

# Oregon testing Medicaid enrollment system

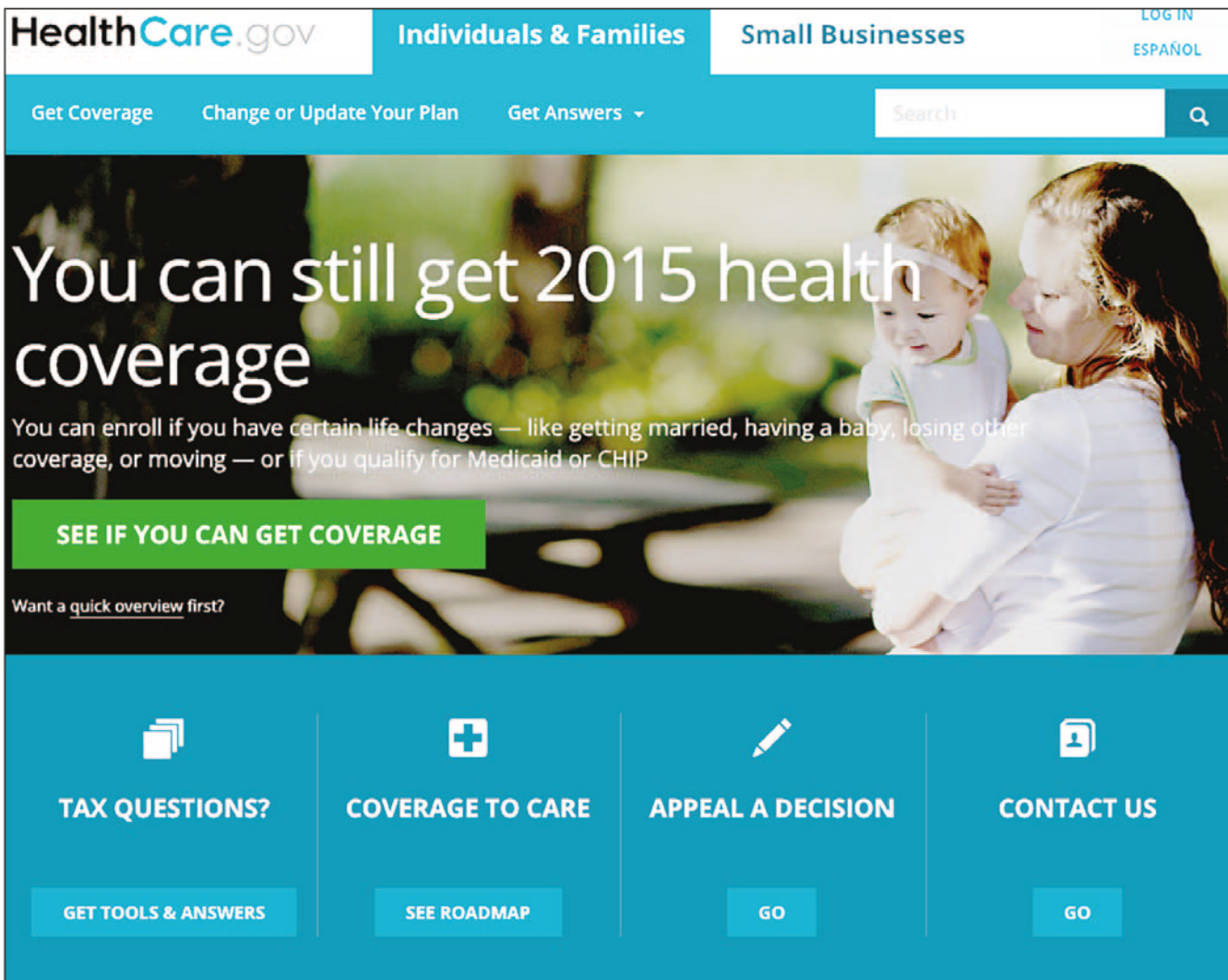
By Hillary Borrud  
Capital Bureau

Oregon is testing a modified version of Kentucky's online Medicaid enrollment system and officials hope it will be ready for the public to use in early 2016.

That means Oregon might finally be able to automate its process to screen applicants for Medicaid eligibility and enroll them in the program, two of the functions that were supposed to be included in the Cover Oregon health insurance exchange portal. That system failed to launch in 2013, so the Oregon Health Authority has instead used an online PDF application to meet the federal requirement that states provide an online Medicaid application.

There are currently more than 1 million low-income Oregonians enrolled in the Oregon Health Plan, which is the state's Medicaid program. The state still employs hundreds of limited-duration staff to manually determine Medicaid applicants' eligibility and enroll them in the program.

Although Kentucky provided its programming code to Oregon for free, state agencies in Oregon have budgeted approximately \$62 million to adapt the program and implement it here, according to Stephanie Tripp, a spokeswoman for the Oregon Health Authority. The budget includes the cost of a contract with Deloitte Consulting, which is working with state employees to make adjustments to the Kentucky system.



Oregon is using the federal health insurance exchange, Healthcare.gov, seen above, for people seeking private insurance, and will continue to do so free of charge through 2016.

The state and consultant are testing Oregon's version of the system and will also develop a training plan for state staff who will use the technology.

"We expect the system to become available to Oregonians who are applying for (the Oregon Health Plan) for the first time in early 2016," Tripp wrote in an email. "However, for Oregonians who are current OHP members, they will be asked to renew their coverage through our current renewal process."

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The Oregon Department of Consumer and Business Services, which took over management of Oregon's health insurance marketplace in July, was unable to provide an updated total cost for the Cover Oregon project by deadline this week. However, The Associated Press reported early this year that Oregon spent \$300 million in federal money and at least \$26 million in state funds to

develop and market the Cover Oregon exchange. Most of the federal money went to tech company Oracle which built the exchange.

The state has continued to pay Oracle to use a portion of the Cover Oregon system to allow online Medicaid applications. That cost was unavailable, and it's also unclear whether the state can stop paying Oracle after Oregon completes the transition to Kentucky's system.

The state has spent at least \$4.6 million on legal services, mostly to defend the state against lawsuits filed by Oracle and to pursue its own lawsuit against the company, according to documents provided by the Oregon Department of Justice and Oregon House Republicans. Oregon has also incurred some of its legal bills responding to inquiries from Congress and the U.S. Department of Justice.

Oregon also spent millions of dollars assessing whether it could salvage the Cover Oregon exchange, and had spent \$9.1 million by the end of 2014 for hundreds of workers to process paper health insurance applications, The Associated Press reported.

Since then, lawmakers approved a \$30.5 million two-year budget for the Department of Consumer and Business Services to manage the exchange and a \$2.3 million two-year budget to market and promote the insurance websites.

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## Church Services In Grant County

**GRACE CHAPEL**  
Evangelical Methodist  
154 E. Williams St.,  
Prairie City • 541-820-4437  
gracechpl@ortelco.net  
Pastor Michael Harvey  
Early Worship ..... 8:45 a.m.  
Sunday School ..... 9:45 a.m.  
Worship ..... 11 a.m.  
Evening Worship ..... 6:30 p.m.  
WEDNESDAY  
Prayer ..... 8 a.m.  
THURSDAY  
Bible Study ..... 6:30 p.m.

**Seventh-Day Adventist Church**  
SATURDAY SERVICES  
JOHN DAY  
110 Valley View Dr. - 541-575-1216  
Head Elder.....541-575-2914  
Bible Classes (all ages).....9:30 am  
Worship.....11 am  
LONG CREEK  
E. Main Street - 541-421-3033  
Head Elder.....421-3468  
Bible Classes (all ages).....2 pm  
Worship.....3 pm  
Tune into  
3 ANGELS BROADCASTING  
KSPL 98.1 FM  
Blue Mountain Cable, Channel 2  
Antenna; Digital Channel 15  
& UHF Channel 8

**Cornerstone Christian Fellowship**  
139 N.E. DAYTON STREET, JOHN DAY  
541-575-2180  
Sunday Bible School (for all ages)...8:45 am  
Sunday Worship Service.....10 am  
Pastor Levi Manitsas  
cornerstonejohnday@gmail.com

**John Day Valley Mennonite Church**  
Meeting every Sunday  
at Mt. Vernon Grange Hall  
Sunday School.....9:30 a.m.  
Sunday Morning Worship...10:50 a.m.  
Pastor Leland Smucker  
Everyone Welcome • 541-575-5507

**St. Thomas Episcopal Church**  
Morning Prayer.....10 am  
(1<sup>st</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup>, 5<sup>th</sup> Sundays)  
Eucharist & Sunday School.....10 am  
(2<sup>nd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> Sundays)  
139 S. Washington,  
Canyon City  
541-620-1436

**New Life Bible Church**  
Corinthians 5:17  
Every Sunday in the L.C.  
Community Center  
SUNDAYS AT 7:00 PM  
Contact Pastor Ed Studtmann at  
541-421-3888

**MT. VERNON PRESBYTERIAN Community Church**  
SUNDAY SERVICE.....9 am  
SUNDAY SCHOOL.....9 am  
541-932-4800  
EVERYONE WELCOME

**Prairie Baptist Church**  
238 N. McHaley St.  
Prairie City  
Pastor David Hoeffner  
541-820-3696  
www.prairie-baptist-church.com  
Sunday School for all ages .....9:00 am  
Sunday morning worship .....10:30 am  
Awana (Oct-Apr.) .....3:00 pm  
Youth Group .....5:30 pm

**VICTORY BAPTIST CHURCH**  
KJV Independent  
Fundamental • Premillennial  
Terence K. Crabb, Pastor  
A Bible-believing Church  
"He that hath the Son hath life..." 1 John 5:12  
Sunday School 9:45 am • Sunday Preaching 11:00 am  
Junior Church 11:00 am • Sunday Evenings 3:30 pm  
Wednesday Bible Study & Master Club 7:00 pm  
Saturday Men's Prayer Meeting 7:00 pm  
108 S. Washington Street, Canyon City  
541-575-2688 or 541-575-0844

**JOHN DAY UNITED METHODIST CHURCH**  
Sunday Worship • 9AM  
(541) 575-1326  
johndayUMC@gmail.com  
126 NW Canton, John Day  
Like us on Facebook!

**St. Elizabeth of Hungary Catholic Church**  
Corner of S Canyon Blvd and SW 2<sup>nd</sup>  
Mon. - Fri. Mass - 12:05 pm  
Saturday Mass - 5:00 pm  
Sunday Mass - 9:00 am  
Confession: Saturday 3:30-4:30 pm  
Anytime by appointment 541-575-1459  
**St. Anne**  
Monument - Sunday at 12:30 pm  
**St. Katherine**  
Dale  
1<sup>st</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> Sundays at 2:30 pm  
Office Hours  
Monday - Friday 9 am - 12 Noon

**Living Word Christian Center**  
Hwy 26 Mt. Vernon  
Celebration of Worship  
Sunday 5:30pm  
Kids Classes 0-6th grade  
Youth Connection  
Thursdays - resuming in Oct  
Kids K-6th Grade  
YOUTH GROUPS  
Fridays - resuming in Oct  
Jr Hi 7th-8th & Sr Hi 9th-12th  
PASTOR SHARON MILLER  
541-932-4910  
www.livingwordcc.com

**CHURCH OF THE NAZARENE**  
Sunday School.....9:30 am  
Sunday Worship Service.....10:45 am  
Sunday Evening Service.....6:00 pm  
Children & Teen Activities  
SMALL GROUPS CALL FOR MORE INFO  
Weekdays: Sonshine Christian School  
Pastor Ron Roberson  
Associate Pastor Brad Williamson  
521 E. Main • John Day • 541-575-1895  
www.johndaynazarene.com

**Historic Remnant Church**  
Preparing for Jesus to come  
Meets Saturday at Mt. Vernon Grange  
Sabbath School.....9:30 am  
Church Services.....11:00 am  
541-620-0340

**Redeemer Lutheran Church**  
Come Worship with us at  
627 SE Hillcrest, John Day  
1<sup>st</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday Worship  
& Communion .....4:30 pm  
2<sup>nd</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup> & 5<sup>th</sup> Sunday Worship .....10 am  
Wednesday Evening Bible Study.....6 pm  
For information: 541-575-2348

**FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH**  
Sunday School.....10 am  
Church.....11 am  
Afternoon Service.....1 pm  
No Mid-week Services  
Pastor Ray Isenberger  
300 W. Main, John Day  
541-575-1355

**Strawberry Mountain CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP**  
Calvary Chapel Outreach Fellowship  
Sunday Services .....10 am  
Seneca Outreach.....2 pm  
Midweek Services also available  
170 SE Dayton, John Day  
2nd & Ave. D, Seneca  
541-575-2006

**FIRST CHRISTIAN CHURCH**  
Sunday School.....9:45 am  
Sunday Worship.....11 am  
Sunday Evening Bible talk.....6:30 pm  
Saturday Men's Study.....7 pm  
Full Gospel- Come Grow With Us  
541-575-1202 Church  
311 NE Dayton St, John Day  
Pastor Al Altnow  
www.fccjohnday.com