



**COVERED  
CALIFORNIA**

# Media Clips

## COVERED CALIFORNIA BOARD CLIPS

Jan. 12, 2023 – Mar. 1, 2023

Since our last board meeting, the media coverage includes:

- Covered California finished up Open Enrollment with a deadline week push.
- The Biden Administration announced enrollment data for Healthcare.gov’s open enrollment period.
- Covered California announced its Special Enrollment Period for 2023.

## PRESS RELEASES

[Covered California Announces Appointment of New Assistant General Counsel and Director of the Office of Legal Affairs](#), Jan. 17, 2023..... 4

[Covered California Paints the Town to Kick Off Final Week of Open Enrollment and Encourage the Uninsured to Sign Up for Coverage by Jan. 31](#), Jan. 24, 2023..... 5

[Covered California Paints the Town During Final Week of Open Enrollment and Encourage the Uninsured to Sign Up for Coverage by Jan. 31](#), Jan. 25, 2023..... 7

[Covered California Paints the Town During Final Week of Open Enrollment and Encourage the Uninsured to Sign Up for Coverage by Jan. 31](#), Jan. 26, 2023..... 9

[Covered California Signs Up Thousands of New People as It Nears the Final Day of Open Enrollment](#), Jan. 30, 2023 ..... 12

[Covered California Provides New Opportunities for People to Sign Up for Health Insurance Through Special Enrollment](#), Feb. 6, 2023 ..... 17

## PRINT

### *Articles of Significance*

[Uninsured? Covered California aims to help Humboldt County residents](#),  
The Times-Standard .....Jan. 14, 2023

[Santa Clara County Wants to Help Laid Off Tech Workers With Health Care](#),  
NBC Bay Area.....Jan. 18, 2023

[Covered California welcomes new assistant general counsel and director of the Office of Legal Affairs](#), State of Reform .....Jan. 20, 2023

[Time is almost up to enroll in California health insurance. Here's how to get coverage,](#)  
Sacramento Bee .....Jan. 23, 2023

[Obamacare Sign-Ups Top 16 Million for 2023, Setting Another Record,](#)  
New York Times .....Jan. 25, 2023

Also: [AP](#) and [HuffPost](#)

[California offers health insurance for \\$10 a month. The deadline is days away,](#)  
Sacramento Bee .....Jan. 26, 2023

[Covered California's Open Enrollment Period is Closing But There's Still Time to Choose a Plan,](#) Black Voice News .....Jan. 26, 2023

[Deadline Tuesday for Covered California enrollment,](#)  
KSBY-San Luis Obispo .....Jan. 30, 2023

[Why is one of north Fresno's most visible office buildings conspicuously empty?,](#)  
Fresno Bee .....Jan. 30, 2023

[Current open enrollment period for Covered California ends at midnight,](#)  
ABC 23-Bakersfield .....Jan. 31, 2023

[Millions of Californians are at risk of losing Medi-Cal coverage,](#)  
CapRadio ..... Feb. 5, 2023

[Covered California Provides Limited Special Enrollment,](#)  
Oakdale Leader ..... Feb. 7, 2023

[Centene reaches \\$215M settlement with California,](#) Healthcare Dive..... Feb. 9, 2023

[Special enrollment for Covered California provides new sign-up opportunities,](#)  
State of Reform ..... Feb. 14, 2023

[Is California breaking its promise to cut health care costs?,](#) CalMatters ..... Feb. 21, 2023



# News Release

Jan. 17, 2023

## Covered California Announces Appointment of New Assistant General Counsel and Director of the Office of Legal Affairs

- *Allison Pease brings nearly a decade of legal experience with Covered California to her new position, which begins on Jan. 17.*
- *Pease previously served as the deputy director of the Office of Legal Affairs where she worked on complex health care law and policy.*

SACRAMENTO, Calif. — Covered California Executive Director Jessica Altman announced the appointment of Allison Pease as assistant general counsel and director of the Office of Legal Affairs.

“Allison is an experienced leader with a great legal mind who has helped navigate Covered California through numerous legal issues for nearly 10 years,” Altman said. “Her dedication to Covered California’s mission is evident through her work and in her passion for creating a solution-oriented and inclusive environment.”

Pease brings a broad range of legal experience to the position, including with personnel and Equal Employment Opportunity issues. She also has experience with public sector issues, such as conflict of interest and open-meeting laws, and with complex health care law and policy — in particular, the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act.

She graduated from Occidental College in Los Angeles with a degree in Critical Theory and Social Justice. She also has a law degree from the University of the Pacific, McGeorge School of Law.

Pease will replace Brandon Ross, [who recently took over as Covered California’s general counsel](#), and begin her new position on Jan. 17. The annual salary for her position is \$208,920.



# News Release

Jan. 24, 2023

## **Covered California Paints the Town to Kick Off Final Week of Open Enrollment and Encourage the Uninsured to Sign Up for Coverage by Jan. 31**

LOS ANGELES, Calif. — Covered California hit the streets of downtown Los Angeles on Tuesday, to paint the town and encourage the uninsured to sign up for health insurance coverage. In a partnership with a diverse collaborative of local and California-based artists, Covered California unveiled a large-scale street art piece at the historic Grand Central Market to remind Californians that they have through Jan. 31 to sign up for comprehensive health care coverage.

“We are here to spread the word across Los Angeles and the rest of the state that time is running out to sign up for quality health insurance through Covered California,” said Jessica Altman, executive director of Covered California. “Visit CoveredCA.com today, find out how much financial help you can receive, and how affordable coverage can be for you and your family.”

### **Open Enrollment Runs Through Jan. 31**

Covered California’s open-enrollment period, which runs through Jan. 31, is the one time of the year when eligible Californians cannot be turned away from coverage.

New data shows that more than 202,000 Californians have signed up for coverage during open enrollment (through Jan. 14). In addition, more than 1.5 million people have renewed their coverage, bringing Covered California’s total enrollment to more than 1.7 million.

### **Two out of Every Three Enrollees Can Get Covered for \$10 or Less Per Month**

The strong enrollment is being driven by the increased and expanded financial help made available through the federal Inflation Reduction Act. As a result, two-thirds of Covered California enrollees are discovering they can get comprehensive coverage for all of 2023 for \$10 or less per month.

(more)

In addition, financial help for middle-income consumers is lowering many of their premiums by hundreds of dollars every month.

“The increased and expanded financial help is providing significant savings for Californians, but in order for people to benefit, they need to act before the month ends,” Altman said. “Regardless of your income, it only takes a few minutes to find out how affordable coverage can be and what options are available in our area.”

### **Covered California Paints the Town to Encourage Enrollment**

To help remind consumers about the deadline and encourage people to enroll, Covered California commissioned a large-scale street art piece that will temporarily be on display at Los Angeles’ Grand Central Market. The concept for the artwork was led by nationally recognized artist [Shane Grammer](#), a contemporary inspired multi-disciplinary artist, who focuses on art installations, sculpture, and paintings.

Grammer’s work can be found throughout cities in Mexico, Brazil, Peru, Cambodia, South Korea, and Dubai and he previously worked for Walt Disney Imagineering as a Dimensional Designer.

The vibrant art piece conveys Covered California’s commitment to serving all Californians, and that regardless of where you live or the community you come from, Covered California is here for you.

### **Consumers Can Easily Check Out Their Eligibility and Options at CoveredCA.com**

Those interested in applying for coverage can explore their options — and find out whether they are eligible for financial help —by using the [Shop and Compare Tool](#) at CoveredCA.com. All they need to do is enter their ZIP code, household income and the ages of those who need coverage to find out which plans are available in their area.

“Many people do not know that they are eligible for financial help, which enables them to get coverage for \$10 or less, or even at no cost,” Altman said.

In addition to signing up consumers through its website, Covered California also partners with certified and licensed enrollers who provide free and confidential help throughout the state. Consumers can visit <https://www.coveredca.com/support/contact-us/> and search for the agent nearest them. They can also call Covered California at (800) 300-1506 and get information or enroll by phone.



# News Release

Jan. 25, 2023

## **Covered California Paints the Town During Final Week of Open Enrollment and Encourage the Uninsured to Sign Up for Coverage by Jan. 31**

SACRAMENTO, Calif. — Covered California hit the streets in Sacramento on Wednesday, to paint the town and encourage the uninsured to sign up for health insurance coverage. In a partnership with a diverse collaborative of local and California-based artists, Covered California unveiled a large-scale art piece on the west steps of the California State Capitol to remind Californians that they have through Jan. 31 to sign up for comprehensive health care coverage.

“We are here to spread the word across Sacramento, northern California, and the rest of the state that time is running out to sign up for quality health insurance through Covered California,” said Jessica Altman, executive director of Covered California. “Visit [CoveredCA.com](https://CoveredCA.com) today, find out how much financial help you can receive, and how affordable coverage can be for you and your family.”

### **Open Enrollment Runs Through Jan. 31**

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(more)

In addition, financial help for middle-income consumers is lowering many of their premiums by hundreds of dollars every month.

“The increased and expanded financial help is providing significant savings for Californians, but in order for people to benefit, they need to act before the month ends,” Altman said. “Regardless of your income, it only takes a few minutes to find out how affordable coverage can be and what options are available in our area.”

### **Covered California Paints the Town to Encourage Enrollment**

To help remind consumers about the deadline and encourage people to enroll, Covered California commissioned a large-scale art piece that will temporarily be on display on the west steps of the California State Capitol. The concept for the artwork was led by nationally recognized artist [David Sobon](#), the founder of Wide Open Walls, a non-profit organization that has created more than 80 permanent works of art in the Sacramento area.

The vibrant art piece conveys Covered California’s commitment to serving all Californians, and that regardless of where you live or the community you come from, Covered California is here for you.

### **Consumers Can Easily Check Out Their Eligibility and Options at CoveredCA.com**

Those interested in applying for coverage can explore their options — and find out whether they are eligible for financial help — by using the [Shop and Compare Tool](#) at CoveredCA.com. All they need to do is enter their ZIP code, household income and the ages of those who need coverage to find out which plans are available in their area.

“Many people do not know that they are eligible for financial help, which enables them to get coverage for \$10 or less, or even at no cost,” Altman said.

In addition to signing up consumers through its website, Covered California also partners with certified and licensed enrollers who provide free and confidential help throughout the state. Consumers can visit <https://www.coveredca.com/support/contact-us/> and search for the agent nearest them. They can also call Covered California at (800) 300-1506 and get information or enroll by phone.



# News Release

Jan. 26, 2023

## **Covered California Paints the Town During Final Week of Open Enrollment and Encourage the Uninsured to Sign Up for Coverage by Jan. 31**

FRESNO, Calif. — Covered California hit the streets in Fresno on Thursday, to paint the town and encourage the uninsured to sign up for health insurance coverage. In a partnership with a diverse collaborative of California-based artists, Covered California unveiled a large-scale street art piece at the Riverpark Shopping Center to remind Californians that they have through Jan. 31 to sign up for comprehensive health care coverage.

“We are here to spread the word across Fresno, the Central Valley, and the rest of the state that time is running out to sign up for quality health insurance through Covered California,” said Jessica Altman, executive director of Covered California. “Visit [CoveredCA.com](https://CoveredCA.com) today, find out how much financial help you can receive, and how affordable coverage can be for you and your family.”

### **Open Enrollment Runs Through Jan. 31**

Covered California’s open-enrollment period, which runs through Jan. 31, is the one time of the year when eligible Californians cannot be turned away from coverage.

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(more)



In addition, financial help for middle-income consumers is lowering many of their premiums by hundreds of dollars every month.

“The increased and expanded financial help is providing significant savings for Californians, but in order for people to benefit, they need to act before the month ends,” Altman said. “Regardless of your income, it only takes a few minutes to find out how affordable coverage can be and what options are available in our area.”

### **Covered California Paints the Town to Encourage Enrollment**

To help remind consumers about the deadline and encourage people to enroll, Covered California commissioned a large-scale street art piece that will temporarily be on display at the Riverpark Shopping Center and will feature iconic images of Fresno. The concept for the artwork was led by nationally recognized artist [Shane Grammer](#), a contemporary inspired multi-disciplinary artist, who focuses on art installations, sculpture, and paintings.

Grammer’s work can be found throughout cities in Mexico, Brazil, Peru, Cambodia, South Korea, and Dubai and he previously worked for Walt Disney Imagineering as a Dimensional Designer.

The vibrant art piece conveys Covered California’s commitment to serving all Californians, and that regardless of where you live or the community you come from, Covered California is here for you.

### **Consumers Can Easily Check Out Their Eligibility and Options at CoveredCA.com**

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“Many people do not know that they are eligible for financial help, which enables them to get coverage for \$10 or less, or even at no cost,” Altman said.

In addition to signing up consumers through its website, Covered California also partners with certified and licensed enrollers who provide free and confidential help throughout the state. Consumers can visit <https://www.coveredca.com/support/contact-us/> and search for the agent nearest them. They can also call Covered California at (800) 300-1506 and get information or enroll by phone.



# News Release

Jan. 30, 2023

## **Covered California Signs Up Thousands of New People as It Nears the Final Day of Open Enrollment**

SACRAMENTO, Calif. — With time running out, Covered California announced new enrollment data and encouraged consumers to sign up for coverage before this year’s open-enrollment period ends.

As of Jan. 29, more than 240,000 consumers had newly signed up for health insurance through Covered California during the current open-enrollment period. In addition, more than 1.5 million Californians have renewed their coverage for another year.

“Open enrollment is coming to an end, and while we have thousands of people signing up every day, we know there are more out there who need to take action,” said Jessica Altman, executive director of Covered California. “Californians have until midnight on Jan. 31 to sign up for health coverage and get the protection and peace of mind that they deserve.”

### **Open Enrollment Runs Through Jan. 31**

Open enrollment is the one time of the year when consumers can sign up for coverage through Covered California without having to experience a qualifying life event. People who enroll by the deadline will have their plan start on Feb. 1.

“We urge anyone who needs health insurance to check out the options available to them,” Altman said. “Coverage is more affordable than ever this year because of the increased and expanded financial help that is now available. Regardless of your income, it only takes a few minutes to find out how affordable a health plan can be and what options are available in your area.”

### **Two out of Every Three Enrollees Can Get Covered for \$10 or Less Per Month**

As a result of the increased and expanded financial help made available through the federal Inflation Reduction Act, two-thirds of Covered California enrollees can get comprehensive coverage for all of 2023 for \$10 or less per month.

(more)

## Get Covered and Avoid a Tax Penalty

In addition to getting the peace of mind that comes with having quality health care coverage, signing up for health insurance could help people avoid paying a penalty when they file their state taxes. People who can afford health insurance but choose to go without it could face a penalty when they file their taxes with the California Franchise Tax Board in 2024. The penalty can be a minimum of \$2,550 for a family of four.

“Californians shouldn’t have to worry about paying a tax penalty for not having health insurance, when they can get coverage that is more affordable than they think,” Altman said. “You can find out within just a few minutes which plans are offered in your area and how much financial help you can receive, so don’t leave money on the table.”

## Californians Can Still Enroll

Consumers can easily find out if they are eligible for financial help and see which plans are available in their area by entering their ZIP code, household income and the ages of those who need coverage into Covered California’s [Shop and Compare Tool](#).

Those interested in learning more about their coverage options can:

- Visit [www.CoveredCA.com](http://www.CoveredCA.com).
- [Get free and confidential in-person assistance](#), in a variety of languages, from a certified enroller.
- Have a certified enroller [call them](#) and help them for free.
- Call Covered California at (800) 300-1506.



# News Release

Feb. 6, 2023

## Covered California Provides New Opportunities for People to Sign Up for Health Insurance Through Special Enrollment

SACRAMENTO, Calif. — Covered California is reminding Californians that they still have an opportunity to sign up for quality health insurance and get financial help to lower the cost of their monthly premiums even though open enrollment ended on Jan. 31. Every year, Covered California allows people who have experienced a significant life event to sign up for coverage during special enrollment.

“Californians can still protect themselves and their families with quality health insurance for the rest of the year, if they have had a major change in their lives,” said Jessica Altman, executive director of Covered California. “If you have recently lost your coverage, gotten married, had a baby, or have been affected by California’s winter storms, visit [CoveredCA.com](https://www.coveredca.com) to check out what plans are available to you.”

### Special-Enrollment Period for California’s Winter Storms

In response to the recent historic winter storms in California and the [state of emergency declared by Gov. Gavin Newsom](#), Covered California created a new qualifying life event for those who were affected. Californians have 60 days from the date the state of emergency was declared — or through March 5, 2023 — to sign up for coverage.

Consumers who sign up will benefit from the lower costs now available due to the increased and expanded financial help provided by the Inflation Reduction Act. Right now, more than nine out of every 10 Covered California enrollees qualify for financial help because of the expanded and increased subsidies, and more than two-thirds of consumers are able to get comprehensive coverage for less than \$10 a month.

“The storms disrupted the lives of thousands of people across the state, and we want to make sure that those affected know that they can still get financial help to make it easier to afford a quality health insurance plan,” Altman said. “Californians come together when disaster strikes, and one way we can help our friends and neighbors is by making sure they have the access to the care that they need.”

(more)

## **Additional Qualifying Life Events**

Covered California also released a new television ad, entitled “[Life Takes a Turn](#),” to illustrate some of the most common reasons that someone would be eligible for special enrollment, such as losing health coverage, getting married, having a baby, permanently moving to California, or moving within California.

In addition, there are qualifying life events that are available due to the public health emergency and the Inflation Reduction Act:

- You or a family member have been affected by the COVID-19 pandemic.
- You have a household income under 150 percent of the federal poverty level, which is less than \$20,385 for an individual and \$41,625 for a family of four. Eligible consumers in this income bracket would qualify for a Silver 94 plan, the best coverage available through Covered California, at no cost.

A full list of qualifying life events can be found [here](#).

Consumers can apply for a health plan, or make changes to their current plan, if they have experienced one of these qualifying life events, usually within the last 60 days.