



# Gateway to Work FAQs

## Q: What is HIP Gateway to Work?

A: Gateway to Work is a part of the Healthy Indiana Plan that helps connect HIP members with job training, education, volunteer or work opportunities.

## Q: When does it start?

A: Gateway to Work is already part of HIP, but beginning in January 2019, some members will be required to participate. The state will notify members if they are required to participate. These members will be required to work, go to school, volunteer or participate in other qualifying activities up to 80 hours per month.

## Q: How do I find places to volunteer?

A: A member can go to HIP.IN.Gov website and click "Gateway to Work" starting January 2019. There will also be a list of partner organizations in your area. These partner organizations will understand the Gateway to Work program and can help connect members with local resources. A member can also contact their health plan directly about ways to meet their requirements.

## Q: Will I have to participate?

A: Some members are exempt, including those who are:

- medically frail
- pregnant
- in treatment for substance use
- having a child younger than school age to take care of
- 60 years of age or older

The state will send notices to members that let them know if they are required to do anything for Gateway to Work.

## Q: How will I know if I am required to participate in Gateway to Work?

A: A letter will be mailed to each HIP member letting them know if they are required to participate in Gateway to Work.

## Q: How will Gateway to Work be phased in?

A: The number of hours that will be required will start out at zero. Twenty hours per month will be required starting in July 2019. The number of hours required per month will gradually increase as follows:

1. January – June 2019: *0 hours per month*
2. July – September 2019: *20 hours per month*
3. October – December 2019: *40 hours per month*
4. January – June 2020: *60 hours per month*
5. July 2020 and beyond: *80 hours per month*

## Q: What are the exemptions?

A: Members will be exempt if they meet one or more of the following:

- Caregiver of a disabled dependent
- Homeless
- Illness (certified) or incapacity (temporary)
- Institutionalized
- Kinship caregiver of an abused or neglected child
- Medically frail
- Pregnant
- Recently incarcerated for a period of at least 30 days in the past 6 months
- Student (half or full-time)
- Substance use disorder
- Other possible exemptions will be reviewed for good cause on an individual basis
- Age 60 years and older
- TANF or SNAP recipient

If a member is exempt, he or she can voluntarily participate in Gateway to Work for their own personal benefit but are not required.



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## Q: What if I have an exemption that is not listed in my HIP member data?

A: In most cases, the state will determine that a member is exempt based on information already on file, such as age, medical claims and employment status. However, some exemptions are based on information that the state does not already have. If a member meets an exemption, the member can contact their health plan to discuss. The member will be required to document their exemption with the health plan who may then update the member's status.

## Q: What are the Gateway to Work qualifying activities?

A: If you are required to participate in Gateway to Work here are the things you can do:

### Work

- Employed/self employed
- Homeschooling
- Job search activities
- Education related to employment
- Members of the Pokagon Band of Potawatomi participating in a specific employment program

### Learn

- College Education
- English as a second language education
- General education
- High School Equivalency (HSE)/adult education)
- Job skill training
- Vocational education/training

### Serve

- Caregiving services
- Community service/public service
- Volunteer work
- Other activities may qualify based on individual review

## Q: What if I can't work one month? Or I'm a seasonal worker?

A: Members will have to meet their required hours for at least 8 of 12 months during a calendar year.

## Q: How many hours do members have to complete?

A: After a six month phase in period the participation requirements will gradually increase. The hours required per month will gradually increase as follows:

- January – June 2019: *0 hours per month*
- July – September 2019: *20 hours per month*
- October – December 2019: *40 hours per month*
- January – June 2020: *60 hours per month*
- July 2020 and beyond: *80 hours per month*

## Q: How can I find enough work or other opportunities to meet the requirement?

A: There will be a website where members can learn about school/vocational education and volunteer opportunities in their area. Members can also reach out to their health plan for help. The state is also developing Gateway to Work partnerships throughout the state. These partners will understand the program and have resources available to help members, including reporting requirements.

## Q: How will I report my hours?

A: You can report your hours:

- Online – using the member portal found at [www.hip.in.gov](http://www.hip.in.gov) on your phone or desktop computer
- With a Gateway to Work partner – You can find a partner on the Gateway to Work website ([www.hip.in.gov](http://www.hip.in.gov)) to help you report hours.
- With your health plan – You can call your health plan to report hours.

You will need to report the type of activity, the date the activity occurred, the location of the activity and the number of hours you completed.



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## **Q: If I don't meet the requirements, does my whole family lose coverage or just me?**

**A:** If one member of a household does not meet the Gateway to Work requirements, only that member will be suspended from HIP coverage. Anyone else in the house who is covered by HIP or another Indiana Health Coverage Program, such as Hoosier Healthwise, will maintain their benefits.

## **Q: What happens if I don't want to participate or don't meet the requirements?**

**A:** Members who are required to participate in Gateway to Work and choose not to participate or do not achieve the required number of hours for at least eight months in a calendar year may have their HIP coverage suspended. If a member becomes suspended, the Gateway to Work staff will work with the member to meet the participation requirements so their HIP benefits can be restored.

## **Q: Can my HIP benefits be suspended or terminated monthly?**

**A:** No, Gateway to Work is a calendar year program. Throughout the year a member may be required to participate in Gateway to Work activities and report them. At the end of each year, a member's success in meeting the requirements for each month will be reviewed. Benefits may be suspended starting January 1 for anyone who does not meet their requirement for the previous year.

## **Q: Will online classes, internships or apprenticeships count?**

**A:** Yes, all of these activities would be considered qualifying activities.

## **Q: Can I volunteer anywhere or only at specific locations?**

**A:** Members can volunteer anywhere. Gateway to Work will have partners statewide to provide opportunities for members to participate in volunteer activities around their community.

## **Q: What if I get sick and can't work?**

**A:** If a member becomes ill or injured for an extended period of time, the member may qualify for an exemption from the work requirement for the month(s) in which the illness or injury affects them. If this occurs, the member would need to contact their health plan.

## **Q: What sort of documentation will I need to provide?**

**A:** Members can self-attest to all qualifying activities. They may provide documentation but it is not required. Some form of documentation is required for all exemptions. Contact your health plan for questions regarding what documentation is required.

## **Q: When will I receive more information about the program?**

**A:** More information on Gateway to Work will come from the state and your health plan later this year. The HIP website ([www.hip.in.gov](http://www.hip.in.gov)) will also be kept up-to-date as additional information becomes available.