

(2) "Medically uninsurable individual" does not include an individual who is eligible for coverage under:

- (i) the federal Medicare program;
- (ii) the Maryland Medical Assistance Program;
- (iii) the Maryland Children's Health Program; or

(iv) an employer-sponsored group health insurance plan that includes benefits comparable to Plan benefits, unless the individual is eligible for the tax credit for health insurance costs under § 35 of the Internal Revenue Code.

- (i) "Plan" means the Maryland Health Insurance Plan.

14-502.

- (a) There is a Maryland Health Insurance Plan.

- (b) The Plan is an independent unit that operates within the Administration.

(c) The purpose of the Plan is to decrease uncompensated care costs by providing access to affordable, comprehensive health benefits for medically uninsurable residents of the State by July 1, 2003.

(d) It is the intent of the General Assembly that the Plan operate as a nonprofit entity and that Fund revenue, to the extent consistent with good business practices, be used to subsidize health insurance coverage for medically uninsurable individuals.

14-509.

~~(A) THE PLAN SHALL BE A MECHANISM FOR SELF EMPLOYED INDIVIDUALS OR SOLE PROPRIETORS AS DESCRIBED IN THIS SECTION TO OBTAIN HEALTH INSURANCE COVERAGE IN THE STATE.~~

~~(B) (1) AN INDIVIDUAL IS ELIGIBLE FOR COVERAGE AS A SELF INSURED INDIVIDUAL OR SOLE PROPRIETOR UNDER THE PLAN IF THE INDIVIDUAL MEETS THE CRITERIA SPECIFIED IN THIS SUBSECTION.~~

~~(2) AN INDIVIDUAL IS ELIGIBLE FOR COVERAGE UNDER THE PLAN IF THE INDIVIDUAL:~~

~~(I) WORKS AND RESIDES IN THE STATE, AND~~

~~(II) IS A SELF EMPLOYED INDIVIDUAL ORGANIZED AS A SOLE PROPRIETORSHIP OR IN ANY OTHER LEGALLY RECOGNIZED MANNER THAT A SELF EMPLOYED INDIVIDUAL MAY ORGANIZE:~~

~~1. A SUBSTANTIAL PART OF WHOSE INCOME DERIVES FROM A TRADE OR BUSINESS THROUGH WHICH THE INDIVIDUAL HAS ATTEMPTED TO EARN TAXABLE INCOME;~~

~~2. WHO HAS FILED THE APPROPRIATE INTERNAL REVENUE FORM FOR THE PREVIOUS TAXABLE YEAR; AND~~