



1383 Veterans Memorial Highway, Suite 26
Hauppauge, NY 11788
631-435-3000 Fax: 631-435-2343
www.nshc.org

*The collective voice of Long Island's
not-for-profit and public hospitals*

Contact: Janine Logan
Senior Director, Communications and Population Health
631-963-4156 or cell: 631-334-8321

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Health Insurance Marketplace Open Enrollment Season Six Begins November 1st

NSHC Navigator Agency enroller staff available to assist applicants

HAUPPAUGE, N.Y. (October 10, 2018) – The health insurance marketplace opens on November 1, 2018 and will close on January 31, 2019. Those renewing current coverage can access the market beginning November 16, 2018.

On Long Island, the Nassau-Suffolk Hospital Council (NSHC) is one of three state-appointed navigator agencies for the region. State-trained and certified navigators are available to assist individuals, businesses, and families in understanding insurance options offered and in purchasing insurance. Navigators, the majority of whom are bi-lingual, will assist individuals in completing the application for coverage, and will determine whether the applicant's income level and family size qualify them for subsidized insurance premiums, Medicaid coverage, the Essential Plan, or Child Health Plus enrollment.

Depending on income levels, families and individuals may be eligible for federal tax credits and/or cost sharing assistance. For 2019, monthly premiums for the Essential Plan, an option for very low income adults, remain \$20 a month or at no cost, depending upon an individual's income.

Enrollment ends January 31, 2019. Enrollment in Child Health Plus, Medicaid, and the Essential Plan are available year long. Individuals can shop the marketplace through an online portal on www.nystateofhealth.ny.gov, by calling the state's customer service number at 855-355-5777, or by meeting with a state-certified navigator.

The NSHC navigator agency maintains a user-friendly, bilingual website that lists enrollment sites and dates and other helpful information at www.coverage4healthcare.org. Assistance is offered on a first come, first serve basis.

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About the Nassau-Suffolk Hospital Council

The Nassau-Suffolk Hospital Council represents the advocacy interests of all Long Island hospitals. NSHC helps enhance healthcare for all Long Islanders by representing the interests of its member hospitals before lawmakers, regulatory agencies, the media, and the public. The NSHC is a certified navigator agency for the New York State of Health Marketplace and a subcontractor for the New York State Consumer Assistance for the Aged, Blind and Disabled program.