

On May 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2025, Governor Tina Kotek signed <u>House Bill 2540</u> into law. Deductible crediting is now the law in Oregon. Beginning <u>January 1</u>, 2026, most health insurers in Oregon, including the Oregon Educators Benefit Board (OEBB) and the Public Employees Benefit Board (PEBB) will be required to credit any amount a person with health insurance pays towards their annual out of pocket expenses towards their health insurance deductible if *each* of the following criteria are met:

- 1. The health care provided is **medically necessary**.
- **2.** The health care provided is <u>a covered service</u> under the enrollee's current health insurance plan.
- 3. The amount paid to the health care provider (i.e. direct primary care provider) is <u>less</u> than the average discounted rate for the care if it were provided in-network.

## Health Insurer Obligations Under the New Law

- 1. Establish a process for a health insurance enrollee to submit a claim for deductible credit, along with the necessary documentation to submit a claim for deductible credit.
- 2. Require a health insurance enrollee to utilize the system the insurer uses to process claims, to submit a claim for deductible credit.

**Note:** Kaiser Permanente obtained an exemption to the deductible crediting law, citing its unique integrated care model. As such, an estimated **84 percent** of the current health insurance population in Oregon will be eligible to apply for deductible credit under House Bill 2540.