



Commonwealth of Kentucky Cabinet for Health and Family Services

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact: Doug Hogan
502-564-7042, ext. 3467

Beth Fisher
502-564-7042, ext.3101

Open Enrollment at [healthcare.gov](https://www.healthcare.gov) Begins Nov. 1

State Benefit Exchange Plans Outreach, Enrollment Assistance

FRANKFORT, KY. (Oct. 30, 2018) – Open Enrollment for 2019 Marketplace health insurance plans at [healthcare.gov](https://www.healthcare.gov) starts Thursday. The Kentucky Health Benefit Exchange (KHBE), within the Cabinet for Health and Family Services (CHFS) is working to ensure Kentuckians are prepared, informed and have the resources they need to choose a 2019 health plan.

This year's open enrollment runs from Nov. 1 until Dec. 15 for coverage beginning January 1, 2019. Many Kentuckians who do not want to make changes to their plans will be automatically re-enrolled, but everyone is encouraged to check the status of their enrollment and selected coverage options. In many cases, policyholders will have the same plan for 2019 or their coverage will move from their current plan to an available 2019 option that most closely matches their current coverage.

CHFS is using a comprehensive campaign to reach current policyholders and potential new enrollees. These targeted efforts include direct mail, text messages, phone calls and email. Additionally, KHBE is coordinating with community assisters who service

every county in the Commonwealth. Assistors and KHBE staff will be at community outreach events across the state. To find an event in your area or to locate an assistor near you, who can answer your questions and guide you through the application process, simply log on to: healthbenefitexchange.ky.gov

“Some Kentucky counties now offer two options for health insurance carriers. Anthem has expanded its service area to cover an additional 34 counties over its 2018 offerings,” said Edith Sloan, Director of the Kentucky Health Benefit Exchange. “Remember to update your application even if you were covered last year so you can get the most current information on what savings are available to you and so you can find a plan that meets your needs.”

About 80 percent of Kentuckians enrolled in the exchange qualify for tax credits or subsidies that reduce their monthly health insurance premiums. For most of those who qualify, the credits will off-set any premium increases so the cost of insurance in 2019 will be about the same as this year.

The state-based call center is available at 855-459-6328 to assist Kentuckians with questions about where to go for coverage. The call center can help prescreen for program eligibility and help with questions and information.

The HealthCare.gov customer service center is also available. It can be reached by calling 800-318-2596. The healthcare.gov call center is open 24 hours a day, seven days a week.

Current plan holders, and those who want to view 2019 options on the exchange, can now go to healthcare.gov and use the shopping tool. For new users, the federal marketplace requires the creation of a user account and a completed online application.

-30-

The Cabinet for Health and Family Services is home to most of the state's human services and healthcare programs, including the Department for Medicaid Services, the Department for Community Based Services the Department for Public Health, the

Department for Aging and Independent Living and the Department for Behavioral Health, Developmental and Intellectual Disabilities. CHFS is one of the largest agencies in state government, with nearly 8,000 full- and part-time employees located across the Commonwealth focused on improving the lives and health of Kentuckians.