

Media Release**Feb. 20, 2020**

UNINSURED MARYLANDERS CAN ENROLL IN HEALTH COVERAGE WHEN THEY FILE TAXES THIS YEAR

PARTNERSHIP BETWEEN MARYLAND HEALTH BENEFIT EXCHANGE AND THE COMPTROLLER OF MARYLAND IS THE FIRST OF ITS KIND IN THE NATION

The Maryland Easy Enrollment Health Insurance Program, a partnership between the Comptroller of Maryland and Maryland Health Benefit Exchange, the agency that runs Maryland Health Connection, allows uninsured Marylanders who file by the April 15 deadline an easy path to sign up for health coverage.

This year, a new question on state tax forms (502 and 502B) ask tax filers if they want to share some information, like household size and income, with the Maryland Health Benefit Exchange to see if they are eligible for free or low-cost health insurance.

It's as simple as checking a box. Maryland Health Benefit Exchange will mail the tax filer a letter to let them know if they are eligible for free or low-cost health coverage. Anyone who checks the box is eligible for the special enrollment period, even if they do not qualify for savings. They will have 35 days from the date on the letter to sign up at MarylandHealthConnection.gov. There is free enrollment help available in-person and on the phone: <https://www.marylandhealthconnection.gov/find-help/>. This is a special opportunity available only to those who file by April 15 and check the box on their tax form.

Last year, nine out of 10 Marylanders who enrolled through Maryland Health Connection got savings. This special enrollment period is for private health plans. Those who qualify for Medicaid may enroll any time of year.

About the Maryland Health Benefit Exchange: The Maryland Health Benefit Exchange (MHBE) is a public corporation and independent unit of the state government. It was established in 2011 in accordance with the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act of 2010 (ACA) and is responsible for the administration of Maryland Health Connection.

About Maryland Health Connection: One of every six Marylanders receive their health coverage through Maryland Health Connection (MHC), the state-based health insurance marketplace. Residents can compare and enroll in health insurance as well as determine eligibility for Medicaid or financial help with private plans.

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