

NCDOI Approves Rates for Blue Cross Re-enrollment Plans

Insurance Commissioner Wayne Goodwin announced that the North Carolina Department of Insurance (NCDOI) has approved rates that allow Blue Cross and Blue Shield of North Carolina to offer policyholders a chance to re-enroll for another year in individual health plans that were facing cancellation. After an expedited rate review, NCDOI approved the rate changes as filed by BCBSNC on Nov. 19. Effective Jan. 1, 2014, there will be rate increases of 16.4 percent for Blue Advantage plans, an average 22 percent for Blue Value plans and 23.6 percent for Blue Saver and Blue Options HSA plans.

The filing was a result of a federal transitional policy that allows insurers to offer policyholders whose health insurance coverage would otherwise be terminated the opportunity to keep their current plan for another year.

NCDOI is placing priority on this type of filing in order to help provide more health insurance options to North Carolinians in 2014. Goodwin ordered an expedited review process due to concerns that people may experience a gap in coverage if their current plan is terminated and they are not able to purchase coverage through the troubled federal health exchange in a timely manner. In the expedited review process, NCDOI focuses on identifying potential errors in the filing and analyzes financial trend and claims experience.

Goodwin recommends that North Carolinians take the time to shop around and compare the costs and benefits of all health insurance plans available. People can compare coverage and find out if they are eligible for federal subsidies on the federal exchange website www.healthcare.gov. Those who are not eligible for a subsidy can purchase coverage through the federal exchange or from insurance companies offering coverage outside the exchange.

Thanksgiving "Click It or Ticket" Campaign Yields 3,666 Violations

The N.C. Department of Transportation and the Governor's Highway Safety Program announced today that 3,666 drivers and passengers were cited for seat belt and child passenger safety violations during the Thanksgiving "Click It or Ticket" campaign held Nov. 25 through Dec. 1. "North Carolina has made tremendous strides in the past 20 years when it comes to seat belt usage," said Don Nail, director of GHSP. "However, as long as law enforcement officers are issuing seat belt citations, we have work to do."

To catch those who drove without buckling up, state and local law enforcement officers manned more than 6,200 checkpoints and stepped-up patrols. The combination of stepped-up enforcement, education and public awareness campaigns is proving effective. The seat belt usage rate in North Carolina is currently 88.6 percent, up from 87.5 percent in 2012.

In addition to cracking down on unrestrained drivers and passengers, officers across the state included 901 motorists with driving while impaired. Officers also issued 5,007 criminal violations, including 981 motorist charges. They recovered 51 stolen vehicles and captured 775 fugitives.

In Anson County the campaign totals for Nov. 25-Dec. 1 are: Checkpoints 1; Number of Saturation Patrol 11; Number of Checkpoints and Patrols 12; Under 21 years old DWI 1; 21 and Over DWI Charges 7; Safety 6; Speeding 12; Child Passenger Safety 11; Felony Arrests 1; Other Criminal Violations 6; Speeding 92; Driving with License Revoked 12; Other Traffic Violations Not Listed 127; Uninsured Motorists 15; and Reckless Driving 5. Total Traffic & Criminal Violations 302.

The Wadesboro Town Hall will be closed on Tuesday, December 24, Wednesday, December 25 and Thursday 26 due to the Christmas holidays. There will be no garbage pickup on those days. Normal routes will resume on Friday, December 27.

Sp Spring 2014 Registration

Come to campus to enroll in classes.
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Town of Polkton PART-TIME POLICE OFFICER OPENING

The Town of Polkton, North Carolina is accepting applications for a Part-Time Police Officer. Must be North Carolina Basic Law Enforcement Training certified and have worked in Law Enforcement for (2) two years consecutively.

NO PHONE CALLS PLEASE

This position is a patrol position wherein typical police patrol duties will be assigned. The ideal candidate will have experience in sworn law enforcement in a rural setting and, as an officer in Polkton, will handle cases from start to finish (with assistance from supervision and outside agencies as appropriate). The part-time position will be required to work a minimum of (20) twenty hours per week but not to exceed (1,000) one-thousand hours in a year.

The Polkton Police Department will not offer employment or respond to candidates who are not legally employable as a police officer, or persons not legally permitted to possess and carry a firearm, etc.

The application process will remain open until filled or January 14, 2014, whichever comes last. Resumes received prior to January 1, 2013 will not be considered for employment. Please mail or bring application, resume, and F3 to:

Chief Matthew L. Norris
Polkton Police Department
PO Box 99
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