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NY State of Health Hits Highest Enrollment Rate Ever

Thanks for your strong efforts in helping consumers get the coverage they need! New York State has reached a record high enrollment rate. More than 4.9 million people - 1 in 4 New Yorkers enrolled in a health plan during this year's Open Enrollment Period. That's an increase of 150,000 from 2019. More than 1 million people enrolled in Qualified Health Plans and the Essential Plan. Marketplace enrollment growth is consistent with New York's declining uninsured rate, which reached a historic low of 4.7 percent in 2018.

While the 2020 Open Enrollment Period for Qualified Health Plans has ended and we have made significant strides, our work is not done. As you know, many New Yorkers may still qualify for health insurance through our year-round programs; Medicaid, Child Health Plus, the Essential Plan and Qualified Health Plans through Special Enrollment Periods. We know we can count on you to help consumers find the right plan and enroll.

2020 Open Enrollment Highlights (November 1, 2019 - February 7, 2020)

Qualified Health Plan
272,948

Essential Plan
796,998

Child Health Plus
451,550

Medicaid
3,397,390

Among QHP Enrollees:

- 23% are new to the Marketplace.
- 77% renewed their coverage for 2020

Among EP Enrollees:

- 12% are new to the Marketplace.
- 88% renewed their coverage for 2020

Website & Call Center Traffic:

- Over 2 million website visitors
- Nearly 1.6 million calls to customer service*

*Almost 20,000 calls on February 7

Get the Marketplace Facts Here

NY State of Health fact sheets keep consumers informed and can help with the decision-making process when enrolling. Here's the latest:

Update: Federal Public Charge Rule

The Department of Homeland Security announced that the new Public Charge Rule will apply to benefits received on or after February 24, 2020. Few NY State of Health consumers will be affected by this ruling since only federally funded Medicaid is included. Please use this new [Public Charge Rule Fact Sheet](#) to help answer consumers questions and refer consumers to an immigration expert at:

- Office for New Americans at 1-800-566-7636 - free or low-cost, high- quality legal representation counseling services.
- The Legal Aid Society at 1-844-955-3425 (New York City residents only).

Dental Plans

[NY State of Health Family and Pediatric Dental Coverage Fact Sheets](#) are now available [online](#) in all 27 languages.

Benefits

The [Benefits Before Deductible Fact Sheet](#) is now available online in all 27 languages.

Assistors Step Up To Staff Events During 2020 Open Enrollment Period

Hundreds of assistors signed up to staff NY State of Health events in the last several weeks to help consumers get covered in time before the 2020 Open Enrollment Period closed on February 7. Here's a few highlights:

NY State of Health and the Orange County Department of Health collaborated to host the Newburgh Health Fair on January 15, 2020 with representation from 14 different community agencies, including NY State of Health, each providing free one-on-one help and important health and wellness resources to attendees.



NY State of Health participated in the December 18, 2020 World Journal HealthCare Forum and Expo to educate and assist the Asian American community on how to enroll in coverage. Assistors brought in over 40 leads and scheduled 5 appointments.



Consumers learned about NY State of Health and enrollment opportunities at the Syracuse Winter Fair held February 7-9th at the New York State Fairgrounds with over 25,000 people in attendance.

Outreach Keeps Moving After Open Enrollment Period Stops

There's no slowing down for NY State of Health! More events are coming your way! Be the first to sign up for health and job/career fairs, the IRS Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA) sites, April YMCA Healthy Kids Days and other events including the SUNY Orange 26th Annual Spring Wellness Fair and the Dr. King Career Fair at the Empire State Plaza in Albany. [Click here to find staffing opportunities.](#)

Tax Time and 1095's

Consumers who were enrolled in a QHP in 2019 and received financial help paying for their plan will receive an IRS Form 1095-A from NY State of Health to file with their 2019 federal tax returns. Please direct consumers to the following resources for assistance; [FAQs about Form 1095-A](#), the [Understanding Your 1095-A video](#) or to NY State of Health at 1-866-766-7860.

Consumers who enrolled in Medicaid, Child Health Plus, or the Essential Plan may learn more about 1095-B forms for tax filing purposes [here](#).

Stay on Top of Marketplace News and Events - Connect With Us!

Stay current in the right direction! NY State of Health social media helps everyone learn about plan options, how to enroll and stay current on health topics.

Follow us on [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#), [Instagram](#), [LinkedIn](#), [YouTube](#), [Pinterest](#), and "Healthy Connections" Facebook Group.

Use the [NYS Provider and Health Plan Look-Up](#), [Hospital Participation](#) and [Cost Estimator tool](#) when selecting a plan.

Brochure racks are now available. [Order educational materials](#) and send promotional item requests to nysohorders@health.ny.gov. Include the event name(s), date(s), estimated number of attendees, and type of item needed.

Assistor Certification Trainings

Assistor Certification Trainings are for individuals currently employed by NY State of Health assistor agencies. There is no in-person training available at this time, but you may still complete on-line assistor training [here](#). The password for accessing the course is NYSOH2016.

If your agency is not already an assistor agency, you may contact the New York State Department of Health at assistor.admin@health.ny.gov.

Tell us what you think!

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