

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE March 17, 2020

Media Contacts:

Janel Davis, Silver State Health Insurance Exchange, 775-687-9934, <u>j-davis@exchange.nv.gov</u> Cherryl Kaopua, Faiss Foley Warren, 702-408-8334, <u>cherryl@ffwpr.com</u> Marissa Schwartz, Faiss Foley Warren, 925-595-8363, <u>marissa@ffwpr.com</u>

Silver State Health Insurance Exchange Announces Exceptional Circumstance Special Enrollment Period on Nevada Health Link

Carson City, Nev. – In response to Governor Sisolak's March 12th Emergency Declaration, the Silver State Health Insurance Exchange (Exchange), the state agency that connects Nevadans to qualified health plans through the online State Based Exchange (SBE), known as Nevada Health Link, announces a limited-time Exceptional Circumstance Special Enrollment Period (SEP) for qualified Nevadans who missed the Open Enrollment Period (OEP). The SEP runs from March 17, 2020 through April 15, 2020, and will allow eligible individuals to enroll in a qualified health plan through the SBE platform, Nevada Health Link.

Individuals seeking a special enrollment are encouraged to contact the Customer Assistance Call Center between 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Monday-Friday at 1-800-547-2927; TTY: 711. The Call Center will extend its hours on Saturday's and Sunday's (except for Easter Sunday) from March 21 through April 15 from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. PST. The Exchange recommends working with a certified broker or navigator to enroll in the SEP. Nevada Health Link offers language assistance and if you are deaf, hard of hearing, or have a disability, accommodations are provided at no cost.

"I am calling on all uninsured Nevadans, even if you are healthy, to take advantage of this special opportunity to gain access to health insurance coverage through the Exchange," said Nevada Governor Steve Sisolak." The COVID-19 virus is an unfortunate but important reminder that our health and wellbeing should be top priority and gaining access to insurance is a critical step in that process."

"The comprehensive insurance plans on Nevada Health Link are designed to protect you and your family from financial ruin if a medical issue or accident occurs, and they cover the ten essential health benefits mandated by the Affordable Care Act, including but not limited to pre-existing conditions. This is an incredibly important time to ensure you and your family are covered," said Exchange Executive Director, Heather Korbulic. "Nevadans deserve to have peace of mind to take care of all their health needs, and given today's exceptional circumstances, we are enabling those who are qualified to enroll and gain access to the vital services they may need."



Nevada Health Link wants to clarify that insurance is NOT required to be tested for COVID-19; and the emergency regulation signed by the Governor provides that there is no cost to consumers for medical services related to testing for COVID-19.

Nevada Health Link reminds Nevada residents who experience other qualifying events, such as marriage, birth of a child, moving, loss of health insurance, or Medicaid denial are also eligible to shop for a qualified health plan. Learn more on our website:

https://www.nevadahealthlink.com/sep or in Spanish:

https://www.nevadahealthlink.com/sepes.

About Nevada Health Link

Nevada Health Link is the online insurance marketplace operated by the Silver State Health Insurance Exchange (Exchange), which was established per *Nevada Revised Statutes* (NRS) in 2011 by the State of Nevada and began operations in 2013 on the belief that all Nevadans deserve access to health insurance. In 2019, the Exchange transitioned away from the federal marketplace, HealthCare.gov and became a fully operational State Based Exchange (SBE), in time for its seventh Open Enrollment Period (OEP). Nevada Health Link connects eligible Nevada residents to budget-appropriate health and dental coverage and is the only place where qualifying consumers can receive federal tax credits to help cover premium costs. Open Enrollment has concluded; for more information or to see if you're eligible for a Special Enrollment Period, visit our website. Subscribe to Nevada Health Link's Blog and YouTube channel, like them on Facebook or follow on Twitter and Instagram. Nevada Health Link always encourages consumers to use the free assistance of a licensed enrollment professional by calling 1-800-547-2927 or by visiting NevadaHealthLink.com.