



March 20, 2014

March 31 Marks End of Open Enrollment for Marketplace, Medicaid Enrollment Continues Year-Round

DES MOINES, Iowa - The federal Health Insurance Marketplace open enrollment period ends on March 31, 2014. After this date, individuals wishing to purchase private health care coverage through the federal marketplace may not be able to do so until the next enrollment period (beginning November 15, 2014, unless there is a qualifying life event).

Medicaid enrollment will continue throughout the year. There is no open enrollment period for any Medicaid program, which means individuals may sign up all year long. This includes the new Iowa Health and Wellness Plan, which is a Medicaid program and follows Medicaid enrollment policies.

After the federal Health Insurance Marketplace open enrollment period has ended, individuals looking for Medicaid coverage may continue to apply through the Iowa Department of Human Services (DHS) website. Individuals may also apply via phone or in person at a local DHS office.

To apply with DHS:

- Go online: <https://dhsservices.iowa.gov/>
- Call the DHS Contact Center at 1-855-889-7985, 7a.m. – 6 p.m., Monday- Friday
- Visit a local DHS office

Anyone can apply to see if they qualify for medical assistance. Many programs are available to Iowans like Medicaid, *hawk-i*, and the new Iowa Health and Wellness Plan. Individuals will receive notice from DHS of their eligibility for any programs after their application is processed. Individuals can check on the status of a health care application submitted to DHS by calling the DHS Contact Center at 1-855-889-7985, 7 a.m.- 6 p.m., Monday- Friday.

For additional information about applying for **Medicaid**, please visit:
<http://www.ime.state.ia.us/Members/ApplicationProcess.html>.

For additional information about the **Health Insurance Marketplace** and enrollment periods, please visit: <https://www.healthcare.gov/>, or call 1-800-318-2596.