

## STATE OF CONNECTICUT EXECUTIVE CHAMBERS HARTFORD, CONNECTICUT 06106

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## **Governor Rell: State Accepting Applications for New Health Plan**

Details on Connecticut Pre-Existing Condition Insurance Plan Available Today at www.ctpreexistingconditionplan.com

Governor M. Jodi Rell today announced that applications are now available for a new federally funded health care plan specifically designed for individuals with pre-existing conditions that prevented them from getting health care insurance in the past.

The Connecticut Pre-Existing Condition Insurance Plan, administered by the state Department of Social Services, will use \$50 million allocated to Connecticut under the federal health care reform bill. The Governor approved launch of the program after her administration was able to successfully lower premiums by 35 percent over initial estimates to put costs within reach of many Connecticut residents. Premiums for adults under the new plan start at \$285 monthly for those under 30 and rise gradually by age to a high of \$893 for adults 65 and older.

"Connecticut residents will now have more options than ever for health care coverage. My Charter Oak Health Plan also accepts enrollees with pre-existing conditions and provides affordable coverage. Now, two years after we started it, Charter Oak provides coverage for more than 12,000 individuals," Governor Rell said.

"This new health plan offers comprehensive benefits with limited out-of-pocket costs and is another safety net we can provide for uninsured people who desperately need this coverage," Governor Rell said. "The landmark federal health care reforms – vast and complex in some cases – nevertheless provide opportunities to make health care more accessible and affordable to all. I am committed to doing all I can to deliver that care and cost-savings to Connecticut."

In April, Connecticut became the first state to formally seek approval under the new federal law to cover more people under Medicaid and, in the process, to capture tens of millions of dollars in new federal revenue. The state is transferring

45,000 single, low-income adults covered by State-Administered General Assistance (SAGA) into the larger Medicaid program, which could save the state \$53 million over the next year.

For more information on the Connecticut Pre-Existing Condition Insurance Plan, and to download an application, go to <a href="www.ctpreexistingconditionplan.com">www.ctpreexistingconditionplan.com</a>. On-line information is also available at <a href="www.ct.gov/dss">www.ct.gov/dss</a>, and check News.

For applications and more information on Charter Oak, see: <a href="www.charteroakhealthplan.com">www.charteroakhealthplan.com</a> or call (877) 77CTOAK.