

<http://www.examiner.com/article/poll-reveals-consumers-clueless-about-obamacare>

04/02/2013

Poll reveals consumers clueless about Obamacare

According to a [press release](#) this morning, an Info Poll revealed this, "Open enrollment for the new Affordable Care Act plans is only six months away and consumers still don't understand how the [health insurance](#) market will have transformed," said Bruce Telkamp, CEO of HealthPocket. "Education and community outreach efforts are going to be critical if Americans are to make informed choices about their healthcare."

[HealthPocket.com](#) is a free website that compares and ranks all health plans available to an individual, family, or small business. Their desire is to be an unbiased source that helps individuals and families make the best choices in health care and save on out-of-pocket expenses.

An informal local survey shows that residents of Blairsville have no idea what action to take once the Affordable Care Act is fully implemented.

Basically, The Affordable Care Act creates four health plan designs to replace existing health plans and address the needs of most plan shoppers who are not enrolled in a grandfathered health plan, Medicaid, or Medicare. These plans are called the Bronze, Silver, Gold and Platinum. All plans will have the same mandatory set of [insurance](#) coverage

features called the Essential Health Benefits. The new plans differ from one another based on the percentage of medical expenses paid by the insurance plan, ranging from 60 percent of expenses to 90 percent of expenses.

By visiting [HealthPocket](#), a consumer can compare all insurance plans at one time. Type in a zip code and receive information that shows plans available for that state. There are huge differences in coverage, deductibles, co-pays and plan costs. It is a good idea to do a bit of comparing now, since everyone in America will be forced to choose a plan or pay a tax, known as a fine.