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Uninsured Special Enrollment Period in Idaho Begins March 1

Idahoans who enroll will have coverage beginning April 1, 2021

BOISE, Idaho – <u>Your Health Idaho</u>, the state insurance exchange, reopens today for Idahoans still seeking 2021 health insurance. Between March 1, and March 31, 2021, uninsured Idahoans can enroll in comprehensive health insurance coverage through the <u>Uninsured Special Enrollment Period</u>.

This Special Enrollment Period is available for any uninsured Idahoan who missed the open enrollment window and is still seeking health insurance for 2021. Idahoans who enroll by the March 31, deadline will have coverage beginning April 1, 2021.

"As a result of the COVID-19 pandemic, Idahoans have been forced to make tough choices about their health care and health insurance coverage," said Pat Kelly, Your Health Idaho Executive Director. "Too many Idahoans are still uninsured or underinsured at a time when our overall public health has never been more important. We are pleased to support Idahoans and offer a path to comprehensive coverage for those who need it most."

Your Health Idaho is the only place where Idahoans can receive financial assistance to lower monthly insurance premiums and out-of-pocket costs. More than 80 percent of currently enrolled Idahoans qualify for financial assistance and in 2020, one in three paid \$0 per month for coverage. Idahoans can <u>apply for the tax credit</u> at any time to find out if they could be eligible.

"Shopping for health insurance can be an overwhelming process, especially for those who previously had employer coverage or are new to the exchange," said Kelly. "That is why we always encourage working with a YHI-certified agent or broker. They are the experts, and their help is absolutely free to use."

A list of insurance agents, brokers, and enrollment counselors can be found on the Your Health Idaho website at <u>YourHealthIdaho.org/find-help/</u>.

Your Health Idaho is also reminding Idahoans of the importance of maintaining coverage all year long, not just during a health crisis. Every plan available through Your Health Idaho is required to cover a range of benefits including routine doctor visits and preventive screenings, which are essential to protecting the overall health and wellbeing of our state.

Individuals seeking coverage during the Uninsured Special Enrollment Period must select a plan and enroll by 11:59 p.m. (MT) on Wednesday, March 31. After the deadline, Idahoans will only be able to enroll in coverage if they experience a Qualifying Life Event, like losing coverage or having a baby.



For Help Enrolling

- Visit <u>YourHealthIdaho.org</u> to shop for plans and enroll in coverage
- Contact Your Health Idaho by phone at 1-855-944-3246 or submit a Support Request online
- Visit <u>YourHealthIdaho.org/find-help</u> to get free, expert advice from a Your Health Idaho-certified insurance agent or broker

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Your Health Idaho was established by state law in 2013 to provide an online marketplace where Idaho families and small businesses can go to compare and purchase health insurance. Your Health Idaho is governed by a 19-member board authorized by the Idaho Legislature to set the rules and regulations for implementing a state-based health insurance exchange.

For more information, please visit <u>www.YourHealthIdaho.org</u>. You can also check us out on <u>Facebook</u>, <u>Instagram</u> and <u>Twitter</u>.