



**COVERED
CALIFORNIA**

Media Clips

COVERED CALIFORNIA BOARD CLIPS

Dec. 13, 2025 – Jan. 30, 2026

Since our last board meeting, the media coverage includes:

- Covered California held multiple Open Enrollment deadline events throughout the state
- The ongoing debate around health insurance policy, in the context of a looming potential government shutdown
- Congress ends 2025 without an extension of the Enhanced Premium Tax Credits
- Covered California urged sign ups ahead of December deadline, as well as final deadline of January 31
- Presidential administration unveil health care policy framework
- ACA enrollment is down across the country amid rising costs

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News Release

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Dec. 22, 2025

Covered California Encourages All Californians to Explore Health Insurance Options Before Dec. 31 Deadline to Get Coverage for All of 2026

SACRAMENTO, Calif. — Covered California is encouraging all uninsured Californians to sign up for health insurance by Dec. 31.

The open-enrollment period for 2026 ends on Jan. 31, but to have insurance in place for January, consumers need to enroll by the end of the year. Covered California's over 1.9 million enrollees also have until Dec. 31 to make any changes to their coverage for next year.

It has been a unique open enrollment with the Enhanced Premium Tax Credits set to expire heading into 2026. Since their introduction in 2021, the enhanced assistance has helped double enrollment nationally under the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act and by over 23 percent in California.

So far this open enrollment, 123,461 Californians have signed up for 2026 coverage as of Dec. 20, marking a 30 percent decrease over the same period last year.

Driven by record-high enrollment in 2025, overall, 1.9 million Californians have signed up for 2026 coverage, marking a 3 percent increase over the same period last year. That includes 1,816,067 Californians who have renewed their plans so far, a 7 percent increase over the same period last year. The number of renewing consumers will be better known next month after enrollees pay their premiums, with full numbers available in the spring.

“As we get closer to year-end holidays and family celebrations, health insurance may be the last thing you’re thinking about — but being insured is one of the best ways to protect the physical, mental and financial health of you and your family,” said Covered California Executive Director Jessica Altman. “This year more than ever, the Dec. 31 deadline matters — we know people have difficult decisions to make with premium costs

rising unless Congress acts in January to extend the Enhanced Premium Tax Credits. As you go through your options to sign up for new coverage or make changes to your current plan, Covered California is here to help you every step of the way.”

Entering this year’s open-enrollment period, Covered California continued to see historic enrollment, with nearly 2 million Californians getting connected to health insurance through Covered California in 2025. Despite expiring federal subsidies that have helped lower monthly premiums for millions of Americans, Covered California remains committed to helping people understand their options for keeping or signing up for health and dental insurance.

“We know that when people are insured and get the care they need, they’re healthier and they’re able to be more successful in work, school and life,” said Dr. Monica Soni, chief medical officer for Covered California. “As we head toward the end of the year, make sure to put health insurance on your holiday list, because you can’t use your health insurance if you don’t have health insurance. A Covered California plan ensures that you receive a free, annual preventive care checkup to get a head start on a healthy 2026.”

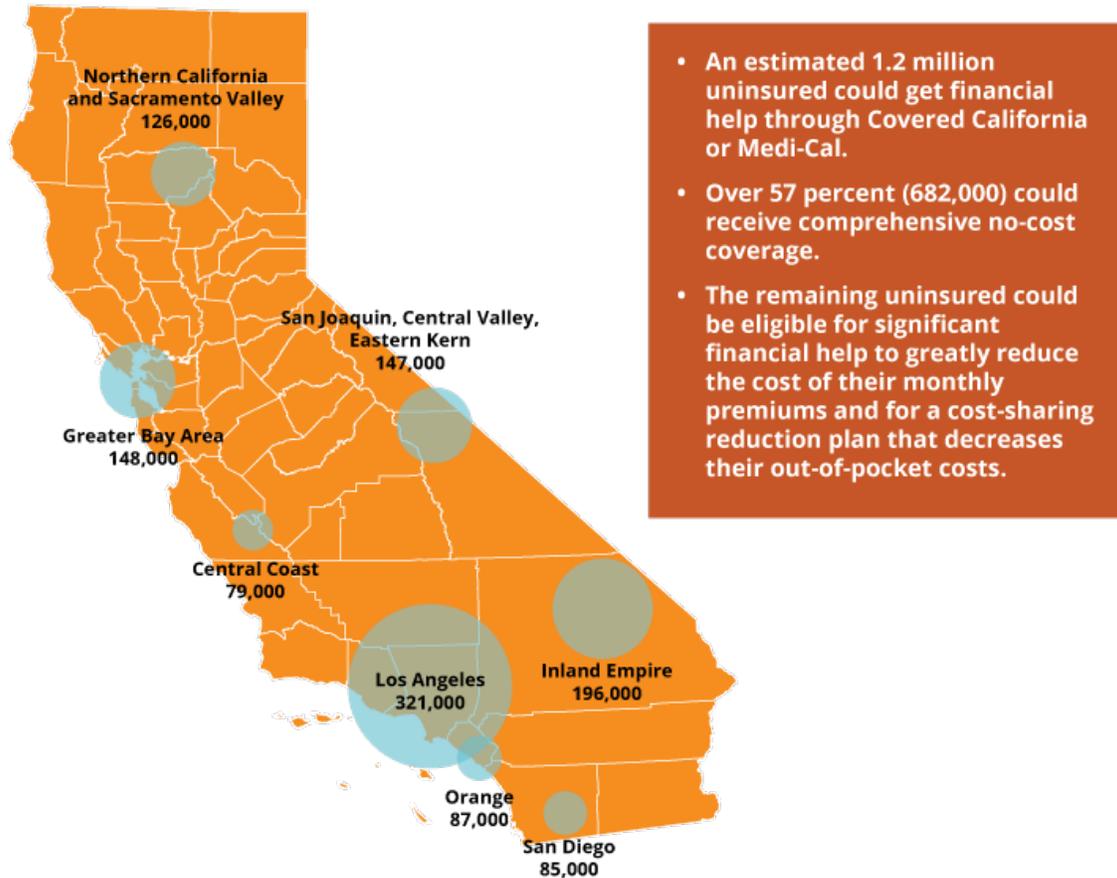
Of the nearly 123,000 new enrollees, nearly half live in four Southern California counties (Los Angeles, Orange, Riverside and San Bernardino), with 57,838 sign-ups.

Also, more than 29,000 new enrollees identified as Latino, while more than 25,000 Asian Americans have signed up for coverage so far. Over 30,000 White Californians and over 3,000 Black Californians have enrolled, and over 23,000 Californians did not disclose their race or ethnicity.

Despite the continued progress, the latest data from the California Simulation of Insurance Markets (CalSIM) model, developed by the University of California, Los Angeles’s Center for Health Policy Research, estimates that nearly 1.2 million Californians who either qualify for subsidies through Covered California (508,000) or low-cost or no-cost Medi-Cal (682,000) remain uninsured and eligible for insurance in 2026.

Further, this data from CalSIM shows that certain groups are disproportionately represented among the uninsured. Among the 508,000 uninsured Californians eligible for health insurance through Covered California, 57 percent are Latino and 50 percent are between 45 and 64 years old, and they reside all over the state.

Figure 1: Nearly 1.2 Million Uninsured Californians Are Eligible for Financial Help



California Is Taking Steps to Protect the Most Vulnerable From Increasing Costs

In 2025, Gov. Newsom and the California Legislature increased state funding available for the enhanced cost-sharing reduction program, appropriating \$165 million to expand eligibility. This allowed Californians with incomes above 200 percent of the federal poverty level to enroll in an Enhanced Silver 73 plan with no deductibles and reduced out-of-pocket costs.

This year, California is continuing to take proactive steps to protect its lowest-income enrollees from the steepest rate increases and reduce costs for consumers. For 2026, the state has allocated \$190 million to provide state-funded tax credits for individuals earning up to 165 percent of the federal poverty level. This support will help keep monthly premiums consistent with 2025 levels for those with an annual income of up to \$23,475 for an individual or \$48,225 for a family of four. It will extend partial additional assistance to those earning up to \$25,823 for an individual or \$53,048 for a family of four.

So far during open enrollment, more than 364,000 people have enrolled with state subsidies.

Financial help to pay for health insurance remains available as nearly 92 percent of Covered California's enrollees receive assistance. Nearly half qualify for health insurance costing \$10 or less per month in 2026, and nearly a quarter could get a Silver plan for that same price. In addition, 17 percent of renewing consumers could pay \$0 in premiums in 2026 if they keep their current plan.

Furthermore, over 50 percent of Black and Asian American enrollees can get a plan for under \$10, and 53 percent of Latino enrollees can get a plan for under \$25.

"Without [health insurance], I could be looking at huge, huge, huge medical bills," said Melanie, a Covered California enrollee and early retiree from Orange County. "There's just peace of mind that if you have a really bad year, maybe you're going to pay seven or eight thousand dollars, but you're not going to pay 700 or 800 thousand dollars."

Consumers can use the Shop and Compare Tool at CoveredCA.com to compare monthly premium estimates on a variety of plan options from top insurers, find out what financial help is available and explore all their options.

Covered California research found that, on average, by shopping and comparing, renewing households in:

- Platinum plans can get a plan with their current issuer with 23 percent lower premiums per month.
- Gold plans can get a plan with their current issuer with 23 percent lower premiums per month.
- Silver 70 and 73 plans can get a plan with their current issuer with 39 percent lower premiums per month.

"At a time when it seems like prices on everything from groceries to gas are rising, it's important to remember that you have options when it comes to health insurance," said Altman. "Whether you work full time, part time, are a gig worker, retired, or are temporarily unemployed, we believe every Californian deserves quality coverage at a price they can afford."

Signing Up for Coverage Is Easy

Consumers can learn more about their options by visiting CoveredCA.com, where they can easily find out if they qualify for financial help and see the coverage options in their area. Those interested in learning more about their coverage options can also:

- Get free and confidential assistance over the phone, in a variety of languages, from one of more than 14,000 certified agents and community-based organizations throughout the state that provide free, confidential help in whatever language or dialect consumers prefer.
- Have a certified enroller call them and help them for free.

- Use Covered California’s online calculator tool.
- Call Covered California at (800) 300-1506.

Californians who forgo health insurance will be subject to a tax penalty administered by the Franchise Tax Board. The penalty for not having coverage the entire year is expected to be at least \$900 per adult and \$450 per dependent child under 18 in the household. A family of four that goes uninsured for the whole year would face a penalty of at least \$2,700.

About Covered California

Covered California is the state’s health insurance marketplace, where Californians can find affordable, high-quality insurance from top insurance companies. Covered California is the only place where individuals who qualify can get financial assistance on a sliding scale to reduce premium costs. Consumers can then compare health insurance plans and choose the plan that works best for their health needs and budget. Depending on their income, some consumers may qualify for the low-cost or no-cost Medi-Cal program.

Covered California is an independent part of the state government whose job is to make the health insurance marketplace work for California’s consumers. It is overseen by a five-member board appointed by the governor and the Legislature. For more information about Covered California, please visit www.CoveredCA.com.

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News Release

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Jan. 20, 2026

Despite Challenges, Covered California Reinforces Commitment to Connecting Californians to Health Insurance During Bay Area Visit

OAKLAND, Calif. — Covered California made a visit to the Bay Area to emphasize its commitment to support Californians signing up for or renewing their health insurance coverage during the current Open Enrollment period, which ends January 31. This is happening amid uncertainty and ongoing debate over Enhanced Premium Tax Credits that have delivered greater affordability and record enrollment across the nation.

Covered California's Executive Director Jessica Altman visited with the Oakland community at Oakstop, and was joined by local health leaders, the business community and a Covered California enrollee to highlight the importance of having health coverage.

"As open enrollment draws to a close, Californians still have time to look out for themselves and those they love – but they need to act fast," Altman told the crowd. "Affordable health plans are still out there for many of our enrollees, but with the federal changes it is more important than ever that consumers take advantage of our marketplace and shop."

Despite this year's unique challenges, more than 1.9 million Californians have found a plan that works for them for 2026. That includes nearly 355,000 people across the Bay Area.

"Having health insurance opens doors of opportunities for all families, by making sure everyone – adults and children – have the care they need to be successful in work, school and in life," said Njeri McGee-Tyner, senior director of Healthcare Access for Alameda Health Consortium. "While costs are increasing, Covered California remains the one place Californians can go to explore their options and find an affordable plan—and financial support is still available."

The state of California has put \$190 million toward keeping monthly premiums reasonable for the most vulnerable in the state. While this funding doesn't make up for the \$2.5 billion lost with Enhanced Premium Tax Credits sunseting, nearly 400,000 enrollees are already benefiting. Thousands more across the state are switching to lower-cost plans that help keep their families covered at a price they can afford.

Anyone who needs insurance can use the Shop and Compare Tool at CoveredCA.com to explore plan options in their area and get estimates of coverage and monthly premiums.

Signing Up for Coverage Is Easy

Consumers can learn more about their options by visiting CoveredCA.com, where they can easily find out if they qualify for financial help and see the coverage options in their area. Those interested in learning more about their coverage options can also:

- Get free and confidential assistance over the phone, in a variety of languages, from one of more than 14,000 certified agents and community-based organizations throughout the state that provide free, confidential help in whatever language or dialect consumers prefer.
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About Covered California

Covered California is the state's health insurance marketplace, where Californians can find affordable, high-quality insurance from top insurance companies. Covered California is the only place where individuals who qualify can get financial assistance on a sliding scale to reduce premium costs. Consumers can then compare health insurance plans and choose the plan that works best for their health needs and budget. Depending on their income, some consumers may qualify for the low-cost or no-cost Medi-Cal program.

Covered California is an independent part of the state government whose job is to make the health insurance marketplace work for California's consumers. It is overseen by a five-member board appointed by the governor and the Legislature. For more information about Covered California, please visit www.CoveredCA.com.

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Jan. 26, 2026

Congresswoman Doris Matsui, California Health and Human Services Secretary Kim Johnson Join Covered California to Encourage Californians to Enroll in Health Insurance by Jan. 31 Deadline

SACRAMENTO, Calif. — Covered California visited with the Sacramento community at Café À Côté to emphasize its commitment to connecting all Californians to affordable health insurance during the current open-enrollment period, which ends Jan. 31. This is happening amid uncertainty and ongoing debate over Enhanced Premium Tax Credits that have delivered greater affordability and record enrollment across the nation.

Rep. Doris Matsui encouraged Californians to explore their options and sign up for or renew their coverage by next week's deadline. Rep. Matsui has been a member of Congress since 2005 and voted to make the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act the law of the land in 2010.

“The Affordable Care Act has been a lifeline for millions of families in California, but the affordability people have relied on for years is under attack,” said Congresswoman Doris Matsui. “Right now, President Trump and Senate Republicans are failing to act on the Enhanced Premium Tax Credits, driving the largest premium increases Americans have seen in more than a decade. While I continue fighting in Congress to protect and extend these credits, Covered California remains indispensable—helping Californians find quality, affordable coverage during this final week of open enrollment. Health care is a right, and we have a responsibility to protect it.”

Rep. Matsui joined Covered California's Executive Director Jessica Altman, California Health and Human Services Secretary Kim Johnson, community leaders and a Covered California enrollee to highlight the importance of having health insurance.

“As open enrollment draws to a close, Californians still have time to look out for themselves and those they love — but they need to act fast,” Altman said. “Affordable health plans are still out there for many of our enrollees, but with the federal changes it

is more important than ever that consumers take advantage of our marketplace and shop for a plan that is right for them.”

Despite this year’s unique challenges, 380,000 Californians are enrolled in a 2026 plan with a monthly premium of \$10 or less per member, and more than 1.9 million Californians have found a plan that works for them for 2026. That includes more than 107,000 people across the Sacramento area.

“Increasing health care costs put coverage out of reach for thousands of Californians and others across the nation,” said California Health and Human Services Secretary Kim Johnson. “This threatens affordability and will force many individuals and families to lose their insurance altogether. California is stepping up to improve the affordability of the plans for those with the lowest incomes, but there is a long way to go to fill the massive gaps left by Congressional inaction.”

The state of California has put \$190 million toward keeping monthly premiums reasonable for the most vulnerable in the state. While this funding doesn’t make up for the \$2.5 billion lost with Enhanced Premium Tax Credits sunseting, nearly 400,000 enrollees are already benefiting. Thousands more across the state are switching to lower-cost plans that help keep their families covered at a price they can afford.

Anyone who needs insurance can use the Shop and Compare Tool on CoveredCA.com to explore plan options in their area and get estimates of coverage and monthly premiums and can sign up by Jan. 31 to have health coverage for the rest of 2026.

Signing Up for Coverage Is Easy

Consumers can learn more about their options by visiting CoveredCA.com, where they can easily find out if they qualify for financial help and see the coverage options in their area. Those interested in learning more about their coverage options can also:

- Get free and confidential assistance over the phone, in a variety of languages, from one of more than 14,000 certified agents and community-based organizations throughout the state that provide free, confidential help in whatever language or dialect consumers prefer.
- Have a certified enroller call them and help them for free.
- Use Covered California’s online calculator tool.
- Call Covered California at (800) 300-1506.

About Covered California

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their income, some consumers may qualify for the low-cost or no-cost Medi-Cal program.

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News Release

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Jan. 27, 2026

Congressman Jim Costa Joins Covered California in Fresno to Encourage Californians to Enroll in Health Insurance by Jan. 31 Deadline

FRESNO, Calif. — Covered California made a visit to the Central Valley to emphasize its commitment to help Californians sign up for or renew their health insurance coverage during the current Open Enrollment period, which ends January 31. This is happening amid uncertainty and ongoing debate over Enhanced Premium Tax Credits that have delivered greater affordability and record enrollment across the nation.

Rep. Jim Costa (CA-21) joined Covered California to encourage Californians to explore their options ahead of this week's deadline and get connected to health insurance coverage. Rep. Costa has been a member of Congress since 2005 and voted to make the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act the law of the land in 2010.

“Since the implementation of the Affordable Care Act, families across the San Joaquin Valley, and millions of Americans nationwide, have been able to access affordable health coverage,” said Congressman Costa. “With this initiative under attack, we are already seeing enrollment numbers drop this year as uncertainty drives up costs and pushes families out of the market. Families are being forced to choose between putting food on the table or maintaining lifesaving health insurance. It is critical that my Senate colleagues act urgently to pass an extension of these essential tax credits. A bipartisan solution must be signed into law to support working families to receive affordable healthcare in our Valley and across the nation.”

Rep. Costa joined Covered California's Chief Medical Officer, Dr. Monica Soni, Fresno City Councilmember Annalisa Perea, and local health leaders at My Homies Kitchen in Fresno to highlight the importance of having health coverage.

“As a primary care doctor, I've seen firsthand that health insurance helps protect the physical, mental and financial health of you and your family. When my patients get the

care they need, they are able to meet their personal goals at work, school, and life.” said Dr. Soni, who also leads Covered California’s Quality Transformation Initiative.

“The deadline for Open Enrollment is quickly approaching, so explore your options now and find a plan that works for you and your family – because you can’t use your health insurance if you don’t get health insurance.”

Despite this year’s unique challenges, 385,000 Californians are enrolled in a 2026 plan with a monthly premium of \$10 or less per member, and more than 1.9 million Californians have found a plan that works for them for 2026. That includes more than 51,000 people across the Fresno area.

“As the cost of living continues to rise, Covered California offers working families in our communities the opportunity to obtain high-quality health insurance, with financial support to cover monthly premiums,” said Sandra Celedon, President and CEO of Fresno Building Healthy Communities. “At a time when many vulnerable families are under attack, Covered California and the state are stepping up to protect access to essential care and keep our communities healthy.”

The state of California has put \$190 million toward keeping monthly premiums reasonable for the most vulnerable in the state. While this funding doesn’t make up for the \$2.5 billion lost with Enhanced Premium Tax Credits sunseting, nearly 400,000 enrollees are already benefiting. Thousands more across the state are switching to lower-cost plans that help keep their families covered at a price they can afford.

“Health equity is essential to the well-being of our entire community. When families lack access to quality, affordable healthcare, it creates barriers that touch every part of their lives, from work and education to long-term stability,” said Fresno City Councilmember Annalisa Perea. “Covered California continues to be a source of opportunity and connection to high-quality, affordable health coverage for everyone in California.”

Anyone who needs insurance can use the Shop and Compare Tool at CoveredCA.com to explore plan options in their area and get estimates of coverage and monthly premiums.

Signing Up for Coverage Is Easy

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News Release

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Jan. 28, 2026

With Just Three Days Before the Jan. 31 Deadline to Sign Up for Health Insurance, Covered California Urges All Uninsured Californians to Act Now

SACRAMENTO, Calif. — Covered California is urging all Californians to act now to sign up for or renew their health insurance in 2026. Consumers can compare health insurance options to find a plan that meets their needs and budget.

As the Jan. 31 open-enrollment deadline quickly approaches, Covered California has helped more than 1.9 million Californians access the high-quality health insurance they need to keep themselves and their families healthy this year. More than 385,000 Californians have enrolled in a 2026 plan with a monthly premium of \$10 or less per member.

Those without insurance still have time to use the Shop and Compare Tool on CoveredCA.com to compare options and sign up for coverage that begins on Feb. 1.

This open enrollment, more than 200,000 Californians have signed up for new health insurance in 2026 as of Jan. 24, despite the expiration of the federal Enhanced Premium Tax Credits that have helped millions of Americans access health insurance.

Additionally, 1.7 million Californians have renewed their health insurance plans, a 4 percent jump over the same date last year, despite the decision by Congress to not extend the Enhanced Premium Tax Credits that lowered monthly premiums for millions of Americans, which led to record enrollment in 2025.

“While President Trump and Republicans in Congress have worked to make health insurance unaffordable and inaccessible for millions of Americans, California stepped up once again to connect families throughout the state to high-quality affordable health insurance from top companies,” said Gov. Gavin Newsom. “Covered California continues to lead the way and be an inspiration for all state-based marketplaces, by

helping California families explore their options, online or in person, in a language they prefer.”

Once open enrollment ends on Friday, Californians will need to have experienced a major life change to enroll in health insurance through Covered California. So now is the time to sign up, whether it’s on CoveredCA.com or through one of the 14,000 Licensed Insurance Agents or community partners available that provide free, confidential assistance.

Nearly half of the new enrollees come from Southern California, with more than 96,000 new sign-ups. Also, nearly 50,000 new enrollees statewide identified as Latino, and more than 40,000 identified as Asian American. More than 51,000 White Californians and more than 6,000 Black Californians have enrolled, while more than 37,000 Californians did not disclose their race or ethnicity.

Figure 1: More Than 200,000 Californians Have Signed Up During Open Enrollment Through Jan. 24



“Although Congress did not extend the financial assistance that has helped millions of Americans afford health insurance, thousands of families across California are showing how critical having coverage is to them,” said Covered California Executive Director

Jessica Altman. “We are proud of the work we’ve done to help connect Californians to care, but we have a long way to go. As we approach the final deadline for open enrollment, we’re encouraging everyone to explore their options and find a plan that helps protect the physical, mental and financial health of you and your family.”

Data from the California Simulation of Insurance Markets (CalSIM), a model created by the UCLA Center for Health Policy Research, showed that heading into open enrollment, there were nearly 1.2 million Californians who either qualify for subsidies through Covered California (508,000) or low-cost or no-cost Medi-Cal (682,000) who remain uninsured and eligible for insurance in 2026.

Improving Affordability for California Families

In 2024 and 2025, Covered California implemented a cost-sharing reduction program that reduces the cost of accessing health care for consumers — by lowering out-of-pocket costs, such as deductibles, copays and coinsurance — who enroll in a health plan through Covered California.

Over the course of two program years, more than 1.9 million Californians benefited from the state’s enhanced cost-sharing reductions.

For 2026, the state of California has put \$190 million toward keeping monthly premiums reasonable for the most vulnerable in the state. While this funding doesn’t make up for the \$2.5 billion lost with Enhanced Premium Tax Credits sunseting, nearly 400,000 enrollees are already benefiting. Thousands more across the state are switching to lower-cost plans that help keep their families covered at a price they can afford.

Approximately 82 percent of Covered California’s enrollees are eligible to receive financial help in 2026. Over half of enrollees are eligible for health insurance for \$10 or less per month, and more than a quarter could get a comprehensive Silver plan for that price.

Signing Up for Coverage Is Easy

Consumers can learn more about their options by visiting CoveredCA.com, where they can easily find out if they qualify for financial help and see the coverage options in their area. Those interested in learning more about their coverage options can also:

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Californians who forgo health insurance will be subject to a tax penalty administered by the California Franchise Tax Board. The penalty for not having coverage the entire year will be at least \$950 per adult and \$450 per dependent child under 18 in the household. A family of four that goes uninsured for the whole year would face a penalty of at least \$2,800.

About Covered California

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News Release

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Jan. 29, 2026

With Open-Enrollment Deadline Two Days Away, Covered California Urges Californians to Get Health Insurance During San Diego Visit

SAN DIEGO, Calif. — Covered California made a visit to 211 Connections Center in San Diego to encourage Californians to sign up for or renew their health insurance during the current open-enrollment period, which ends on Jan. 31. This is happening amid uncertainty and ongoing debate over Enhanced Premium Tax Credits that have delivered greater affordability and record enrollment across the nation. Covered California’s Executive Director Jessica Altman joined local health leaders to highlight the importance of having health coverage.

“As open enrollment draws to a close, Californians still have time to look out for themselves and those they love — but they need to act fast,” Altman said. “Affordable health plans are still out there for many of our enrollees, but with the federal changes it is more important than ever that consumers take advantage of our marketplace and shop.”

Despite this year’s unique challenges, 380,000 Californians are enrolled in a 2026 plan with a monthly premium of \$10 or less per member, and more than 1.9 million Californians have found a plan that works for them for 2026. That includes more than 147,000 people in the San Diego area.

“Increasing access to health insurance is critical in improving health equity and leads to better health outcomes for adults and children alike,” said Rhonda Freeman, Branch Chief of Maternal, Child and Family Health Services for San Diego County. “That’s why it’s crucial to get health insurance that helps protect the physical, mental and financial health of you and your family — but your opportunity to enroll is ending soon.”

The state of California has put \$190 million toward keeping monthly premiums reasonable for the most vulnerable in the state. While this funding doesn’t make up for the \$2.5 billion lost with Enhanced Premium Tax Credits sunseting, nearly 400,000

enrollees are already benefiting. Thousands more across the state are switching to lower-cost plans that help keep their families covered at a price they can afford.

Anyone who needs insurance can use the Shop and Compare Tool at CoveredCA.com to explore plan options in their area and get estimates of coverage and monthly premiums.

Signing Up for Coverage Is Easy

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News Release

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Jan. 30, 2026

With Open-Enrollment Deadline One Day Away, Covered California Urges Californians to Get Health Insurance During Los Angeles Visit

LOS ANGELES, Calif. — Covered California made a visit to Los Angeles to urge Californians to sign up for or renew their health insurance during the current open-enrollment period, which ends at midnight tomorrow, Jan. 31. This is happening amid uncertainty and ongoing debate over Enhanced Premium Tax Credits that have delivered greater affordability and record enrollment across the nation.

Covered California's Executive Director Jessica Altman joined local health officials and community leaders at the Charles R. Drew University of Medicine and Science to highlight the importance of having health coverage.

"As open enrollment draws to a close, Californians still have time to look out for themselves and those they love — but they need to act fast," Altman said. "Affordable health plans are still out there for many of our enrollees, but with the federal changes it is more important than ever that consumers take advantage of our marketplace and shop."

Despite this year's unique challenges, 380,000 Californians are enrolled in a 2026 plan with a monthly premium of \$10 or less per member, and more than 1.9 million Californians have found a plan that works for them for 2026. That includes more than 925,000 people across Southern California.

"The evidence shows that the Affordable Care Act has opened the doors to groups who have been historically shut out from health insurance," said Dr. Ninez Ponce, director of the UCLA Center for Health Policy Research and principal investigator at California Health Interview Survey. "Covered California has been instrumental in not only expanding the safety net for poor and traditionally disadvantaged groups, but also for increasing access to affordable health insurance for all families across California."

The state of California has put \$190 million toward keeping monthly premiums reasonable for the most vulnerable in the state. While this funding doesn't make up for the \$2.5 billion lost with Enhanced Premium Tax Credits sunseting, nearly 400,000 enrollees are already benefiting. Thousands more across the state are switching to lower-cost plans that help keep their families covered at a price they can afford.

Anyone who needs insurance can use the Shop and Compare Tool at CoveredCA.com to explore plan options in their area and get estimates of coverage and monthly premiums.

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