

(C) (1) A CARRIER MAY ELECT TO REDUCE THE PERIOD OF ANY PREEXISTING CONDITION PROVISION BASED ON COVERAGE OF BENEFITS WITHIN ANY CLASS OR CATEGORY OF BENEFITS SPECIFIED BY THE SECRETARY BY REGULATION.

(2) ANY ELECTION MADE UNDER THIS SECTION SHALL BE MADE ON A UNIFORM BASIS FOR ALL COVERED INDIVIDUALS.

(3) A CARRIER THAT MAKES AN ELECTION UNDER THIS SECTION SHALL COUNT A PERIOD OF CREDITABLE COVERAGE WITH RESPECT TO ANY CLASS OR CATEGORY OF BENEFITS IF ANY LEVEL OF BENEFITS IS COVERED WITHIN THAT CLASS OR CATEGORY.

(D) A CARRIER THAT MAKES AN ELECTION UNDER SUBSECTION (C) OF THIS SECTION SHALL:

(1) PROMINENTLY STATE IN ANY DISCLOSURE STATEMENTS CONCERNING THE COVERAGE, AND TO EACH EMPLOYER AT THE TIME OF THE OFFER OR SALE OF THE COVERAGE, THAT THE CARRIER HAS MADE THIS ELECTION; AND

(2) INCLUDE IN THE STATEMENT A DESCRIPTION OF THE EFFECT OF THE ELECTION ON THE MEMBER OR SUBSCRIBER.

15-1405.

AN INDIVIDUAL SHALL ESTABLISH THE INDIVIDUAL'S PERIOD OF CREDITABLE COVERAGE BY PRESENTING THE CERTIFICATE DESCRIBED IN § 15-1403 OF THIS SUBTITLE.

15-1406.

(A) A CARRIER MAY NOT ESTABLISH RULES FOR ELIGIBILITY OF AN INDIVIDUAL TO ENROLL UNDER A GROUP HEALTH BENEFITS PLAN BASED ON ANY HEALTH STATUS-RELATED FACTOR.

(B) SUBSECTION (A) OF THIS SECTION DOES NOT:

(1) REQUIRE A CARRIER TO PROVIDE PARTICULAR BENEFITS OTHER THAN THOSE PROVIDED UNDER THE TERMS OF THE PARTICULAR HEALTH BENEFIT PLAN; OR

(2) PREVENT A CARRIER FROM ESTABLISHING LIMITATIONS OR RESTRICTIONS ON THE AMOUNT, LEVEL, EXTENT, OR NATURE OF THE BENEFITS OR COVERAGE FOR SIMILARLY SITUATED INDIVIDUALS ENROLLED IN THE HEALTH BENEFIT PLAN.

(C) RULES FOR ELIGIBILITY TO ENROLL UNDER A PLAN INCLUDES RULES DEFINING ANY APPLICABLE WAITING PERIODS FOR ENROLLMENT.