

Broker News - October 27, 2017

2018 Rates Approved

Rates for 2018 plan year have been approved by the Department of Insurance, Securities, and Banking. Although approved, rates are still not yet available to the broker and general communities. Post-approval, the Health Benefit Exchange Authority and Carriers go through a series of tests to confirm rates and benefits displayed through DC Health Link are 100% accurate. Due to delayed rate approvals, this process has been shortened and is expected to conclude on October 27, 2017. Rates will be available for the broker and general communities by November 1, 2017. Please note below key dates for this upcoming Individual & Family market and SHOP effective dates.

Change in 2018 SHOP Dental Carrier Plan Offerings

MetLife and Delta Dental have notified the DC Health Benefit Exchange Authority of their decision to cease new sales in the Small Business market as of January 1, 2018. To mitigate confusion and gaps in coverage among enrollees, DCHBX is finalizing an outreach strategy to engage employers and employees affected by this change. Timed around a group's renewal period, this phone and email campaign will look to provide consumers with tools and ample time to make informed decisions about their dental coverage options going forward.

Groups that decide to offer dental coverage through DC Health Link will continue to have the following products as options in Plan Year 2018: CareFirst's BlueDental Traditional (PPO) and BlueDental Preferred High (PPO), as well as Dominion's Select Plan Premium (HMO), Choice PPO Basic (PPO), and Choice PPO Premium (PPO).

Enrollment Deadlines

[Individual & Family Marketplace](#)

Open Enrollment for 2018 plans in the District of Columbia

November 1, 2017 – January 31, 2018*

COVERAGE START DATE	SELECT A PLAN BY
January 1, 2018	December 15, 2017
February 1, 2018	January 15, 2018
March 1, 2018	January 31, 2018

*Note: Maryland and Virginia dates of Open Enrollment are November 1, 2017 - December 15, 2017

Open Enrollment Kick-Off event is scheduled for November 4, 2017 11am-2pm at the Shaw (Watha T. Daniel) Neighborhood Library. At this event we will be providing enrollment support, health screenings, children & family activities, food demos, Zumba, yoga, local entertainment, refreshments, and much more.

[Small Business Marketplace](#)

SHOP 12/1 and 1/1 New/Renewing Businesses

- 12/1 cut-offs for New Groups: November 10th for employee enrollments; November 12th to pay initial premium
- 12/1 cut-offs for Renewing groups: November 13th last day of employee open enrollment period; Invoices continue to be due monthly
- 1/1 cut-offs for New Groups: December 10th for employee enrollments; December 12th to pay initial premium
- 1/1 cut-offs for Renewing groups: December 13th last day of employee open enrollment period; invoices continue to be due monthly