

The Affordable Care Act's Definition of a Health Care Sharing Ministry and Altru HealthShare

Excerpt from 26 U.S.C. § 5000A(d)(2)(B): US Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act:	Altru HealthShare
<p>“(2) RELIGIOUS EXEMPTIONS.</p> <p>“(B) HEALTH CARE SHARING MINISTRY.</p> <p>“(i) IN GENERAL. Such term [Our note: ‘term’ refers to ‘penalty’] shall not include any individual for any month if such individual is a member of a health care sharing ministry for the month.</p> <p>“(ii) HEALTH CARE SHARING MINISTRY. The term ‘Health Care Sharing Ministry’ means a faith based organization:</p>	
<p>“(I) which is described in section 501(c)(3) and is exempt from taxation under section 501(a),</p>	<p>Altru HealthShare is a 501(c)3 Non-profit organization exempt from taxation under 501(a)</p>
<p>“(II) members of which share a common set of ethical or religious beliefs and share medical expenses among members in accordance with those beliefs and without regard to the State in which a member resides or is employed,</p>	<p>Members of Altru HealthShare endorse a common set of religious and ethical beliefs when they enroll, and share medical needs accordingly and without regard to the State in which a member resides or works.</p>
<p>“(III) members of which retain membership even after they develop a medical condition,</p>	<p>Altru HealthShare does not “raise contribution amounts” or “terminate” anyone because of a health condition</p>
<p>“(IV) which (or a predecessor of which) has been in existence at all times since December 31, 1999, and medical expenses of its members have been shared continuously and without interruption since at least December 31, 1999, and</p>	<p>Altru HealthShare members have been sharing medical expenses continuously, without interruption since 1997</p>
<p>“(V) which conducts an annual audit which is performed by an independent certified public accounting firm in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles and which is made available to the public upon request.</p>	<p>Altru HealthShare conducts an annual audit in accordance with GAAP, and it is available to the public upon request.</p>