

Media Release

Dec. 13, 2019

OPEN ENROLLMENT ENDS SUNDAY, DEC. 15, FOR MARYLANDERS TO ENROLL IN HEALTH COVERAGE

Maryland Health Connection is the only place to get financial help with cost

BALTIMORE (Dec. 13, 2019) - The deadline for Marylanders to enroll in health and dental coverage through Maryland Health Connection, the state's health insurance marketplace, is Sunday, Dec. 15.

Visit MarylandHealthConnection.gov or download the free Enroll MHC mobile app to browse plans, compare coverage and costs, and enroll. Statewide health insurance brokers and navigators are available to help Marylanders sign up for a health plan and understand their coverage options and financial help. Assistance also is available in Spanish.

The fall open enrollment is for private health and dental plans only. People who need to enroll or renew Medicaid are urged to wait until after Dec. 17 to call or seek in-person help, as wait times are much longer during the final days of open enrollment.

Health plan rates have dropped by an average of 23 percent the past two years. 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.

Consumers have until 11:59 p.m. on Sunday, Dec. 15, to enroll for coverage that starts Jan. 1, 2020. The website and mobile app are available at 5 a.m. daily. Also, more than 700 trained brokers and consumer assisters are available to help at 100+ locations throughout Maryland. Enrollment locations are listed on the website – or even searchable by the GPS locator on the Enroll MHC mobile app. Or call 1-855-642-8572 toll-free from 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. on Friday, and 8 a.m. to 10 p.m. on Saturday, Dec. 14, and Sunday, Dec. 15. Help is available in more than 200 languages.

To learn more about 2020 health insurance plans and prices or find free in-person help, Marylanders can visit MarylandHealthConnection.gov today.

People who would like to apply will need:

- Birthdates and general information about you and your family members who are applying for health coverage
- Social Security numbers (or document numbers for any legal immigrants who need insurance)
- Employer and income information for everyone in your family (for example, from pay stubs, W-2 forms or wage and tax statements)
- Information about any job-related health insurance available to your family

Nine out of 10 people who enrolled through Maryland Health Connection last year received financial help. Consumers may find their cost for coverage in 2020 is similar to or less than this year.

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A MEDIA RELEASE WITH SPECIFIC ENROLLMENT INFORMATION AND DATA WILL BE DISTRIBUTED THE MORNING OF TUESDAY, DEC. 17, FOLLOWED BY A MEDIA TELECONFERENCE AT 10 A.M. MEMBERS OF THE MEDIA MAY CALL 1 405-353-1161 PIN: 934 987 907#

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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