

STATE OF NEW MEXICO
OFFICE OF SUPERINTENDENT OF INSURANCE

SUPERINTENDENT

Russell Toal



DEPUTY SUPERINTENDENT

Jennifer A. Catechis

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**NOTICE OF SPECIAL ENROLLMENT PERIOD
FOR HEALTH INSURANCE**

President Biden issued an executive order on January 28, 2021 that established a Special Enrollment Period (“SEP”) to get comprehensive health insurance on Healthcare.gov from February 15, 2021 – May 15, 2021. The SEP is an extra period of time when people who qualify can sign up for low-cost or no-cost comprehensive health insurance on Healthcare.gov, also called beWellnm. The SEP also gives people who are already enrolled in coverage through Healthcare.gov or beWellnm.com a chance to change their plans, although their deductible and out-of-pocket expenses will be reset back to zero. Coverage begins on the first day of the month following enrollment, so people should not wait to sign up.

The COVID-19 pandemic has had a serious impact on New Mexicans and our economy. Many of our neighbors and community members have lost their health insurance, making this enrollment opportunity vital for the well-being of New Mexicans. According to the US Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS), 90% of people enrolled in Marketplace insurance receive financial help, and 75% purchase a plan for \$50 per month or less after financial assistance. New Mexico has 56,000 uninsured New Mexicans who qualify for low-cost or no-cost insurance. Now is the time to sign up.

People who want to sign up for health insurance offered by the Marketplace can use the Office of the Superintendent’s online [Eligibility Tool](#) to find out if they qualify for financial assistance. People can compare plans side-by-side and get an estimate of how much they can save on health insurance at beWellnm’s [Plan Comparison Tool](#). In addition, beWellNM is offering [virtual appointments](#) where New Mexicans can get free local help with the application process. People can also call them at 1-833-862-3935 or use the online chat tool on their [website](#) to get your questions answered. Persons interested in obtaining coverage can also reach out to their local insurance agent or broker, who can assist with enrollment.

Our office, beWellNM and community partners throughout the state are all raising awareness and actively educating our communities about this SEP opportunity. In addition, the Biden administration will start social media advertising and other efforts to help raise awareness. The Superintendent urges all of our partners to make a sustained, extra outreach effort so that New Mexicans do not go without the security of comprehensive health coverage, especially during this pandemic.

Sincerely,



Superintendent Russell Toal

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