# Supporting Health Care Access for Child Care Professionals

Presented by Jenny Garrison

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September 25, 2025



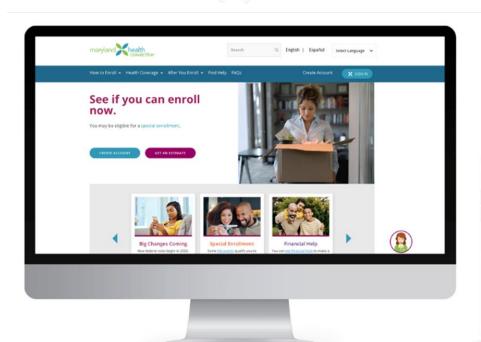
# MARYLAND HEALTH CONNECTION

# Maryland's official health insurance Marketplace

MarylandHealthConnection.gov

MarylandHealthConnection.gov/es



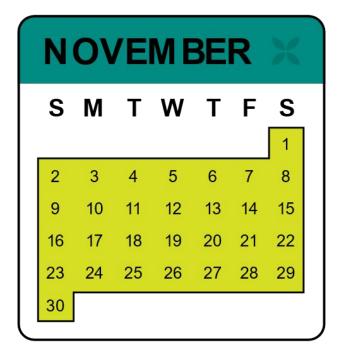


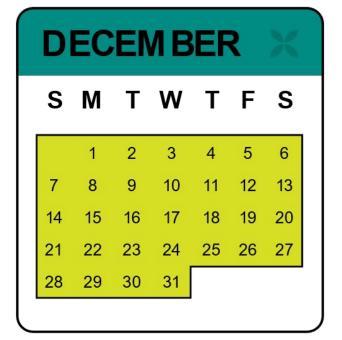


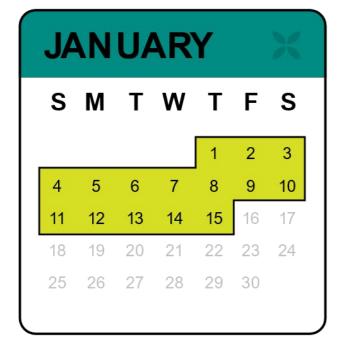
Download our mobile app: **Enroll MHC** 



## Open Enrollment is around the corner







November 1, 2025 – January 15, 2026



# The Only Place to Get Financial Help

Maryland Health Connection is the only place Marylanders can get financial help to pay for their health plan. In fact, **9 out of 10 who enroll get savings.** 



In 2024, the average customer buying private health insurance

saved \$388 a month

on their monthly premium.



## What's Covered?

Free preventive services included such as well-visits, screenings, immunizations.

Doctor visits

Birth control

Hospitalization

Prescription drugs

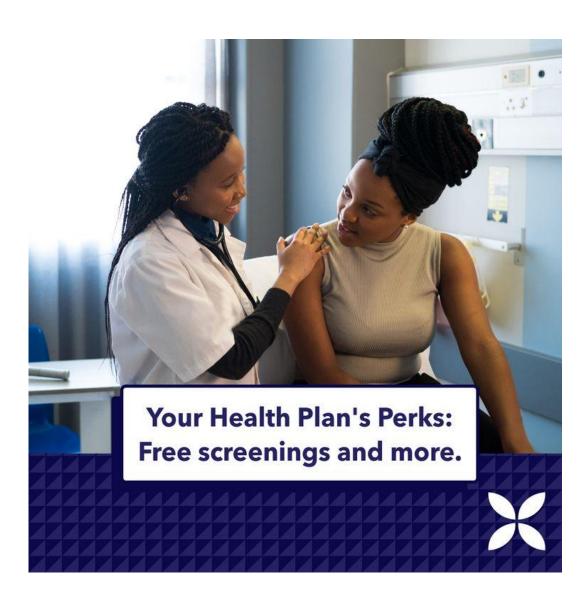
- Emergency care
- Laboratory tests

Maternity and newborn care

- Mental health care
- Pediatric care, including dental and vision benefits
- Substance use disorder treatment

Visit <u>MarylandHealthConnection.gov</u> for a full list of covered benefits and free preventive services.





# When Marylanders Can Enroll

#### **Open Enrollment**

Nov. 1 – Jan. 15

#### **Medicaid Enrollment**

Year round

#### **Special Enrollment Periods**

**60 days from life event**, such as:

- Losing your job-based coverage
- Getting married or divorced
- Moving to Maryland
- COBRA coverage ending
- Easy Enrollment Programs: "Check the Box" for health care
  - State tax form
  - Unemployment form
  - And more...



# Get an Estimate & Compare Costs

#### **Get an Estimate** tool

- Compare costs & understand your options before making a decision.
- Make sure your health care providers are in the plan you choose.





## Medicaid and Private Health Plans Available

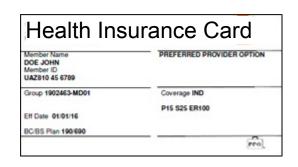
#### Eligibility looks at:

- Household Size
- Household Income

#### Determination would be to enroll in:

- Medicaid/ MCHP
- Private Health Plan











#### Private Health Plans

- Plans are licensed and approved by the state by the insurance companies you know.
- You cannot be denied coverage for having a pre-existing condition
- Dental and vision plans are also available

#### Financial Assistance is Available:

- Advanced Premium Tax Credit (APTC):
  - Reduces monthly premium
- Cost Sharing Reduction (CSR):
  - Reduces plan deductible
  - Decreases out-of-pocket costs for the consumer











#### You'll need to have...

- 1. Photo ID
- Immigration/citizenship information (for some residents)
- Employer & Income information like pay stubs or W-2 wage and tax statement (if employed)
- 4. Policy numbers for other insurance
- Information about any job-related health insurance available to your family





Maryland Health Connection can help you find health insurance that meets your needs and fits your budget. You may be eligible for financial help or for free or low-cost coverage through Medicaid.

#### Use the checklist below to get ready to apply:

Social Security numbers (or document numbers for any legal immigrants who need insurance)

Birthdates and general information about you and your family members who are also applying for health coverage

Policy numbers for any current health insurance

Employer and income information for everyone in your family

(for example, from paystubs, W-2 forms or wage and tax statements)

Information about any job-related health insurance available to your family



We ask about income and other information to let you know what coverage you qualify for and if you can get any help paying for it. We keep the information you provide private and secure, as required by law. To view our privacy notice, visit MarylandHealthConnection.gov.

For help filling out your application, general questions or to get connected with free in-person help, visit MarylandHealthConnection.gov/help or call our toll-free phone number at 1-855-642-8572. Deaf and hard of hearing use Relay service.





# We're Here to Help



MarylandHealthConnection.gov website and mobile app

Ask Flora, our virtual assistant, or chat with an expert.



It's easy to upload documents and apply on a mobile device.



BrokerConnect - Get free expert help in 30 minutes or less.

https://www.marylandhealthconnection.gov/brokerconnect-form/

**Consumer Assistance** – free, in-person and virtual/phone enrollment assistance by trained consumer assistance workers and authorized brokers.



**Call Center**: 1-855-642-8572

Deaf and hard of hearing use Relay service.

Help is available in more than 200 languages.



# Overview of New Initiative



# New Legislation in Maryland

Maryland Health Connection has partnered with the Maryland State Department of Education to implement a new bill (HB0859) that passed in Maryland this year.

Title: Access to Health Insurance for Child Care Professionals - Outreach

Synopsis: Requiring the Maryland Health Benefit Exchange to promote access to health insurance for child care professionals; and requiring the Exchange to conduct a survey, in consultation with the State Department of Education and relevant nonprofit organizations, to assess current levels of health care access across the child care community.





# Partnerships

- Maryland Health Benefit Exchange (MHBE)
- Maryland State Department of Education (MSDE)
- Maryland State Child Care Association (MSCCA)
- Maryland State Family Child Care Association (MSFCCA)











# Survey on Health Care Access

We are asking for your support to help us get responses to a survey which aims to understand more about how child care providers get health insurance and access health care.

Please share the survey with your staff and industry colleagues.

- Survey in English
- Survey in Spanish

The survey only takes about **10 minutes** to complete. All responses and information will remain confidential. Individuals who take the survey will also be entered into a **gift card raffle for a \$100 Amazon** gift card. One raffle winner will be selected every week for 12 weeks.

\*\*Completion of the survey is not required to enter the gift card raffle. All that is needed is your email address so we can contact you if your name is drawn.



# How We're Communicating

- Incorporation into MSDE informational channels (Tuesday Tidbits, DEC Website Content Hub)
- Presentations at Office of Child Care Advisory Council Meeting, MSDE Monthly Information Sessions, Child Care Information Sessions
- Presentations at MSCCA Hybrid Leadership Symposium: Inspiring Early Childhood Leadership on Oct. 9
- Participation in MSFCCA Child Care Advancement Network Building Educators (CCANBE) Conference on Nov. 1





#### TUESDAY TIDBITS

providers by December 31, 2025. Newly approved family child care providers and staff hired between October and December 2025 will have until March 31, 2006 to complete the

The staining is also recommended for child care autostates and volunteers. It qualifies for two clock hours of continued annual training requirements.

Learn more on the Division of Early Childhood website. You can also find details about how



Quality (NECHQ) is hosting a webinar. "A New Era in Infant Survival: Recognizing the True Value of Community-Centered Safe Sieso Initiatives," on October 23 or 2:00 p.m. This virtual event is designed for members of the child care constrainty dedicated to advancing infant safe sleep ducation and reducing sleep-related infan

Promoting Safe Infant Sleec: Relying on Communities' Capabilities to Get the Wood

few weeks for the official survey to make your voice heard and tell us how we can child care professionals through Marviand Health Connection: Stay tuned:



# Print & Digital Materials

- HR Onboarding document: health care options through Maryland Health Connection to share with new staff at onboarding.
- 2. Digital Content: social media graphics & messaging, email newsletter content, web content.
- 3. Printed postcards mailed to you: about open enrollment for health plans through Maryland Health Connection to hang in a break room.
- Printed postcards mailed to you: with child care survey QR code.





# SUPPORTING CHILD CARE PROVIDERS



#### Fall Virtual Events 2025

#### MarylandHealthConnection.gov/Events

Sept. 30 <u>"Health Care for Job Seekers" hosted by MD</u>

<u>Department of Labor</u>

Oct. 30 <u>"Changes are Coming to Health Insurance & Medicaid in Maryland"</u>

Nov. 4 "Mental Health in Mind"

Nov. 6 "Getting Health Care in Maryland"

Nov. - Dec. Virtual Enrollment Events (6 total)

Jan. - Feb. "How to Use Your Health Care" hosted by MIA in English and Spanish (4 total)



 ${\bf Register\ today:} \\ {\bf Maryland Health Connection. gov/events}$ 











# Join our WhatsApp Group

Scan the QR code and join.

Share with your community partners so they can get the latest updates directly to their phone.

# Stay Updated

You can also sign up for text alerts or email notifications to stay updated with the latest news and updates.



#### Maryland Health Connection

WhatsApp Business Account



Scan this code to start a WhatsApp chat with Maryland Health Connection.



# We're here to help

#### MarylandHealthConnection.gov/Help





- 1. Ask Flora, our virtual assistant, or chat with an expert.
- 2. **Download our free mobile app Enroll MHC.** It's easy to upload documents and apply on a mobile device.



- **3. BrokerConnect –** Get free expert help in 30 minutes or less.
- **4. Free, in-person and virtual/phone enrollment assistance** by community assistance workers and brokers.



**5. Call Center**: 1-855-642-8572 Deaf and hard of hearing use Relay service. Help is available in more than 200 languages.



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