCA), the Department of Health (DOH), the Department of Social and Health Services (DSHS), the Governor’s Legislative Affairs and Policy Office (LAPO), and the Office of Financial Management (OFM). Other members will be invited to serve as-needed, including Department of Corrections (DOC), Department of Veterans Affairs (DVA), and Department of Labor and Industries (L&I).

As an entity headed by a separately elected official, the Office of the Insurance Commissioner will be invited to participate. As a non-cabinet entity, headed by a board, the Health Benefit Exchange will also be invited to participate.

The Governor’s LAPO shall convene and lead the activities of the Team and may establish interagency work groups to support its mission, drawing membership from any agency or department of state government it deems necessary or beneficial. The Team shall continue to work collaboratively with tribal, local, and federal governments.

**2. The Health Leadership Team shall be responsible for actions to implement the ACA and Results Washington.**

Washington State is committed to improving the affordability and quality of its health care system through *Results Washington* and strategies to:

- (1) Make the next generation of Washingtonians the healthiest ever and support Washington State employees to improve their health, well-being, and productivity;
- (2) Develop a sustainable, integrated, and transparent health system where costs are controlled and quality is improved; and
- (3) Ensure Washingtonians have access to affordable health care.

The Team will provide strong leadership, accountability, and on-going improvement and performance metrics for successful implementation of the ACA and *Results Washington*. It shall provide advice, guidance, and specific recommendations to the Governor. It will

engage the public's collective support to maximize impact. It will ensure on-going information sharing and coordination of efforts with the Legislative Joint Select Committee on Health Care Reform; and it will ensure on-going information sharing and coordination of efforts with the Office of Insurance Commissioner and Health Benefits Exchange.

**3. As a first action, the Health Leadership Team shall provide guidance to all agencies that report to the Governor regarding actions agencies shall take to provide information to the public about health care reform.**

All state agencies subject to this Order are directed to do what each can to ensure that all Washingtonians who seek services at state offices know how to obtain low cost or free health insurance coverage. Actions shall include, but are not limited to, the following:

- Agencies shall coordinate with the Office of the Governor to distribute information regarding health care reform and ACA implementation on its websites;
- Agencies that interface with the public shall consider the full range of communication tools to provide information at its customer offices, including social media, email information and signature lines, newsletters, pamphlets, posters, mail inserts, and other strategies. Material is available at no or low costs from the Health Benefit Exchange and HCA.
- No later than January 1, 2014, agencies shall report to LAPO regarding steps taken pursuant to this Executive Order. Agencies are encouraged to share ideas with other agencies. The Team will act as a forum for these ideas.
- The HCA will work closely with LAPO and OFM, the Health Benefit Exchange, and other agencies as necessary to ensure enrollment efficiency and maximization and to ensure that other elements such as operational issues are quickly assessed and handled.

My Health Leadership Team will report its progress to me on a regular basis. To the extent further instructions are necessary, the Team will also provide necessary information and direction to agencies under the authority of this Order.

This Order applies to all cabinet agencies and boards, commissions, and other agencies that report to the Governor. I invite elected officials, institutions of higher education, agencies, boards, commissions, and other entities to follow the requirements of this Order.

This Order is not intended to, and does not confer any legal rights and shall not be used as a basis for legal challenges to rules or other actions or to any inaction of the governmental entity subject to it.

This executive order, which supersedes Executive Order 10-01, shall take effect immediately.

Signed and sealed with the official seal of the state of Washington on this 1st day of October, 2013 at Seattle, Washington.

By:

/s/

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Jay Inslee  
Governor

BY THE GOVERNOR:

/s/

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Secretary of State