

COBRA subsidy

extended through March 31, 2010

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Practice Area:
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Last week, President Obama signed legislation extending the federal subsidy for COBRA health care continuation costs through March 31, 2010.

Originally enacted as part of the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act stimulus package, previously only employees involuntarily terminated through Feb. 28, 2010, were eligible for the COBRA subsidy.

This morning's legislation is retroactive, so persons who were involuntarily terminated on March 1 and 2 are eligible for the subsidy. No other changes in the terms of the COBRA subsidy were made.

Employers and other health plan sponsors should adjust their COBRA notices to reflect the new March 31, 2010, subsidy eligibility expiration date.

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