

ACA marketplace deadline approaches for health coverage starting January 1st

ATLANTA – An Affordable Care Act (ACA) deadline for enrolling in health insurance for 2023 is approaching this week. Georgia consumers who want their coverage to start on January 1, 2023 must enroll by this **Thursday**, **December 15, 2022**. Consumers who miss this week's deadline can still enroll in health insurance through January 15, 2023, but their coverage will begin on February 1, 2023.

Since the start of this year's ACA open enrollment period on November 1st, over 5 million Americans, including <u>335,000 Georgians</u>, have already enrolled in health coverage for 2023.

New federal policies expanded the ACA's financial help so that thousands more Georgians qualify for lower premiums and other costs in 2023. An estimated <u>206,000 working Georgians</u> newly qualify for premium discounts because the Biden administration fixed the so-called "<u>family glitch</u>".

"The 'family glitch' will no longer stand between Georgia's working families and the affordable health coverage and care they deserve," said Deanna Williams, health insurance navigator at Georgians for a Healthy Future (GHF). "Even if workers and families have shopped for coverage in previous years, now is the time to come back and see if they newly qualify for financial help."

"Caring for yourself and your family should include getting comprehensive health coverage," said Treylin Cooley, another health insurance navigator at GHF who focuses on Georgia's LGBTQIA+ community. "Every family has their own unique health needs and health insurance can help cover yours. Health plans on healthcare.gov cover the essential health services, like prescription drugs, mental health care, emergency visits, and regular check-ups."

Georgians who want health coverage in 2023 can view plans, find out what financial help they qualify for, and enroll at <u>healthcare.gov</u> or 800-318–2596. Consumers may also contact a health insurance navigator if they have questions about health insurance, want help enrolling, or otherwise need assistance with their health insurance:

- Treylin Cooley, <u>tcooley@healthyfuturega.org</u>, 470-717-8077. Special focus on LGBTQIA+ Georgians.
- Deanna Williams, <u>dwilliams@healthyfuturega.org</u>, 404-772-0223. Located in and serving middle Georgia (Baldwin, Bibb, Crawford, Houston, Jones, Monroe, Peach, Putnam, Twiggs, and Wilkinson counties).
- To find other health insurance navigators in Georgia, consumers can visit localhelp.healthcare.gov.

A health insurance navigator is an individual or organization that is trained and able to help consumers, small businesses, and their employees as they look for health coverage options through the Marketplace, including completing eligibility and enrollment forms. These individuals and organizations are required to be unbiased. Their services are free to consumers.

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Georgians For a Healthy Future

Georgians for a Healthy Future collaborates with communities and partners to lead policy change that advances health equity for all Georgians. Our vision is of a day in which all Georgians have equitable opportunities to achieve their highest level of health. We do this by delivering actionable health policy information to policymakers and advocates; providing resources to help consumers become strong advocates; and elevating the consumer experience to inform policy change. Read more at <u>healthyfuturega.org</u>.