

Health Watch

Before President Obama was elected, he told voters he wanted to require that all young people have health insurance. After only two weeks in office, he signed a bill to expand the State Children’s Health Insurance Program (SCHIP), which could make his goal a reality.

Directions: Visit www.scholastic.com/healthcare to read “Health Care for More Kids” on Scholastic News Online. This article was written the day before President Obama approved expanding the program. Use the article to answer the following questions.

1. The acronym SCHIP stands for _____?

- (A) Safe Children’s Healthy Immunity Plan
- (B) State Children’s Health Insurance Program
- (C) Scrumptious Chili’s Healthy Ingredients Prevail!
- (D) Silly Chef’s Hearty, Icky Pizza

2. About how many new children are now insured by SCHIP?

- (A) 4 million
- (B) 5 million
- (C) 7 million
- (D) 10 million

3. About how many children still do not have health insurance?

- (A) 4 million
- (B) 5 million
- (C) 7 million
- (D) 10 million

4. Which of the following events happened first?

- (A) Barack Obama won the presidential election in 2008.
- (B) As President, Barack Obama signed into law a bill to expand the program.
- (C) The Senate passed a bill to expand the program.
- (D) Barack Obama promised health-care reform during his campaign.

5. What group decides who is qualified to receive health insurance from the government?

- (A) city legislature
- (B) state legislature
- (C) The President
- (D) The Senate

6. Funding for the expansion will come from new taxes on which one of these commodities?

- (A) ethanol
- (B) wool
- (C) potato chips
- (D) tobacco

7. Which of the following statements is FALSE?

- (A) Doctor visits and immunizations are two examples of health services covered by SCHIP.
- (B) Politicians estimate new taxes will provide \$32 billion for the expanded program.
- (C) Everyone supports the changes to SCHIP.
- (D) With these changes, SCHIP will insure more than 10 million young people.

8. President Obama says every American should have access to “quality, affordable health care.” What are some possible positive and negative results of this policy?

| PRO | CON |
|-------|-------|
| _____ | _____ |
| _____ | _____ |
| _____ | _____ |

9. Name one difference between SCHIP and Medicaid.

10. In his presidential campaign, President Obama promised health care for all the country’s young people. How does the expansion of SCHIP reflect on the President? Explain.
