



Media Release

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MARYLANDERS HAVE UNTIL AUG. 15 TO ENROLL IN A HEALTH PLAN FOR 2021

Just 10 days left to enroll and take advantage of new, bigger savings

(BALTIMORE) — Marylanders can enroll in health coverage on the state's health insurance marketplace, Maryland Health Connection, until Aug. 15. Many will be eligible for new, lower costs because of the federal American Rescue Plan Act.

Those who previously did not qualify for financial help for private insurance due to higher income will now be eligible and anyone who received unemployment in 2021 may qualify for a health plan for just a few dollars a month.

"We encourage anyone who is uninsured to explore health plans before the deadline and take advantage of these extra savings," said Michele Eberle, executive director of the Maryland Health Benefit Exchange. "Coverage is more affordable than ever. If you're uninsured or have COBRA, come shop for a health plan at Maryland Health Connection before the deadline."

Since the new savings were made available April 1, most Marylanders are saving, on average, \$100 per month on health coverage. Last year, 9 out of 10 who enrolled got financial help to lower the cost of their coverage. This special enrollment period is for private health plans only. Those who qualify for Medicaid may enroll any time of year.

Enroll online at <u>MarylandHealthConnection.gov</u> or with the Enroll MHC mobile app. Free help is available by calling 855-642-8572. Also, more than <u>700 trained brokers and navigators are available to help by phone and virtually</u>.

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<u>Maryland Health Benefit Exchange</u> (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.