

Federal Health & Human Services Policy Update

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What we will cover:

Federal Shutdown: Status & Implications

SNAP Updates

Medicaid Updates

ACA/Marketplace Updates

Shutdown as of 11/12/2025

- Monday 11/10 Senate passed agreement to reopen the government 60-40.
- The House is expected to vote as early as 11/12 afternoon
 - The House Rules Committee has already passed the measure and set terms for debate
- The Senate Agreement includes
 - Funds the government at current levels through 1/30/2026
 - Reverses federal worker firings that have happened, guarantees back pay to federal workers, and a prohibition of additional RIFs until the end of January.
- Senate Majority Leader agreed to ACA subsidy vote by mid-December
 - Speaker Johnson has made no such promise

SNAP Benefits

- 11/1 SNAP benefits did not go out
- 25 states (including AZ) sued
- Federal Judge declared that USDA had to use the contingency fund to partially fund SNAP benefits.
- Arizona quickly loaded benefits to SNAP cards (my understanding is they may not have gotten through this process entirely)
- 11/7 SCOTUS paused the lower courts deadline to fund SNAP
- Still uncertainty that may be rendered irrelevant if the CR deal passes the House.

Medicaid/OBBBA Updates

- The Senate passed agreement does not address the OBBBA cuts to Medicaid.
- State Finance Advisory Committee discussed the different tax conformity requirements from OBBBA
 - FY26~ \$438.3 million reduction in revenue
 - FY27~ \$336.2 million reduction in revenue
 - FY28~ \$371.9 million reduction in revenue

ACA/Marketplace Updates

- Senate agreement included a "promise" from Senator Thune to have a vote on extension of the subsidies by mid-December
 - This is not a guarantee it will pass, and Speaker Johnson has not promised a vote in the House
- Scheduled to expire 12/31/2025
- Premiums for second-lowest costing silver plans are projected to increase around 26% in 2026 before counting the impact of no more subsidies.
- If subsidies expire, the average premium payment is expected to more than double

So what does this mean for AZ?

Questions?

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