



**State of Vermont
Department of Vermont Health Access**

Office of the Commissioner
280 State Drive, NOB 1 South
Waterbury, VT 05671-1010
<http://dvha.vermont.gov>

[Phone] 802-879-5900

Agency of Human Services

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Press Contact:

Nissa L. James, Ph.D.
Department of Vermont Health Access
802-798-2705 | Nissa.James@vermont.gov

Special Enrollment Period for Uninsured Vermonters Extended to May 15th

Waterbury, VT— The State of Vermont implemented measures to facilitate access to health care during the State of Emergency, including opening a Special Enrollment Period on March 20, 2020 for Vermonters who did not currently have health insurance. The Special Enrollment Period was implemented in partnership with qualified health plan issuers, Blue Cross Blue Shield of Vermont and MVP Health Care, in order to support access to health care during a time of uncertainty as a result of COVID-19. The Special Enrollment Period is for a limited period of time, originally available for one month (starting March 20, 2020 – April 17, 2020), and has now been extended to May 15, 2020. Vermonters without health insurance will be able to enroll in a qualified health plan and will be able to get premium and cost-sharing assistance, if eligible.

“The Department of Vermont Health Access believes, along with Blue Cross Blue Shield and MVP, that this Special Enrollment Period is a critical path for uninsured Vermonters to access health insurance during this unprecedented public health crisis,” said Commissioner Cory Gustafson.

Deputy Commissioner Addie Strumolo added, “It is important to emphasize that eligible Vermonters can continue to apply for and enroll in Vermont Medicaid at any time. Vermonters who have lost health insurance through their jobs may now be eligible for Medicaid, and we are here to help them find out.”

To enroll, Vermonters should visit: <https://portal.healthconnect.vermont.gov> or call 855-899-9600 Monday-Friday 8:00 am – 4:30 pm. Please note: Due to COVID-19 related staffing pressures, calling the customer service center may have longer than usual hold times.

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