

**THE INSURANCE CODE OF 1956 (EXCERPT)**  
**Act 218 of 1956**

**500.3708 Special enrollment period.**

Sec. 3708. (1) A health benefit plan offered to a small employer by a small employer carrier shall provide for the acceptance of late enrollees subject to this chapter.

(2) A small employer carrier shall permit an employee or a dependent of the employee, who is eligible, but not enrolled, to enroll for coverage under the terms of the small employer health benefit plan during a special enrollment period if all of the following apply:

(a) The employee or dependent was covered under a group health plan or had coverage under a health benefit plan at the time coverage was previously offered to the employee or dependent.

(b) The employee stated in writing at the time coverage was previously offered that coverage under a group health plan or other health benefit plan was the reason for declining enrollment, but only if the small employer or carrier, if applicable, required such a statement at the time coverage was previously offered and provided notice to the employee of the requirement and the consequences of the requirement at that time.

(c) The employee's or dependent's coverage described in subdivision (a) was either under a COBRA continuation provision and that coverage has been exhausted or was not under a COBRA continuation provision and that other coverage has been terminated as a result of loss of eligibility for coverage, including because of a legal separation, divorce, death, termination of employment, or reduction in the number of hours of employment or employer contributions toward that other coverage have been terminated. In either case, under the terms of the health benefit plan, the employee must request enrollment not later than 30 days after the date of exhaustion of coverage or termination of coverage or employer contribution. If an employee requests enrollment pursuant to this subdivision, the enrollment is effective not later than the first day of the first calendar month beginning after the date the completed request for enrollment is received.

(3) A small employer carrier that makes dependent coverage available under a health benefit plan shall provide for a dependent special enrollment period during which the person may be enrolled under the health benefit plan as a dependent of the individual or, if not otherwise enrolled, the individual may be enrolled under the health benefit plan. For a birth or adoption of a child, the spouse of the individual may be enrolled as a dependent of the individual if the spouse is otherwise eligible for coverage. This subsection applies only if both of the following occur:

(a) The individual is a participant under the health benefit plan or has met any affiliation period applicable to becoming a participant under the plan and is eligible to be enrolled under the plan, but for a failure to enroll during a previous enrollment period.

(b) The person becomes a dependent of the individual through marriage, birth, or adoption or placement for adoption.

(4) The dependent special enrollment period under subsection (3) for individuals shall be a period of not less than 30 days and begins on the later of the date dependent coverage is made available or the date of the marriage, birth, or adoption or placement for adoption. If an individual seeks to enroll a dependent during the first 30 days of the dependent special enrollment period under subsection (3), the coverage of the dependent shall be effective as follows:

(a) For marriage, not later than the first day of the first month beginning after the date the completed request for enrollment is received.

(b) For a dependent's birth, as of the date of birth.

(c) For a dependent's adoption or placement for adoption, the date of the adoption or placement for adoption.

**History:** Add. 2003, Act 88, Eff. Jan. 23, 2004.

**Compiler's note:** Former MCL 500.3708, which pertained to insurance coverage offered to residents of state 65 years of age or over, was repealed by Act 271 of 2001, Imd. Eff. Jan. 11, 2002.

**Popular name:** Act 218