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Agent Briefing

News from Covered California

Volume: 2 Issue: 20

January 26, 2016

OPEN ENROLLMENT



Let consumers know—there are only 5 days left to apply for 2016 coverage!

Consumers must enroll and make a plan selection by **11:59:59pm on Sunday, January 31** to meet the Open Enrollment deadline. Plans selected between now and January 31 will have a March 1 coverage start date.

We are open this weekend to assist you with completing last-minute applications.

Monday thru Friday, 8:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. (Open

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IN THIS ISSUE

- [Open Enrollment](#)
- [Advanced Premium Tax Credit Reconciliation](#)
- [Agent Resources](#)

REMINDERS

- [Agent Storefront Video Now Available in Spanish](#)
- [Small Business Expansion Effective January 1, 2016](#)
- [Covered California Small Business Commission Rates Remain Competitive](#)
- [Uninsured California Wage and Salary Workers By Industry](#)
- [Retain Premium](#)

Enrollment extended hours)

Saturdays and Sundays, Closed
Phone: 877-453-9198

Special Weekend Hours at Agent Service Center

Saturday, January 30, 2016, 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.
Sunday, January 31, 2016, 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

Special Weekend Hours at Consumer Service Center

Saturday, January 30, 2016, 8:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.
Sunday, January 31, 2016, 8:00 a.m. to 12:00 a.m.

Click [here](#) for the Open Enrollment Service Center schedule.

Consumers that miss the deadline to get insured in 2016 will need a Qualifying Event to apply for Covered California Health Plans and may be subject to increased [IRS penalties](#) for remaining uninsured.

There is no time to waste!

- Check out our [event schedule](#) and attend one of the 1400+ final enrollment events going on now to help identify and enroll consumers in your community that are still looking for health insurance.
- Visit our [Facebook](#), [Instagram](#), and [Twitter](#) pages and repurpose our posts to motivate consumers to enroll now. Use hashtags #GetCoveredCA #TimetoEnroll #CoveredCA to connect to consumers everywhere. Don't miss our [Social Media Tool Kit](#) for additional pre-packaged social media materials.
- If you're looking for additional materials to catch consumer attention over the next few

[Assistance – Verify Consent for Verification](#)

- [SHOPWorks Postcard Promotion Still Available](#)
- [2016 Subsidy-Eligible Maps](#)
- [Small Business Plan Benefits & Plan Change Summaries](#)

SALES TOOLS

- January 31 Deadline Resources
 - a. [Moments Ad](#)
 - b. [Perspective Ad](#)
 - c. [What are Storefronts? Ad](#)
 - d. [Subsidy-Eligible GIS Maps](#)
- [IRS Form 1095-A Toolkit](#)
- [Agent Service Center Hours](#)
- [Open Enrollment Toolkit](#)
- [Small Business Online Enrollment Portal](#)
- [Webinars & Briefings Archive](#)
- [Open Enrollment Paper Calculator](#)
- Enrolling in Quality Coverage: A Step-by-Step Guide
 - a. [English](#)
 - b. [Spanish](#)
- [Open Enrollment Webinar Schedule](#)
- [Covered California for Small Business Partner Toolkit](#)
- [Covered California Print Store](#)
- [Agent Extract: Your Book](#)

days, contact your [regional field representative](#) to get additional flyers in [English](#) and [Spanish](#). The flyers include details about the [penalty increase](#) for remaining uninsured in 2016 and emphasize the upcoming final deadline.



This is your last chance to act! Help us make thunder! Click on the image above and share it with your network to help us spread the word: Covered California and its partners are going to hammer the social media airwaves **today at Noon** using a new and innovative tool called “Thunderclap” – A synchronized blast of one message across online platforms and social networks.

It’s easy to join! All you need is a Facebook, Twitter, or Tumblr account. Click below to register in less than 2 minutes to share that it’s time to enroll.

[CLICK HERE OR ON THE IMAGE TO JOIN](#)

Access this [introductory video](#), review our detailed [instructions](#) for participating or email us at outreachandsales@covered.ca.gov for more information.

Read Executive Director Peter V.

[of Business Resource](#)

IMPORTANT DATES

- 1/26/16 – Covered California Thunderclap
- 1/28/16 – 1095 Training & Open Enrollment Update Webinar
- 1/31/16 – End of Open Enrollment

UPCOMING OUTAGES

- Sunday, February 7, from 12:30 am to 6:00 am

PREVIOUS ISSUES

- [January 14, 2016](#)
- [December 29, 2015](#)
- [December 14, 2015](#)
- [December 1, 2015](#)



Our mission is to increase the number of insured Californians, improve health care quality, lower costs, and reduce health disparities through an innovative, competitive marketplace that empowers consumers to choose the health plan and providers that give them the best value.

Lee's New Blog Post "Our Work is Not Yet Done"

CoveredCA.com
(800) 300-1506



Read Executive Director Peter V. Lee's new blog post, "[Our Work is Not Yet Done](#)." In the post, he discusses the legacy of Dr. Martin Luther King, "Big Sunday," when Covered California carried its message to thousands of churchgoers in Southern California, a new report on hospital usage among Covered California members, and provides a refresher on Covered California's continuing mission.

Covered California Connects With Over 500 Churches Statewide

Over the Martin Luther King Jr. Day holiday, Covered California joined forces with three of the largest churches in L.A. County to reach the African American community with the message that now is the time to exercise their right to health insurance and to get enrolled. Executive Director Peter V. Lee was joined by leaders of more than 500 predominantly African-American churches representing approximately 100,000 African Americans throughout the state.

“Let’s make sure no one goes without health care,” Lee said, recognizing how churches are woven into the fabric of African American culture and influence. “Please take a moment and think about someone you know who is uninsured – a brother, nephew, grandchild or neighbor. Encourage them to get covered.”

Read our [press release](#) for the full details on “Big Sunday” and how pastors across the state are encouraging enrollment before the January 31 deadline.

New Report On Vital Care Usage in Premier Hospitals

Last week, Democratic Leader Nancy Pelosi visited University of California, San Francisco (UCSF) to highlight a new report which details the vital treatment thousands of Californians have obtained since Covered California opened its doors.

“Covered California has been an enormous success. Thanks to this historic law, nearly 1.3 million Californians now have affordable coverage through the Covered California marketplace — and this data today makes clear that Californians are using this coverage to access vital, high-quality health care,” Pelosi said.

The preliminary report includes data on the experiences of Covered California enrollees in 111 hospitals and a statewide compilation of the data for some critical services.

You can learn more about the new report by reading our [press release](#).

ADVANCED PREMIUM

TAX CREDIT RECONCILIATION

Now Available! IRS Form 1095-A Tool Kit

The new [IRS Form 1095-A Tool Kit](#) contains a wealth of information about the form and the premium assistance reconciliation process including:

1. A quick one-page [fact sheet](#) providing brief information about the form and how to help consumers as they prepare for the tax season
2. A [job aid](#) for specific instructions about the steps to access the form online
3. A copy of the [notice](#) with frequently asked questions
4. Details about the [1095-A Dispute Form process](#)
5. A [presentation](#) from a recent webinar that discusses why consumers must reconcile their APTC

How you can help assist consumers with Form 1095-A

- Explain what the form is and what it means
- Explain why they are receiving the form now, and that it is an important tax document
- Show consumers how to access Form 1095-A from their online account
- Explain how to review Form 1095-A for accuracy
- Ensure consumers are aware of the implications of not providing the information included on Form 1095-A on their taxes
- Help consumers understand their next steps in APTC reconciliation
- Remind consumers that they should NOT submit an old version of the 1095-A Dispute Form as it will not be accepted. Consumers

can complete the new, corrected 1095-A Dispute Form online [here](#).

If you have questions about the notice, IRS Form 1095-A, or the 1095-A Tool Kit, please contact the [Agent Service Center](#) for assistance.

IRS 1095 Training and Open Enrollment Update Webinar

This Thursday, January 28, Covered California will be presenting a webinar as part of a series for outreach and sales partners. Attend this webinar to learn about 2016 updates to IRS 1095 Forms, new information on consumer APTC reporting and reconciliation, and how you can help consumers navigate the 2016 tax season. An Open Enrollment update will also be provided.

Mark your calendars:

Thursday, January 28
10:00 a.m. - 11:00 a.m.

An updated [schedule](#) of upcoming webinars is available for you to view online. To register for this webinar, please use the following link [here](#).

AGENT RESOURCES

**Join the California Association of
Health Underwriters (CAHU)
Diversity Task Force (DTF)
Compare Personal Proposal**

Are you interested in how you can become more involved in Covered California's mission to increase

the number of insured Californians? Consider joining the CAHU Diversity Task Force (DTF)!

The DTF mission is to enhance outreach and enrollment support to diverse communities with the help of certified agents that are committed to making health insurance accessible to all Californians. Read on to learn how you too can take part in this initiative.

< /span>

[READ MORE](#)

Shop & Compare Personal Proposal

Access the Shop & Compare Personal Proposal tool through CoveredCA.com or on our mobile app **Get Covered** now available on the iOS and Google Play Stores.

The Shop & Compare tool helps consumers browse high-quality health insurance policies and preview eligibility for premium assistance, cost-sharing reductions or for Medi-Cal. The new Personal Proposal feature allows consumers to download an apples-to-apples comparison of the Covered California health plans available to them in their area. The proposal clearly identifies bottom-line payment information after premium assistance is applied.

Download the proposal from our [website](#) or choose to have a copy mailed to consumers. The mobile app provides the ability for Agents to include their contact information on the proposal that is mailed to consumers.

Download it now:



or

View our Shop & Compare Personal Proposal User Guide [here](#).

Covered California Outreach and Sales Tools – Get yours today!



Contact your local [regional field representative](#) to purchase a [mini-spotlight](#) or obtain free posters and lawn signs today. Use them to let your local community know you can help them find quality affordable coverage through Covered California.

Covered California's Agent Service Center

Phone: 877-453-9198

Monday - Friday

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Check the [Agent Service Center calendar](#) for availability.

Do you have suggestions for how we can make this newsletter better? Contact us at OutreachandSales@covered.ca.gov. We want to hear from you.

Visit our [Link To Us](#) webpage to access official Covered California buttons which you can include on your website or any other digital marketing materials.

This message was intended for: emagala@pinnacletpa.com

You were added to the system December 22, 2015.

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