



## Maternal and Child Health Access

### -MCHA Advocate Update-

Feb. 21, 2013



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### Kaiser Child Health Plan to close!

**Kaiser Child Health Plan** will be closing on Tuesday February 26, 2013, end of day.

This plan covers children to 300% of poverty who aren't eligible for full-scope Medi-Cal. We understand that Kaiser will open again on March 26 but any applications received **February 27, 2013 through March 26, 2013 will be destroyed** (they won't hold onto them and process after that time). The best bet may be using [One-e App](#) if you are able to; otherwise, the paper application has to be physically at Kaiser by the end of the day (5 PM).

### California's Pre-Existing Condition Plan to close!

**California's Pre-Existing Condition Plan (PCIP)** will no longer accept enrollment after Saturday, **March 2, 2013**. The closure is as a result of a directive from the Center for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) to California to suspend enrollment in the Pre-Existing Condition Insurance Plan (PCIP). This enrollment suspension applies to applications received by the state of California after March 2, 2013. CMS has announced this nationwide suspension of enrollment to assure that there are sufficient funds available throughout 2013 to continuously cover people currently enrolled in PCIP through the period when the program is already scheduled to end in December. **There are only two exceptions to this suspension:**

- CA will still enroll people after **March 2** if the individual is currently enrolled in a PCIP program in another state and they move to California
- CA will continue to screen applications submitted after March 2 to see if the individual qualifies for the state's own high risk pool, the Major Risk Medical Insurance Program, MRMIP

**The current PCIP enrollees will remain covered and will receive services through December 31, 2013.**

As you know, PCIP was established as a temporary program for people who were unable to secure coverage in the insurance marketplace. Starting January 1, 2014, there will no longer be a need for PCIP because the Affordable Care Act does not allow insurers to deny individuals with pre-existing conditions or charge them higher rates than those without such conditions. Also, the California Exchange, "Covered California" will be open for business in January for both individuals and small businesses to buy affordable health benefits plans.

Click [HERE](#) to see a California Healthline story today.

Note there is still some room in the state's Major Risk Medical Insurance Program (MRMIP) though it could reach its cap with the PCIP closing to new enrollment.

## Contact Us

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