



Dear Community Partner,

When people have access to health care, they are more likely to get timely preventive care services and can better manage their chronic health conditions, which can lead to overall improved health. Since 2000, the NYC Health Department has helped New Yorkers enroll in low- or no-cost quality health insurance and renew their coverage. We have more than 30 certified application counselors who have been trained by the New York State of Health Marketplace to provide one-on-one enrollment assistance to all New Yorkers, regardless of immigration status.

The NYC Health Department remains committed to keeping New Yorkers informed of important health insurance policy updates and connected to our enrollment counselors. Some key updates include:

- New Yorkers age 65 or older who are undocumented and meet the income requirements are eligible for Medicaid.
- New Yorkers with low income and Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA) status are eligible for low- or no-cost health insurance options.
- New York State's annual open enrollment period usually runs from November 1 to January 31. During this time, New Yorkers can enroll in a private health insurance plan on the New York State of Health Marketplace. New Yorkers may qualify for a special enrollment period if there was a recent change in their family, income, or health insurance coverage. Enrollment in Medicaid, Child Health Plus, and the Essential Plan is open year-round.
- Some New Yorkers — such as those who have diabetes, who are pregnant or postpartum, or who have moderate income and are enrolled in a Qualified Health Plan on the New York State of Health Marketplace — may qualify for additional cost savings, which lower their out-of-pocket costs.
- New York Medicaid enrollees are eligible to receive doula services at no cost during pregnancy and up to 12 months after, regardless of the pregnancy outcome.

Additionally, New Yorkers enrolled in health insurance, including Medicaid, Child Health Plus, and the Essential Plan, must renew their plans annually to maintain coverage.

As a community partner, you play a key role in linking your community members to health insurance and ensuring they remain covered. The NYC Health Department encourages you to share this **Health Insurance Action Kit** with your network. It contains resources to help you and your community members understand and use our free enrollment services. Together, we can expand health insurance coverage and improve access to health care for all New Yorkers.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "MM", written over a light blue horizontal line.

Michelle Morse, MD, MPH
Acting Health Commissioner
Chief Medical Officer
New York City Department of Health and Mental Hygiene