

# Student Health Insurance Administration

New York State College Health  
Association

Friday, October 24

9:45 – 11:15

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# Objectives

- Describe Task Force Recommendations to ACHA's Board of Directors
- Discuss Implementing a Campus Health Insurance Requirement

# Five Recommended Actions to ACHA's Board

- 1) Approve Revised Standards for Student Health Insurance/Benefit Programs
  - [http://www.acha.org/info\\_resources/stu\\_health\\_ins.pdf](http://www.acha.org/info_resources/stu_health_ins.pdf)
- 2) Create study group to issue position paper on Fed and State compliance laws and general liability for SHIBP's
- 3) Form a Coalition to provide continuing education for the field

# Five Recommended Actions to ACHA's Board

- 4) Invite NAFSA back to the table to revise 1993 document regarding international student health insurance
- 5) Support S. 400 (Michelle's Law) to provide employer-group coverage for students who need a medical leave-of-absence in order to address a health problem

# SHIP Campus Discussion Topics

## Why Important to Consider

- **Uninsured Students**
- **Underinsured Students (high co-pays/deductibles, out-of area limits)**
- **Safety Net to Support Academic Success (students self-report derailment from high, unplanned medical expenses)**
- **Protects Community Providers (strong political issue)**
- **Protects State Medicaid Fund (strong political issue)**
- **Extensive Research/Survey Data to Support**

# SHIP Campus Discussion Topics

## Level of Student Support

- Proactively Engage Students in Discussion
- Strong Concern for Affordable Health Care Coverage
- Employer May Not Offer (particularly for part-time workers)
- Age Off Parent's Plan
- Confidentiality of Own Plan
- Relevance/Focus of Student Health Care Needs Coverage
- Willing to Support for Needy Students if Waiver Process is Simple

# SHIP Campus Discussion Topics

## Cost of Higher Education

- **Actually Lowers Overall Costs for Students**
- **Medical Expenses Already Exist, Regardless of SHIP Consideration**
- **SHIP Funnel Primary Care to Cost Effective Campus Health Service**
- **Capitated Fee Option Lowers Administrative Expenses**
- **Lower Co-Pays/Deductibles Reduce Out-of-Pocket Expenses**
- **Larger Enrollment Pool Leverages Provider Network Discount Rates**
- **Eligible Expense for Financial Aid Package**

# SHIP Campus Discussion Topics

## Access

- **Provides Full Access for All Students**
- **Eliminate Referral Issues and Effectively Address Health Needs of Uninsured/Underinsured Students**
- **Provides Mental Health Coverage Benefits**
- **Assures Continuity of Care Coverage During Breaks or Medical Leave**
- **Reduces Disparities for Low Income and Minority Students**
- **Addresses International Student Non-Immigrant Visa Requirements**
- **Access is Critical Healthy Campus 2010 Health Factor**



# SHIP Campus Discussion Topics

## Enrollment System

- **Voluntary System Unsustainable (high risk pool, low enrollment, high claims experience, reduced benefits, high premium increases)**
- **Automatic Enrollment (Mandatory is 4-letter word!)**
- **Waiver Option**
  1. **Most Underwriters Can Now Manage**
  2. **Simplified, Electronic Process**
  3. **Part of Class Registration Process**
  4. **Audit Capability**

# SHIP Campus Discussion Topics

## Student/Parent Concern of Potential Double Coverage

- Heavily Promoted, Simplified Waiver Option
- SHIP Premium vs. Family Plan Dependent Premium plus Additional
- Out-of -Pocket Expenses
- Lack of Confidentiality
- Limited Out-of-Area Coverage
- Safety Net When Age Off Parent's Plan

# SHIP Campus Discussion Topics

## Institutional Competitiveness

- Majority of Institutions Offer
- Can Demonstrate Student Demand
- Protects Investment in Education and Supports Academic Success
- Effectively Manages Existing Health Care Costs vs. Adding on Costs
- Builds and Supports Community Health Resources Relations
- Health Coverage for Accidental Injury on Campus may Reduce Institutional Liability

# Recent Survey Research

## ACHA (N=255\*)

- 60% of SHS's have control of SHIBP's
- 57% of schools require health insurance (38% public ;79% private)
- 70% SHIBP's are voluntary (38%) or restrictive waiver (32%)
- 40% of voluntary plans not financially viable

## GAO (N= 340\*)

- 80% of college students aged 18-23 had health insurance (20%: part-time, older, lower income, students of color, West and South regions)
- 30% of schools require health insurance (22% public 4-yr; 62% private 4-yr; 3% public 2-yr)

# Recent Survey Research

## ACHA

- 64% of schools have 25% or less of students covered by SHIBP
- 70% of public and 74% of private schools have annual SHIBP premiums below \$1,200
- 30% of schools have aggregate premium below \$250K; 3% have \$15M or more

## GAO

- 57% of schools offered student health insurance (82% for 4-yr public; 71% 4-yr private; 29% 2-yr public)
- 1.7M uninsured incurred \$120 M-\$255 M in uncompensated care
- Annual premiums varied between \$30 and \$2400 with average of \$850

# Recent Survey Research

## ACHA

- Underinsured concerns:
  - Deductible of \$1000 or more
  - Inadequate Rx coverage
  - Inadequate MH coverage
  - No catastrophic coverage
- 132 4-yr publics; 123 4-yr privates

## GAO

- Benefits range: \$2500 per injury or illness to \$1M per condition per lifetime; median \$25K
- 15-40% of students enroll in SHIBP's if health insurance requirement; less than 10% if voluntary (Industry standards)
- \* 74 4-yr publics; 133 4-yr privates; 133 2-yr publics

<http://www.gao.gov/new.items.do8389.pdf>

# Presentation excerpted from

ACHA Insurance Task Force  
Dana Mills – Task Force Chair  
Val Lyon- Panel Presentation Co- Chair

Strengthening Our Student Health Insurance/Benefit  
Programs

ACHA Orlando Conference  
June 6, 2008

# ACHA panel contact info.

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