

Letter 15 with Response

From: [kayroger](#)
To: [ETF SMB Board Feedback](#)
Subject: Health Insurance Options
Date: Wednesday, May 8, 2019 2:59:07 PM

Many companies and other government agencies offer group health insurance for employee plus one. This means perhaps the employee, (retiree) and a spouse. Is this an option being considered by the Group Health Insurance board? Thank you for your response.



Virus-free. www.avast.com

From: [ETF SMB Board Feedback](#)
To: "kayroger"
Subject: RE: Health Insurance Options
Date: Thursday, May 9, 2019 4:12:00 PM

Attachments: [image001.png](#)
[image002.png](#)
[image003.png](#)
[image004.png](#)

Good afternoon,

Currently, state law requires that we offer only a single rate and a family rate for those subscribers that wish to cover all eligible dependents, except for those covered by Medicare. It is a common misconception that offering a 'couple' rate would reduce overall insurance costs. Based on ETF enrollment, our research found over the years that those who would be eligible for 'employee plus spouse' coverage have an actuarially higher cost factor than other family groupings. This is due to the fact that the 'employee plus spouse' population generally consists of older members who tend to be more frequent and more costly users of the health care system. Thus, while state law could be changed to require the creation of a two person rate, the premium would be similar to the family plan in order to cover the health care costs for this population.

If you have further questions, please reach out to Arlene Larson at arlene.larson@etf.wi.gov or (608) 264-6624.



Lisa Gurley | Board Liaison

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