February 12, 2021

Open enrollment for health insurance has been extended

MOBILE, Alabama — In accordance with the Executive Order signed by President Biden, the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) is announcing that a Special Enrollment Period (SEP) for the Health Insurance Marketplace will officially be available from Monday, February 15, through Saturday, May 15.

The COVID-19 Public Health pandemic has affected millions of people throughout the country, and many Americans remain uninsured or underinsured and need access to affordable health coverage. The SEP will allow individuals and families to enroll in the health coverage they need. Consumers who are uninsured can take this opportunity to look for coverage and find out if they qualify for financial assistance to help pay for health insurance.

“President Biden was clear: We need to strengthen the Affordable Care Act and give more Americans access to health care, especially during this pandemic, which has further demonstrated the importance of having the right coverage,” said HHS Acting Secretary Norris Cochran. “This Special Enrollment Period will give Americans who need affordable, quality health insurance an opportunity to get covered, and we encourage folks to head to HealthCare.gov starting on Monday to explore their options.”

The Mobile County Health Department and Family Health, its primary care division, have 13 Certified Application Counselors ready to assist. The counselors have been trained and are able to help consumers as they look for health coverage options through the Health Insurance Exchange. They can assist consumers in completing eligibility and enrollment forms. Assistance by the Certified Application Counselors is free to consumers.

Certified Application Counselors can be found at all Family Health centers conveniently located throughout Mobile County. To make an appointment, please call the Family Health center located closest to you. For a list of sites, you may visit www.FamilyHealthAlabama.org or call 251-445-8632. Family Health locations will be closed Monday, February 15, and Tuesday, February 16, in observance of Mardi Gras.

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