

Media Release

Oct. 30, 2019

HEALTH PLAN RATES HAVE DROPPED OPEN ENROLLMENT BEGINS NOV. 1

“START HERE” AT MARYLANDHEALTHCONNECTION.GOV

BALTIMORE (Oct. 30, 2019) - “Start Here” will be the theme for 2020 health care open enrollment season that begins Nov. 1 with Maryland Health Connection.

The “Start Here” campaign will appear on social media, print, online and other venues, including gas station TVs, to emphasize where Marylanders can go to enroll and use the free, expert advisers located throughout Maryland. A TV ad will run to complement the campaign.

Open enrollment begins on MarylandHealthConnection.gov at 5 a.m. on Nov. 1.

Dec. 15 is the deadline to sign up for 2020 coverage that begins Jan. 1, 2020.

New this year, Value Plans feature lower deductibles and increased access to primary care, mental health care, and generic drugs before deductibles apply. Value plans are designed to lower consumers’ out-of-pocket costs for the health care services the majority of people use most frequently.

“Not only are most premiums going down, but we are excited to introduce our new Value Plans. These plans offer deductibles that are hundreds or even thousands of dollars cheaper than in 2019. Value plans are designed to give Marylanders more access to primary care, mental health care, and generic drugs before their deductibles apply,” said Michele Eberle, executive director of the Maryland Health Benefit Exchange, which operates the state’s health insurance marketplace.

Consumers who have coverage through Medicaid will receive a notice when it’s time to renew; enrollment for Medicaid is year-round. The fall open enrollment is for qualified health plans only.

There are numerous ways to enroll:

- Individuals can apply at MarylandHealthConnection.gov, which has been streamlined to make it easier to use this year. In response to people who said that work or other demands made it easier for them to use the website late night or early morning, the reduced maintenance window will allow consumers to enroll online 20 hours a day, from 5 a.m. to 1 a.m. including weekends and holidays.
- The “Enroll MHC” mobile app is free in the App Store (iOS) and Google Play Store (Android). Users can use the camera on their mobile device to securely upload documents if needed.
- Hundreds of insurance brokers and navigators are available for free expert advice in every county in Maryland. You can find their locations and contact information at MarylandHealthConnection.gov/Find-Help or through the mobile app.
- To kick off open enrollment, nearly 20 statewide “Get Connected” events with experts providing free enrollment assistance and answering questions will be held around Nov. 1-9. Visit MarylandHealthConnection.gov/GetConnected for details or follow #GetConnected @MarylandConnect on Facebook, Twitter and Instagram.

Jurisdiction	Location and Address	Date and Time
Allegany	AHEC West 39 Baltimore St. Cumberland, MD 21502	Fri., Nov. 1 9 a.m.-6 p.m.
Anne Arundel	Annapolis Health Department 3 Harry S. Truman Parkway Annapolis, MD 21401	Wed., Nov. 6 8 a.m.-6 p.m.
Baltimore City	HealthCare Access Maryland 1 N. Charles St., Mezzanine Level Baltimore, MD 21201	Fri., Nov. 1 8 a.m.-4:30 p.m.
Baltimore	HealthCare Access Maryland Reisterstown Enrollment Center 523 Main St. Reisterstown, MD 21136	Sat., Nov. 2 9 a.m.-2 p.m.
Calvert	Calvert Library Prince Frederick	Sat., Nov. 2

	850 Costley Way Prince Frederick, MD 20678	9:30 a.m.-1 p.m.
Carroll	Access Carroll 10 Distillery Drive, Suite 200 Westminster, MD 21157	Sat., Nov. 2 9 a.m.-1 p.m.
Cecil	Elkton Library 301 Newark Ave. Elkton, MD 21921	Sat., Nov. 9 1-4:30 p.m.
Charles	Seedco Waldorf Office 3 Post Office Road, Suite 102 Waldorf, MD 20602	Fri., Nov. 1 4-7 p.m.
Frederick	Frederick Community College 7932 Opossumtown Pike Student Center Rooms 8202 and 8203 Frederick, MD 21701	Wed., Nov. 6 3-7 p.m.
Harford	Abingdon Library 2510 S. Tollgate Road Abingdon, MD 21009	Sat., Nov. 9 10:30 a.m.-4 p.m.
Harford	Seedco Churchville Office 2830-C Churchville Road Churchville, MD 21028	Thurs., Nov. 7 5:30-7:30 p.m.
Howard	Howard County Health Department 8930 Stanford Blvd. Columbia, MD 21045	Sat., Nov. 2 9 a.m.- 2 p.m.
Montgomery	Montgomery County Department of Health & Human Services 8818 Georgia Ave. Silver Spring, MD 20910	Sat., Nov. 2 9 a.m.-3 p.m.
Montgomery	Montgomery County Department of Health & Human Services 12900 Middlebrook Road Germantown, MD 20874	Sat., Nov. 2 9 a.m.-3 p.m.
Prince George's	Prince George's County Health Connect Enrollment Center at Penn Station Shopping Center 5746 Silver Hill Road	Tues., Nov. 5 3-8 p.m.

	District Heights, MD 20747	
Somerset	Somerset County Health Department 8928 Sign Post Road Westover, MD 21871	Fri., Nov. 1 4-8 p.m.
Washington	Robinwood Professional Center Suite 122B, Green Entrance 11116 Medical Campus Road Hagerstown, Maryland 21742	Sat., Nov. 2 10 a.m.-5 p.m.
Wicomico	Lower Shore American Job Center 31901 Tri-County Way Salisbury, MD 21804	Sat., Nov. 2 9 a.m.-2 p.m.
Worcester	Berlin Health Center 9730 Healthway Drive Berlin, MD 21811	Sat., Nov. 2 9 a.m.-2 p.m.

- Consumers can call 1-855-642-8572 toll-free to reach the consumer support center. It offers assistance in more than 200 languages, as well as Relay services for the deaf and hard of hearing. During open enrollment, the call center will be open from 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. weekdays and from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. on Saturdays, with extended hours during the last week of open enrollment.

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[Maryland Health Benefit Exchange](#) (MHBE), a public corporation and independent unit of state government established in 2011, administers Maryland Health Connection.

[Maryland Health Connection](#) (MHC) is the state-based marketplace for Marylanders to shop and enroll in health insurance, as well as determine eligibility for Medicaid and other assistance programs. It is the only place where Marylanders can access financial help such as tax credits to make coverage more affordable.

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