

NEWS RELEASE

For Immediate Release

Media Contact

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SEARHC PATIENT HEALTH BENEFITS OFFERS ASSISTANCE DURING COVID-19 CRISIS

SITKA, March 20, 2020 - SouthEast Alaska Regional Health Consortium's (SEARHC) Patient Health Benefits (PHB) team is available to answer patient health coverage questions that arise from the coronavirus (COVID-19) crisis. PHB staff can assist patients in applying for immediate coverage for COVID-19 testing and treatment, as well as provide guidance to apply for Medicaid or navigate the Affordable Care Act's Health Insurance Marketplace.

SEARHC is a provider of Presumptive Eligibility, meaning if you qualify for Medicaid, we can get you coverage immediately. This includes testing for COVID-19 and treatment if confirmed positive. If you are not eligible for Medicaid and located in Juneau or Sitka, SEARHC has a Financial Assistance Program based on a sliding scale that you can also apply for immediately. Contact the PHB team at 907.966.8684 for assistance, or questions about coverage in other SEARHC communities.

One of PHB's seven Certified Application Counselors can also assist with applying for coverage through the Health Insurance Marketplace. If you or someone you know is losing health coverage through their employer, you may qualify for a special enrollment period for the Health Insurance Marketplace to enroll in low-cost health coverage.

With the Division of Public Assistance currently closed to the public, SEARHC PHB counselors can assist anyone in applying for Medicaid, renewing coverage, or applying for other benefits.

For more information, please contact the SEARHC PHB team at 907.966.8684. For up-to-date information on the SEARHC coronavirus response, patients can visit covid19.searhc.org or call the SEARHC COVID-19 Hotline at 907.966.8799.

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