



## Fast Facts for Employers

### ***Healthy San Francisco History***

In February 2006, San Francisco Mayor Gavin Newsom created a Universal Healthcare Council (UHC) to develop a plan to provide access to health care for San Francisco's 73,000 uninsured adults. This collaborative effort, comprised of representatives from the health care, business, labor, philanthropy and research communities, met for four months to identify and quantify the needs of the uninsured.

In a report released June 2006, the UHC presented its recommendations for the development and implementation of a San Francisco Health Access Program. Shortly thereafter, the San Francisco Board of Supervisors unanimously passed the Health Care Security Ordinance (HCSO) in July 2006. The ordinance called for covered employers to make a health care expenditure for their covered employees and for the Department of Public Health to create the Health Access Program, now called Healthy San Francisco.

**Healthy San Francisco is one of several options by which an employer can satisfy its obligation to meet the required health care expenditure.**

*Healthy San Francisco* is not health insurance. It was created by the City as a safety net program to provide affordable medical care to all uninsured people living in San Francisco. Participants choose a clinic as their medical home for all their primary care, allowing a greater focus on preventive care. Specialty care and other services are available and emergency care is limited to San Francisco General Hospital – even for emergencies.

The vision is that all uninsured, adult San Francisco residents are eligible to apply for the program regardless of employment, immigration status, or pre-existing medical condition. Individuals must be between the ages of 18-64, uninsured, live in San Francisco, and be ineligible for other government-subsidized health benefits programs such as Medi-Cal.

As of January 2008, the program is available to all uninsured residents at or below 300% of the Federal Poverty Level, and is also available to qualified San Francisco employees regardless of income.

For more information, please visit [www.healthysanfrancisco.org](http://www.healthysanfrancisco.org)