



MISSISSIPPI

INSURANCE DEPARTMENT

MIKE CHANEY
Commissioner of Insurance
and State Fire Marshal

PRESS RELEASE

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Commissioner Mike Chaney Offers Reminders about Federal Health Care Exchange Open Enrollment

Open Enrollment Period Runs November 1, 2017-December 15, 2017

Jackson- Mississippians who want new or updated health insurance coverage can explore their options through the Federally Facilitated Health Insurance Marketplace during an open enrollment period. The Marketplace's open enrollment period begins tomorrow November 1, 2017, and runs through December 15, 2017. If you want to purchase or change your coverage for 2018 and have that coverage start January 1, 2018, you must enroll in or change a plan between those dates.

The Federally-Facilitated Health Insurance Marketplace is an online option to buy individual private health insurance coverage. If you don't have health insurance through an employer, Medicare, Medicaid, the Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP), or another source that provides qualifying coverage, the Marketplace can help you get covered.

"Some Mississippians will qualify for financial assistance toward their premium cost. Financial assistance is based on gross yearly income and household size," Chaney said.

During open enrollment, you can browse and compare available health insurance plans and prices before you decide to purchase a plan. You can also change your plan choice at any time during the period.

The penalty for not having adequate health insurance coverage has increased. Unless you qualify for an exemption, you may have to pay 2.5% of your household income or \$695 per adult when doing your 2017 income taxes.

Currently, only one company offers policies through the Marketplace for Mississippi: Ambetter of Magnolia, Inc., covering all 82 counties. When you apply for Marketplace health insurance coverage, you'll need to provide details about your household, income, and any coverage you currently have. You can submit an application online, over the phone or by mail. To learn more about obtaining health insurance coverage through the Marketplace, please visit <https://www.healthcare.gov/> or call 1-800-318-2596.