

Assistor Newsletter Volume 6 January 2018

Countdown to 2018 Open Enrollment Period Deadline!

With the Open Enrollment Period closing soon on January 31st, we're continuing outreach efforts across the state in locations convenient to consumers. With more than 200 events scheduled, here are a few of the places we'll be:

- NY State of Health Awareness Day at NY State Parks On January 20th, assistors will be stationed inside warming huts at approximately a dozen state parks to educate consumers about the Marketplace and the January 31st enrollment deadline.
- Public Library Events Two dozen enrollment events are scheduled at libraries in NYC during the month of January. NY State of Health representatives also will be presenting at various libraries throughout upstate communities.

To staff events, check your email for SignUpGenius links!

NEWS

Enrollment Continues to Climb!

Enrollment for 2018 continues to outpace enrollment from 2017. Higher enrollment shows consumer demand for the affordable, quality health plans offered by the Marketplace.

Enrollment Highlights as of January 16, 2018:

- 243,600 consumers have enrolled in a Qualified Health Plan (QHP), reflecting an increase of nearly 15,000 since last reported in mid-December and exceeding enrollment levels at the end of open enrollment in 2017.
- Among the QHP enrollees, 54,700 are new and 188,900 are returning customers.
- Enrollment in the popular Essential Plan for lower income New Yorkers reached 726,300, reflecting an increase of more than 10,000 people since last reported in mid-December.

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Premium Tax Credits and Form 1095-A

Over the next few weeks, consumers who were enrolled in a QHP in 2017 will receive an IRS Form 1095-A from NY State of Health, the forms are posted to consumer accounts and sent by mail. Consumers who were enrolled in QHPs need this form to file 2017 federal tax returns. The brochure, A Guide to Form 1095-A, is available on our website and for distribution. Additionally, there are FAQs available in English and 8 other languages that can help consumers with their 1095A forms. For more information including a short educational video, click here. 2017 information will be posted soon.

Customer Service Center – Extended Hours as Jan. 31st Enrollment Deadline Approaches

The Customer Service Center is open:

- Monday to Friday from 8:00am 8:00pm
- Saturdays from 9:00am 1:00pm
- Extended hours on:
 - o January 27th from 9:00am 4:00pm

EVENT HIGHLIGHTS

New Tang Dynasty

NY State of Health partnered with NYC-based Chinese-language broadcaster New Tang Dynasty on three large-scale events in Queens and Brooklyn. The third event in the series will be on January 20th in Brooklyn. These events attract hundreds of consumers, and feature presentations by Marketplace representatives, health fairs and Chinese-speaking assistors on-site to meet with consumers.

At right: Assistors talk with consumers at a recent New Tang Dynasty health fair in Flushing, NY, [December 3, 2017].



Watch your in-box for emails containing links to sign up for all NY State of Health events. Remember to add your own events to the map by completing this <u>Events Map Submission Form</u>.

REMINDERS

Assistor Certification Trainings

Trainings are for agencies seeking to become NY State of Health assistor agencies and individuals currently employed by NY State of Health assistor agencies. There are two NY State of Health Assistor Certification training options:

1.) Complete online assistor training here

2.) Attend a three (3) day in-person session (upcoming sessions listed below.)

New York, NY

January Dates: 1/23 to 1/25 (Tuesday- Thursday)

Location: CAI, New York NY

Address: 505 Eighth Avenue 20TH FL, Green Room and Lavender Room) New York,

NY 10018

February Dates: 2/13 to 2/15 (Tuesday- Thursday)

Location: CAI, New York NY

Address: 505 Eighth Avenue (20th FL, Green Room) New York, NY 10018 Address: 505 Eighth Avenue (20th FL, Lavender Room) New York, NY 10018

Syracuse, NY

February Dates: 2/6 to 2/8 (Tuesday – Thursday)

Location: Hilton Garden Inn

Address: 6004 Fair Lakes Road (Seneca Room) East Syracuse, NY 13057

Tell us what you think!

This newsletter is for you, so please let us know what you'd like it to include. Write to nysov with ideas for articles or suggestions for your fellow assistors regarding strategies you've found that work well in your community.