

## FAQs regarding the Affordable Care Act (ACA) and Skookum Health Assistance Program

**Question:** What if I already have insurance through my job or am already on Medicaid?

**Answer:** If you have health insurance through your employer or have health care through a government-sponsored program, such as Medicare, Medicaid, CHIP, Veterans Affairs or TRICARE, there is nothing you need to do – you are covered.

**Question:** I have Contract Health Services. Do I still need to apply?

**Answer:** Yes, if you do not have primary insurance coverage, you will need to apply.

**Question:** Isn't my Skookum Health Assistance Program an insurance?

**Answer:** No, Skookum is not an insurance plan. Therefore, it is not considered to be insurance by definition. You should not reference Skookum as insurance, as it is not. It is assistance you receive from the Tribe because you are an enrolled Tribal member.

**Question:** Am I required to pay for insurance through my employer?

**Answer:** We encourage Tribal members with alternate resources, such as employer-sponsored insurance, to enroll in those plans and use Skookum as a secondary coverage to pay for any balances that are patient responsibility.

**Question:** I'm an American Indian/Alaska Native. What do I need to know about the Health Insurance Marketplace?

**Answer:** The Health Insurance Marketplace will benefit American Indians and Alaska Natives (AI/AN) by providing opportunities for enrolling in affordable health coverage. You might be eligible to enroll in a private health plan in the new Health Insurance Marketplace, or you might be eligible for Medicaid or the Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP). There will be one application to determine whether you are eligible for a marketplace health plan, Medicaid or CHIP.

**Question:** What are the special protections for AI/ANs who enroll in the Health Insurance Marketplace?

**Answer:** Members of federally recognized Tribes with a household income at or below 300 percent of the federal poverty level (roughly \$70,650 for a family of 4 in 2013 or \$88,320 for the same family in Alaska) who are also eligible for the tax credit won't have any out-of-pocket costs like co-pays, co-insurance or deductibles for services covered by their Marketplace health plan.

**Question:** How can I apply for an exemption from the shared responsibility payment?

**Answer:** To get an exemption, members of federally recognized Tribes may apply through the Marketplace or provide the appropriate information when they file their federal income tax return. AI/ANs who aren't members of federally recognized Tribes, but who are eligible for or get services from an I/T/U, (Indian Health Service, Tribal clinic or urban Indian clinic) must apply through the Marketplace and will need to verify their AI/AN status or eligibility for services through an I/T/U.

**Question:** Will I be able to get assistance with paying the cost of my premium if I enroll in a Marketplace health plan?

**Answer:** While AI/ANs are NOT exempt from paying premiums, they may be able to get lower costs on monthly premiums through a new tax credit that is paid to insurance plans each month to reduce an individual's premium. Eligibility for the tax credit depends on income, family size and access to other coverage. Members of federally recognized Tribes can use tax credits to pay for premiums on certain plans and still receive cost-sharing reductions as well. The type of cost-sharing reduction depends on income and whether an individual is enrolled in a zero cost-sharing plan or limited cost-sharing plan.

**Question:** Are there special protections for AI/ANs who enroll in Medicaid?

**Answer:** AI/ANs who are eligible for or get services from an I/T/U, including Contract Health Services, are exempt from Medicaid premiums and enrollment fees and, if they have ever used one of these programs, they are also exempt from other cost sharing, such as co-payments, co-insurance, and deductibles. Certain Indian resources and payments are not counted for Medicaid eligibility. AI/ANs can continue to get services through an I/T/U even if the I/T/U is not a provider in a managed care network.

### Links to assist you in learning more about the ACA and Marketplace products:

- [www.healthcare.gov](http://www.healthcare.gov): Click on see plans now;
- [www.coveroregon.com](http://www.coveroregon.com): Go to learn more and click on the link.

### If you have questions, please contact

- Tresa Mercier, [tresa.mercier@grandronde.org](mailto:tresa.mercier@grandronde.org)
  - Loretta Meneley, [loretta.meneley@grandronde.org](mailto:loretta.meneley@grandronde.org)
  - Melody Baker, [melody.baker@grandronde.org](mailto:melody.baker@grandronde.org)
  - Barbara Steere, [barbara.steere@grandronde.org](mailto:barbara.steere@grandronde.org)
- Or call 800-775-0095 to speak to anyone listed above.

## Request for qualifications

The Tribe is seeking Requests for Qualifications from individuals interested in serving as the Chief Judge of the Tribal Court. This is a part-time, Tribal Council-appointed position with a term of two years. To obtain a copy of the RFQ, contact Angela Fasana at 503-879-4596 or [angela.fasana@grandronde.org](mailto:angela.fasana@grandronde.org). Proposals must be received by 5 p.m. June 27, 2014. ■

## Firewood Permits

Attention firewood permit holders! According to the National Inter-agency Fire Center, Oregon is expected to have an "above normal fire potential" beginning in June. With this forecast and an abundance of fuel wood available, we are encouraging valid permit holders to fill the issued permits as soon as reasonably possible to avoid a closure due to fire season. For questions or to obtain a firewood permit, contact Natural Resources at 503-879-2424 or visit [www.grandronde.org/departments/natural-resources/](http://www.grandronde.org/departments/natural-resources/). As a reminder, firewood permits are issued to all Grand Ronde Tribal members for personal use and may not exceed five cords in a calendar year. ■

## Two Tribal youths honored by UNITY

Tribal member Savannah Ingram and local youth SuSun Fisher, who is a member of the Confederated Tribes of Siletz, are among the 2014 inaugural class of UNITY's 25 Under 25 Native Youth Leadership Awards.

The United National Indian Tribal Youth awards recognize Native American and Alaskan Native youths between 14 and 24 who embody UNITY's core mission and exude living a balanced life developing their spiritual, mental, physical and social well-being.

They will be recognized at a ceremony during the UNITY national conference being held in Portland from June 28 through July 3. Each will receive a hand-made beaded "25 Under 25" medallion. They will join more than 1,300 Native youth who are attending the national conference for a full week of youth leadership development, featuring Tribal leaders, expert trainers and Native youth peers from throughout the country.

In addition to being recognized, Ingram and Fisher will receive special training from UNITY over the next year that is designed to build on their individual achievements.

Ingram, 18, lives in Gresham and has been serving as Senior Veterans Queen. She is Kalapuya, Umpqua, Chinook and Rogue River.

Fisher, 15, lives in Grand Ronde and is a member of the Siletz Royalty and participates in many Grand Ronde Canoe Family events. ■

### CTGR Recreation Department

#### Gymnasium-Fitness Center Hours/Access Updates



#### Hours of Operation:

6am – 9pm Monday – Friday  
8am – 12pm Saturday  
Closed Sunday

\*Hours of Operation are subject to change without notice due to scheduled events.

#### Fitness Center Access:

Tribal/Community	6am – 8am & 5pm-9pm (Monday-Friday)	Contact Security
	8am – 5pm (Monday-Friday)	Contact Recreation/YED
	8am – 12pm (Saturday)	Contact Security

\*Access is granted to Tribal/Community Members *only* during the hours above. Everyone who enters the gym or fitness center from 6am-8am & 5pm-9pm must sign-in.

#### CTGR Employees Access by Employee Badge

\*In the event your employee badge does not grant access to the gym after hours, contact Security, show your employee badge, and the officer on duty will let you in.

#### Age Access Policy:

**MUST Be 18 years or older to be in the Fitness Center**  
Youth 13-17 may use the Fitness Center with adult supervision (over 18)  
Youth 8-12 may access the Fitness Center with adult supervision, but may not use equipment.  
Youth ages 7 and under are not permitted in the Fitness Center

#### Contact information:

Recreation Staff	Recreation Coordinator Recreation Assistant	(Matt Mosley) (Kendra Steele)	503-879-1369 503-879-1921
YED Front Desk	Administrative Assistant	(Tiffany Mercier)	503-879-2101
Security			503-879-2183