804-371-9141

## **News Release**

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Contact: Katha Treanor For Immediate Release: January 10, 2025

Email: Katha.Treanor@scc.virginia.gov

Telephone: 804-371-9141

## Open Enrollment on Virginia's Insurance Marketplace Ends January 15

January 15 is the last day Virginians can enroll in a health plan during open enrollment.

**RICHMOND** — Virginia's Insurance Marketplace urges eligible Virginians who need health coverage to enroll in a health plan on the Marketplace before the Open Enrollment Period ends on January 15. Virginians who enroll on or before 11:59 p.m. on January 15 will have coverage that begins on February 1.

Virginia's Insurance Marketplace is operated by the Virginia Health Benefit Exchange, a division of the State Corporation Commission. Virginia's Insurance Marketplace is Virginia's official health insurance marketplace and provides a variety of resources and support for Virginians to find affordable health coverage that fits their needs and budgets.

Nine out of 10 households qualify for financial assistance through the Marketplace. Individual and family plans are available to eligible Virginians, including those who are unemployed, are self-employed, or have jobs that don't provide affordable insurance options.

Every health plan offered on the Marketplace covers the 10 essential health benefits required by law, which include emergency services, pregnancy and childbirth services, and prescription drugs.

"We encourage all Virginians who haven't enrolled in a health plan to visit our website and shop for plans before the January 15 deadline," said Keven Patchett, director of Virginia's Insurance Marketplace. "With translation services in over 15 languages and free one-on-one help from over 4,500 agents and assisters, we are making sure every Virginian has the resources and support they need to find the coverage that's right for them."

After the Open Enrollment Period concludes on January 15, Virginians will not be able to enroll in a health plan on the Marketplace until next year's open enrollment unless they experience a <u>Qualifying Life Event</u>, such as having a baby or losing health insurance.

Virginians can visit <u>Marketplace.Virginia.gov</u> to browse and compare health insurance plans. For additional help — either online or in person — Virginians can access the following resources:

• The Marketplace <u>Help Center</u> can connect Virginians to someone either in person or on the phone. Free translation services are also available.

(more)

- Virginians can check their eligibility for cost saving programs and compare health insurance plans using the <u>Plan Comparison Tool</u>.
- The FAQ page answers some of the most common questions about the Marketplace.