



**In this issue:**

- 2018 Open Enrollment Report
- Small Business Marketplace
- 2019 Plan Invitation
- Rochester's Lilac Festival
- Success Story
- Assistor Certification Trainings

**2018 Open Enrollment Report Available**

Thank you for making quality, affordable health coverage a reality for millions of New Yorkers! According to the 2018 Open Enrollment Report, **77 percent** of the more than 4.3 million enrollees enrolled with the help of an in-person assistor. Despite a year marked by concerns about the continuation of the Affordable Care Act, consumer demand for coverage in New York remained strong. With a broad choice of health plan options that, for many, was lower than in 2017, Marketplace enrollment increased by nearly 700,000 this OEP.

Click [here](#) to view the report and see enrollment data by county, health insurer, program and more.

**The NEW Small Business Marketplace - What You Can Do to Assist!**

By now you know that there have been some changes to the NY State of Health [Small Business Marketplace](#) to highlight the availability of tax credits, streamline the enrollment process and to provide more health plan choices, but you might be wondering, "what does this mean for in-person assistors?" As an assistor, you can let small business owners in your community know about the changes, and that the tax credit could save them on premium contributions. Additionally, in-person assistors can help by:

- Assisting with the employer eligibility component
- Help employers view their plan options
- Refer employers to an insurer or broker to complete their enrollment

It's never been easier for small businesses to provide health coverage to their employees. Watch the [materials order form](#) for a new Small Business Marketplace brochure coming soon!

**2019 Invitation For Participation in NY State of Health**

On April 24, 2018, NY State of Health issued its invitation to insurers to participate for the 2019 plan year. Proposals to participate in the Qualified Health Plan (Individual and/or Small Business Marketplace), Essential Plan and Stand Alone dental markets, are due from insurers on May 25 and NY State of Health certification is September 28, 2018, in time for Open Enrollment 2019.

The invitation and related documents, including 2019 standard product designs, can be found [here](#).

**NY State of Health at Rochester's Lilac Festival**

For the 4th consecutive year, NY State of Health participated in Rochester's annual Lilac Festival, the largest free festival of its kind in North America with an estimated half million attendees over 10 days. More than 20 assistors from 8 different organizations represented the Marketplace and spoke with consumers about quality, affordable health coverage.



*An assistor talks with consumers at the NY State of Health booth during the Lilac Festival in Rochester.*

**Success Story: Consumer Saves After Income Correction**

A consumer recently contacted Healthy Capital District Initiative (HCDI) because after completing her application, she noticed that she was not eligible for any financial help. HCDI reviewed the application and saw that income from last year was listed, rather than the actual current household income. After adjusting the income amount, the consumer was happy to learn that she was eligible for the Essential Plan at \$20 a month, saving her \$230 a month and a \$3,000 deductible.



**Assistor Certification Trainings: June**

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 on-line assistor training [here](#)
- 2) Attend a three (3) day in-person session (upcoming sessions listed below.)

**New York, NY**  
Dates: 6/5/18 to 6/7/18 (Tuesday - Thursday)  
Location: CAI, New York NY  
Address: 505 Eighth Avenue 20<sup>TH</sup> FL  
Yellow Room, Green Room  
New York, NY 10018

**Albany, NY**  
Dates: 6/12/18 to 6/14/18 (Tuesday - Thursday)  
Location: Homewood Suites  
Address: 216 Wolf Road (Meeting Room AB)  
Albany, NY 12205

The NY State of Health Events Map shows events where assistors will be in the community. Have your event added to the map by completing this revised Events Map Submission Form. We've revised this form to make it easy for you to submit several events at a time.



**We Need You! Upcoming Events**

**Help Us Staff These Informational Events This Summer:**

- Juneteenth Celebration: June 16-17
- Free Summer Movie Series: Dates in July across New York City
- Free Learn to Swim Program: At select New York State Parks in July
- Farmers Markets: Throughout July

Watch your in-box for emails containing links to sign up for these events. NY State of Health events are a good opportunity to answer consumer questions and schedule enrollment appointments.

**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](mailto: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.