

KANSAS BOARD OF REGENTS
Student Insurance Advisory Committee
MINUTES
December 4, 2013

The December 4, 2013, meeting of the Student Insurance Advisory Committee (SIAC) was called to order at 12:30 p.m.

Members in Attendance:

Mary Herrin, COBO (Chair) - phone
Diana Malott, KU
Sheryl McKelvey, WSU

Lesa Gilbert, KUMC
Mary McDaniel, ESU
Madi Vannaman, KBOR

Members Participating by Telephone:

Cathy Lee Arcuino, PSU

Karen McCullough represented FHSU, as Carol Solko-Olliff was unavailable. Also attending were Dale Burns, UHC-SR; Jennifer Dahlquist, MHEC; Elizabeth Marks and Lesley Gagnon, Mercer and Julene Miller, KBOR. Alisha Wittstruck, KUMC; Matt Brinson, UHC-SR and Mary Karten, KU, participated on the telephone. Jim Parker, KSU, and the student representatives, Angela Wary, KU, and Dugan Keaton, KSU, were unable to participate.

Minutes

The minutes from September 4, 2013 meeting were approved.

MHECare/Mercer Reports

Elizabeth Marks reviewed the Mercer reports and addressed the highlights from the material.

The summary of experience by facility information reflects location information that may not be accurate. Dale Burns will have that information reviewed but noted that the city information frequently designates the billing location.

Diana Malott asked whether UHC-SR could provide information about the top 25 prescription drugs to see if a generic alternative is included in the formulary. Dale Burns will provide mapping information from Tier 3 to Tier 2 and from Tier 2 to Tier 1 (generic drugs).

UHC-SR – ACA impact on student plans for the PY 14-15 renewal

Dale Burns provided a report on the PPACA's impact on student health insurance plans, reviewed changes that were implemented for plan years 12-13 and 13-14 and explained the situation and uncertainties surrounding the 14-15 plan year. UHC-SR is awaiting direction from the Kansas Insurance Department to determine whether the current plan can be offered or if the plan will need to transition to a PPACA fully compliant plan, with unlimited benefits, no pre-existing condition provisions, covering federal and state of Kansas identified essential health benefits.

Dale Burns stated that moving from the \$500,000 policy limit to unlimited coverage with no pre-existing conditions may result in 5-6% premium impact. Premiums will also be impacted with the addition of benefits included in the Kansas benchmark plans; the California benchmark benefits had a 20% impact on premiums.

The states are in the process of determining whether current plans can be extended or whether transition to fully compliant plans will be required. UHC-SR has been actively contacting the states about this situation

and because student insurance plans are neither small nor individual group plans, the issue is murkier and may require a legal opinion. It is unknown when the state of Kansas will make its determination and if a decision is not available before the renewal date, UHC-SR will provide information for a fully compliant plan.

If a fully compliant plan is bid, because there will be unlimited coverage with no pre-existing exclusions, the plan will cover basically everything. Therefore, UHC-SR is addressing the voluntary plan availability and for plan year 14-15 if group has 75% enrollment on waiver or mandatory basis, then the plan can be voluntary. Because of international and graduate student enrollment, the KBOR plans would meet those criteria.

UHC-SR is developing a new set of enrollment guidelines for the long-term stability of the plan. Currently, a student can enroll at any time but UHC-SR is moving toward using the group plan criteria of open enrollment or enrollment with a qualifying event or when the student is first eligible, otherwise the student will not be eligible to enroll until the next plan year. Diana Malott asked whether the annual enrollment would require payment of an annual premium. Dale Burns stated that UHC-SR will be able to bill by semester.

Mary McDaniel stated that many international students are here for 9 months and not during the summer. Dale Burns stated that anytime a student enrolls, pre-existing conditions would not be excluded. If the summer period is not paid for, the premiums for the entire group would increase because of that exposure. Leslie Gagnon, Mercer, stated that if international students do not return home, but go to another part of the country, or to another country, or return before the semester begins, or stays later than the semester ends, there would be an uncovered period of time. Sheryl McKelvey noted that if the international student does not have the coverage, the student also would not have repatriation and medical evacuation coverage. Diana Malott suggested that the summer could continue to be set up as a separate semester but could also be set up for spring/summer for those students present in the spring. Dale Burns stated that if the student provides documentation, signed off by the university, that he/she is leaving for the summer and is not returning, then UHC-SR will refund the summer premium.

Madi Vannaman asked if the rates would be impacted if dependent coverage was removed. Elizabeth Marks, Mercer, stated that subsidies are available to all students, including internationals, depending on income and that they would look at the impact to premiums. Diana Malott stated that she thought international and out-of-state students would not be eligible for state exchanges. Dale Burns responded that based on information UHC-SR has received, they believe the student must be a "legal resident," and a "lawfully present" requirement is defined. Dale Burns indicated that there is no clear guidance, and direction must be provided by the state and might have unintended consequences on things like in-state tuition. Because Kansas is using a federal exchange, the guidance would need to come from the federal government.

Diana Malott shared how KU is trying to increase international student enrollment. The new waiver form has helped and KU is not accepting as many plans as it had previously. There are short-term programs (six weeks) where international students come with their country's insurance and KU is taking steps to direct pay, where the student must pay at the time of service, instead of making the students join the KBOR plan. KU also plans to start marketing directly to parents during the spring for the 13-14 plan.

Sheryl McKelvey stated that WSU's student health service center has taken over the international student plan waiver process from the international program and is tightening plan requirements.

Mary McDaniel indicated that ISO has reached out to ESU and planned to reach out to the other KBOR state universities international offices regarding the ISO non-renewable plans. In order to offer an ACA compliant plan for new incoming international students for spring 2014, ISO indicated they must issue the policy directly to the university. Sheryl McKelvey stated WSU had also been contacted and she forwarded the information to general counsel. As the student insurance plan is KBOR's plan, and not an individual university's plan, the universities do not have the authority to accept a policy on behalf of the university.

Good of the Order

1. Diana Malott reported that MHEC is working with UHC-SR to develop two different policies that could be purchased in concert with the KBOR student plan: athletics and study abroad. For the athletics plan, the FHSU associate athletics director, along with Tina Scott, and someone from KU's athletic department have volunteered. Jennifer Dahlquist, MHEC, stated that individuals from other universities are working on the study abroad policy.
2. Jennifer Dahlquist reported that MHECare plan recently added, mid-year, the North Dakota university system representing 3500 students across the system.

Future SIAC meetings

Future SIAC meeting tentatively scheduled for 12:30, KBOR Board Room

1. Wednesday, February 5, 2014
2. Wednesday, May 7, 2014