



**COUNTY OF SAN LUIS OBISPO HEALTH AGENCY  
PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT**

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**Date:** October 15, 2018  
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**County Offers Residents Free, Unbiased Help with Covered California  
*Open enrollment period begins today and continues through January 15***

San Luis Obispo—The County of San Luis Obispo Public Health Department and Department of Social Services remind residents that specialists are available to provide free, unbiased help finding health insurance and signing up through Covered California. This year's open enrollment period for Covered California starts on October 15, 2018 and continues through January 15, 2019.

Covered California is the state health care marketplace for coverage under the Affordable Care Act. Through Covered California, residents can enroll in health care coverage and may qualify for free or low-cost insurance based on their income. People who qualify for free or reduced-price coverage can only get this benefit during the open enrollment period (through January 15), with very few exceptions. For this reason, officials recommend applying for full health care coverage during the open enrollment period.

Residents can learn more and enroll directly at [www.coveredca.com](http://www.coveredca.com) or 1-800-300-1506.

For local, personal assistance in reviewing options and enrolling in a plan, residents can contact the Public Health Department's Covered California certified enrollment counselors for support in both English and Spanish. Counselors can also evaluate residents with urgent medical needs to determine if they qualify for short-term assistance and can help people apply for Medi-Cal year-round. Enrollment counselors are available:

- San Luis Obispo - Monday-Friday, 8 a.m.–4 p.m. by appointment or drop-in at the Health Agency campus at 2180 Johnson Avenue.
- Grover Beach - Thursday mornings by appointment at the Public Health Clinic at 286 South 16th Street, Bldg. B.
- Paso Robles - Wednesday afternoons by appointment at the Public Health Clinic at 723 Walnut Drive.

For more information or to make an appointment with Public Health Department enrollment counselors, call 805-781-4838.

Department of Social Services (DSS) staff also help eligible individuals and families enroll in Medi-Cal year-round, and in plan selection during the open enrollment period or at certain life events. Residents can apply online at [www.coveredca.com](http://www.coveredca.com), submit applications in person at a local DSS office, or request an application over the phone. Residents interested in enrolling or learning more can call DSS at 805-781-1600 or [find DSS information and office locations online](#).

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**County of San Luis Obispo Health Agency**

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[www.slopublichealth.org](http://www.slopublichealth.org)