Individual Mandates

Federal Mandate

On Jan. 1, 2019, the federal individual mandate under the Affordable Care Act (ACA) was effectively repealed. As a result, beginning with tax year 2019, a federal tax penalty no longer applies to individuals without health insurance coverage. For help with individual mandate compliance in prior tax years, click here.

California Mandate

Under current law, California residents generally must maintain "minimum essential health coverage" or pay a tax penalty. To help administer the individual mandate, California law imposes a reporting requirement on every entity that provides MEC to an individual during a calendar year, similar to the ACA's reporting requirement under Internal Revenue Code Section 6055.

District of Columbia Mandate

Under current law, District of Columbia residents generally must maintain "minimum essential health coverage" or pay a tax penalty. To help administer the individual mandate penalty, D.C. imposes a reporting requirement on every entity that provides MEC to an individual during a calendar year, similar to the ACA's reporting requirement under Internal Revenue Code Section 6055. The D.C. Office of Tax and Revenue (OTR) published Notice 2019-04 to provide more information on this reporting requirement.

Massachusetts Mandate

Under current law, Massachusetts residents who are 18 years old and over generally must maintain "creditable health insurance coverage" or pay a tax penalty. To help ensure compliance with this mandate, every employer in Massachusetts with **6 or more employees** must annually submit a Health Insurance Responsibility Disclosure (HIRD) form containing information about the health insurance coverage they offer, if any. Click here for more information.

New Jersey Mandate

Under current law, New Jersey residents generally must maintain "minimum essential health coverage" or pay a tax penalty. To help ensure compliance with this mandate, **all employers of New Jersey residents** who file Forms 1094-B, 1094-C, 1095-B and/or 1095-C with the IRS in a calendar year will be required to file those same forms with the New Jersey Division of Taxation on or before February 15 following the close of each calendar year, beginning in 2020. The forms are filed electronically through the state's system for filing Forms W-2. Click here for more information.

Rhode Island Mandate

Under current law, Rhode Island residents generally must maintain "minimum essential coverage" or pay a tax penalty. To help administer the individual mandate penalty, Rhode Island imposes a reporting requirement on every entity that provides MEC to an individual during a calendar year, similar to the ACA's reporting requirement under Internal Revenue Code Section 6055.

Vermont Mandate

Under current law, Vermont residents generally must maintain "minimum essential coverage." However, on June 17, 2019, the Vermont legislature amended the state individual mandate to eliminate sections related to enforcement. As a result, **individuals in Vermont will not be penalized for failing to maintain acceptable health coverage**.