Pressroom

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Governor Bullock Announces Uninsured Montanans to Receive Coverage for COVID-19 Testing and Treatment

Tuesday, March 17, 2020 / Categories: **Governor's Office**, **Montana.gov** / Tags:

Governor Steve Bullock today announced that uninsured Montanans, who receive a recommendation from a provider, will be eligible to receive coverage for COVID-19 testing and treatment.

“This is a significant step in containing the spread of coronavirus in our state. We know that the lack of health insurance often results in the delay of seeing a doctor or being turned away, which could further fuel this pandemic and put other Montanans at risk,” said Governor Bullock. **“It’s going to take all of us working together to slow the spread, and that includes looking out for those who don’t have health insurance, particularly those most vulnerable.”**

Under the governor’s emergency authority, state funds, with potential for federal funds, will be used to pay for COVID-19 testing for Montanans without health insurance. If confirmed positive for COVID-19, funds will be used to cover treatment costs. Montanans will be required to provide a recommendation from a provider according to current CDC guidance and the state will reimburse them for that provider visit.

Medicaid, Medicare, and CHIP recipients are currently eligible for coverage for COVID-19 testing and treatment.

The option will be available to uninsured Montanans starting Monday, March 23. To access the new emergency assistance, Montanans should call 406-444-7605 or email HHSPresumptive@mt.gov.

Reducing the number of uninsured Montanans has been a top priority of the Bullock administration. This includes expanding Medicaid, which currently covers 84,000 Montanans. An estimated 8.6% of Montanans are uninsured.

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