



Pete Ricketts, Governor

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

NR-1904

Media Contact:

Martin Swanson, Martin.Swanson@nebraska.gov

Nebraskans Impacted by Recent Weather May Be Eligible for Extension of Time for Coverage on the Health Insurance Exchange

Lincoln, NE (March 29, 2019) – Individuals impacted by the recent weather events in Nebraska may be eligible for an extension of time for a special enrollment period for coverage on the health insurance exchange.

This opportunity may be applicable to Nebraskans who would have otherwise been entitled to a special enrollment period such as loss of employment, marriage or the birth or adoption of a child. More information about what circumstances would be applicable to the extension of an enrollment period can be found here at <https://www.cms.gov/CCIIO/Resources/Regulations-and-Guidance/Downloads/8-9-natural-disaster-SEP.pdf>.

Individuals will be required to attest that they meet the following eligibility requirements to qualify:

- They resided in any of the counties that are eligible to apply for “individual assistance” or “public assistance” by FEMA either during the FEMA designated incident period of the emergency or major disaster, or at the time of application for enrollment, and
- They were affected by the emergency or disaster, and that it prevented them from completing enrollment.

Impacted individuals will have up to 60 days from the end of the FEMA incident period to select a new plan or make changes to their current enrollment. Individuals who think they qualify should contact the health insurance marketplace at 1-800-318-2596 (TTY: 1-855-889-4325).

The Nebraska Department of Insurance also reminds Nebraskans that if their income has been impacted by the storms and if they have coverage on the marketplace, they consider contacting the marketplace to adjust their estimated income. Such action may adjust the amount of subsidy received, if any, for payment of a health insurance policy. The Department strongly encourages individuals who are considering altering their income statement to discuss the proposed change with a financial or tax advisor before doing so.

###