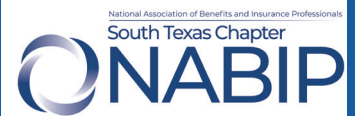


NABIP-SOTX

National Association of Benefits and Insurance Professional - South Texas

NEWS

Sponsored By

**BlueCross BlueShield
of Texas**

NABIP-SOTX Medicare Workshop

September 5/6, 2024
Marriott Courtyard
South Padre Island

Sept. 5th - Agenda 6:00 PM

South Padre Island
Sunset Bay Cruise

Sept. 6th - Agenda 8AM - 4PM

8:00 - Welcome

8:05 - Membership Meeting

8:20 - CE 135331

**Understanding the Future of
Medicare**

9:10 - Sponsor Introduction

**9:05 - CE 134890 Medicare and
CMS Don't Get Sideline by
Regulations Roadblocks - Panel**

10:00 - Sponsor Introduction

10:10 - Visit With Exhibitors

10:35: NABIP Membership Benefits

10:40 - NABIPSOTX

Scholarship Winner

10:55 - Dual CE's

**138443 - Why Benefits are Right
when Money is Tight**

Or

**123291 ICHRA Is It A Good Fit For
My Clients**

11:45 - Lunch

12:20 - Treasure Hunt (TH)

12:40 - TH Winner / Awards

**1:00 - CE 1 - Ethic The NAHU Way
(Course will be taught in both English
and Spanish for you to choose from)**

2:00 Ice Cream Break

2:05 - Visit With Exhibitors

2:30 - CE 2 Ethics**The NAHU Way - Part 2**

3:20 - Raffle Ticket Sales Concludes

3:40 - Raffle / Vendor Prizes

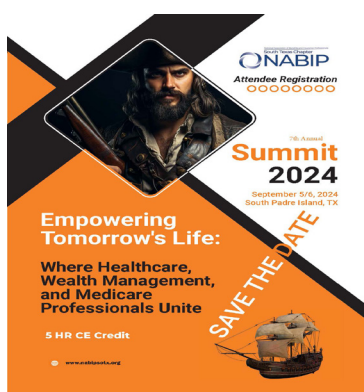
Schedule is subject to changes

2024 NABIPSOTX Medicare Workshop is pleased to announce our annual workshop at South Padre Island on September 5/6, 2024.

Hours of CE Credit Include:

- Understanding the Future of Medicare
- Medicare and CMS Don't Get Sideline by Regulation Roadblocks
- ETHICS - The NABIP Way (2hours)
- Why Benefits are Right when Money is Tight
- ICHRA: Is It A Good Fit For My Clients

Top-rated carriers will be on hand to help answer questions and registration including the South Padre Island Bay Cruise on 9/5/ 6:00 PM aboard the Black Diamond Pirate Ship.



Download Registration Form Here

NABIP-SOTX Summit - September 5&6, 2024

Attendee Registration Form

Company name: _____

Contact name: _____ Member ☐ YES ☐ NO

Phone: Office () _____ Cell () _____

Email: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip Code: _____

\$50: NABIPSOTX MEMBERS - Fill out this form and email to nabipsotx@gmail.com

Non Members \$90

Additional attendee registrations _____ x \$50/90 each = \$_____ Total: \$_____

☐ **Paying by CashApp**

☐ **Paying by Check**, print form and mail to the address below in McAllen

Make checks payable to NABIP-SOTX
National Association of Benefits and Insurance Professionals
PO Box 4140
McAllen TX 78501

Contact information below:
Ron Byrd
email: nabipsotx@gmail.com
Phone #: 956-352-9530 x 119

☐ **Credit card payment.**

Charge my credit card \$_____ Please note there is a processing fee of 3.5% on all credit card transactions.

Cardholder Name: _____ Expiration Date: _____ Val. Code: _____

Credit Card # _____ City/State: _____ ZIP: _____

Check one: ☐ Visa ☐ MasterCard ☐ American Express

Signature: _____ Date: _____

CONTENT

Prescription Cost P2**Medicare Drug Price P2****Allstate VB Acquired \$2 Billion P3****Trump - Harris - ACA P5**www.nabipsotx.org@nabipsotx[Facebook - nabipsotx](https://www.facebook.com/nabipsotx)[#nabipsotxgivesback](https://www.instagram.com/nabipsotxgivesback)

Prescription Costs and Inflation Drive 2025 Health Insurance Premium Hike

Health insurance premiums for 2025 are expected to rise slightly due to higher prescription drug costs and inflation, according to a new analysis from the American Academy of Actuaries.¹ The analysis outlines the key factors influencing rates in the upcoming year.

As millions of Americans prepare for the upcoming health insurance enrollment period, the American Academy of Actuaries has released a new issue brief shedding light on the factors likely to influence health insurance premiums in 2025. Titled “Drivers of 2025 Health Insurance Premium Changes,” the brief offers a comprehensive analysis of the key trends and pressures expected to impact the cost of premiums in individual and small group markets under the Affordable Care Act.

Mild but Notable Pressures on Premiums

“Pressures on ACA-market premiums are relatively mild compared to some previous years, but there is some upward pressure from higher prescription costs and, to a lesser degree, inflation,” Cori Uccello, the Academy’s senior health fellow, said in a statement.¹ “Changes in risk pools are not seen as likely to have a major effect on next year’s premiums overall, though it’s always important to keep in mind that individual insurers may be affected by specific factors, trends, and developments in their state or regional markets.”

The issue brief, developed by the Academy’s Individual and Small Group Markets Committee, draws on the actuarial profession’s expertise in the health insurance rate-setting process. It identifies several key trends that have emerged over the past year, which could affect gross premium rates in 2025. [Read More Here...](#)



Medicare Reveals Results Of Drug Price Negotiations

Under the Inflation Reduction Act, the U.S. government has for the first time been able to directly negotiate the prices of select drugs within Medicare.

The U.S. government on Thursday said it stands to save taxpayers \$6 billion on the prices it will pay for 10 widely used prescription drugs under its new authority to leverage Medicare’s market power to reduce the cost of brand-name medicines.

The prices for the drugs, which include two popular blood thinners, several diabetes treatments and a cancer pill, won’t take effect until 2026. But the Thursday announcement from the Biden administration is nonetheless an important step in a yearslong process established by the Inflation Reduction Act, which for the first time allowed the U.S. government to directly negotiate the prices of select drugs under the agency’s purview.

“It’s a relief for the millions of seniors that take these drugs to treat everything from heart failure, blood clots, diabetes, arthritis, Crohn’s disease, and more — and it’s a relief for American taxpayers,” said President Joe Biden, in a statement. [Read More Here...](#)

The Standard to Acquire Allstate's Employer Voluntary Benefits Business for \$2B

StanCorp Financial Group Inc., also called The Standard, announced Tuesday it will acquire the Allstate Corp.'s employer voluntary benefit business for about \$2 billion.

The companies will enter into a product distribution partnership, and the transaction is expected to close in the first half of 2025, subject to regulatory approvals and other closing conditions, according to The Standard.

The Standard's retirement plan business provides recordkeeper and plan administrative services to employers. The company acquired Securian Financial's recordkeeping business in December 2022, bringing on about \$17 billion in assets under administration. The Standard currently lists \$66.7 billion in total AUA on its website.

Both The Standard and Allstate are workplace benefits providers with expertise in benefits administration. Allstate's employer voluntary benefits business includes voluntary workplace benefits like whole life, universal life, accident, hospital indemnity, cancer and critical illness insurance.

[Read More Here...](#)

NABIP-SOTX 2023 SUMMIT - SPI



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7th Annual

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September 5/6, 2024
South Padre Island, TX
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and Medicare
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5 HR CE Credit

 www.nabipsotx.org



Trump, Harris tread in ACA ambiguity

Is the Affordable Care Act a central issue in the 2024 presidential election or not?

With fewer than 90 days until the election, the answer remains unclear as Democratic and Republican campaigns operate with ambiguity when it comes to healthcare plans, and particularly in the use of actions “repeal” and “replace.”

The Republican Party’s official platform, presented at its convention in Milwaukee in July, includes no mention of the ACA and limited references to other healthcare reforms. Former President Donald Trump campaign’s policy plan, Agenda 47, contains sparse healthcare policy proposals that are included in a chapter aimed at addressing affordability.

The Democratic National Convention is set to begin Aug. 19. Leading up to it, Vice President Kamala Harris has criticized the Republican stance on the ACA, portraying the Republican candidate as a threat to the law. At her Aug. 6 rally in Philadelphia to announce her pick for vice president, Ms. Harris said Mr. Trump would “end the Affordable Care Act and take us back to a time when insurance companies had the power to deny people with pre-existing conditions” if given the chance.

“President Trump is not running to terminate the Affordable Care Act,” a Trump campaign spokesperson said in a statement to The New York Times. “He is running to make healthcare actually affordable.” Republican vice presidential nominee JD Vance suggested to NOTUS that healthcare system reforms would be a priority in a Trump administration.

The apparent lack of clarity regarding healthcare policy in a presidential election is unusual. The 2022 elections were the first in more than a decade in which the security of the ACA, enacted by President Barack Obama in 2010, was not a central issue, and the Republican Party had moved away from its longstanding campaign to repeal it. [Read More Here...](#)

