

(2) To be covered under a health benefit plan offered by a carrier, a small employer shall:

- (i) Elect to be covered under the plan;
- (ii) Agree to make the required premium payments; and
- (iii) Satisfy the other reasonable provisions of the plan as approved by the Commissioner.

(3) Any requirement used by a carrier in determining whether to provide coverage to a small employer group, including requirements for minimum participation of eligible employees, shall be applied uniformly among all small employers with the same number of eligible employees applying for coverage or receiving coverage from the carrier.

(4) A carrier may only vary application of minimum participation of eligible employees by the size of the small employer group.

(5) A carrier may not require minimum employer contributions.

~~(6) ANY BENEFITS ADDED TO THE STANDARD BENEFIT PLAN BY A RIDER SHALL BE SUBJECT TO THE SAME REQUIREMENTS AS THE STANDARD BENEFIT PLAN ITSELF CONCERNING:~~

~~(I) GUARANTEED ISSUANCE;~~

~~(II) GUARANTEED RENEWAL;~~

~~(III) ADJUSTED COMMUNITY RATING;~~

~~(IV) THE PROHIBITION ON PRE-EXISTING CONDITION LIMITATIONS; AND~~

~~(V) ANY OTHER PROVISIONS THE COMMISSIONER DETERMINES ARE NECESSARY TO ACHIEVE THE PURPOSES OF THIS SUBTITLE.~~

(6) (I) ANY BENEFIT ADDED OFFERED IN ADDITION TO THE COMPREHENSIVE STANDARD HEALTH BENEFIT PLAN THAT INCREASES ACCESS TO CARE CHOICES OR LOWERS THE COST-SHARING ARRANGEMENT IN THE COMPREHENSIVE STANDARD HEALTH BENEFIT PLAN SHALL BE SUBJECT TO THE SAME REQUIREMENTS AS THE COMPREHENSIVE STANDARD HEALTH BENEFIT PLAN, INCLUDING:

1. GUARANTEED ISSUANCE;

2. GUARANTEED RENEWAL;

3. ADJUSTED COMMUNITY RATING; AND

4. THE PROHIBITION ON PREEXISTING CONDITION LIMITATIONS.