



**TO: Our Valued Clients and Brokers**  
**FROM: Health Plans, Inc.**  
**DATE: September 25, 2018**  
**RE: Reinstatement of Maine MGARA Assessment**

The U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) recently approved the Maine Bureau of Insurance's request to reactivate the Maine Guaranteed Access Reinsurance Association (MGARA) beginning in 2019. The purpose of MGARA is to provide premium relief in the individual market by spreading the risk for high-cost claims across the broader Maine health insurance market. MGARA accomplishes this goal in part with assessments on fully insured and self-funded plans that cover Maine residents. MGARA was initially in effect in 2012 and 2013, and also levied assessments on plans based on Maine membership.

**How much is the new assessment?** The same as it was in 2012-13: \$4.00 per month for every Maine resident covered under a health plan.

**When does it start?** The assessment begins upon the plan's first effective or renewal date on or after January 1, 2019.

**How long will the assessment continue?** The approval from HHS was for five years, 2019 through 2023.

**Who pays?** Health plans that cover Maine residents, regardless of where the self-funded employer is located or the fully insured policy is issued.

**How is the assessment collected?** As with other state assessments, HPI will invoice the amounts on the funding request reports for clients with plans that cover Maine residents, and then will submit the payments to MGARA on behalf of the plans.

If you have any questions about the reinstated MGARA assessment, please contact your Health Plans Account Manager.

Thanks.

Elizabeth Wilson  
Associate Director, Regulatory Affairs



HealthPlansInc.com

*HPI is a Harvard Pilgrim company*

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