

Important tax information about providing your Social Security number

Introduction

Under the federal health reform law, individuals must have health insurance called minimum essential coverage. Your UnitedHealthcare plan is minimum essential coverage. We must report this information to the Internal Revenue Service (IRS). To report, we need Social Security numbers for all the members covered under your health plan. If you don't have coverage or it's not reported to the IRS, you may have to pay a fee when you file your taxes.

Below are some questions you might have about why we need the Social Security number.

Frequently asked questions

What is minimum essential coverage?

Minimum essential coverage may include insurance through a government-sponsored program, eligible employer-sponsored plan, individual market plan or other coverage designated by the Department of Health and Human Services. Your UnitedHealthcare plan is minimum essential coverage.

Why do you need my Social Security number?

We must report information about your minimum essential coverage to the IRS using your Social Security number. The IRS matches the information we send with the information you put on your federal income tax return.

How do I provide my Social Security number?

When you sign up for health insurance, you can provide the Social Security numbers for you and any members you cover under your plan.

What if I don't want to provide a Social Security number?

The IRS may not be able to determine that you or any members covered under your plan had health insurance. You may also have to pay a \$50 penalty to the IRS.

Protecting your privacy

Protecting your privacy is important to us. We keep your Social Security number confidential and limit the number of people who can see it. UnitedHealthcare will not call you to ask for your Social Security number.

Questions?

If you have any questions, please call us toll-free at the phone number on your health plan ID card. TTY users can dial 711.