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Nearly 76-thousand Kansans Sign Up for Federal Health Plan

TOPEKA, Kan. (AP) - A federal report says about 75,900 Kansans either signed up or automatically re-enrolled in a health care plan through the Affordable Care Act's Health Insurance Marketplace.

The U.S. Department of Health and Human Services says those who signed up by Thursday will receive their coverage starting Feb. 1. The final open enrollment deadline for this year is Feb. 15.

Last year, 57,000 Kansans signed up during the full enrollment period, when the website offering the health plan was not working correctly. Others say this year's higher enrollment might be because of increased understanding of the program and higher penalties for those who don't sign up by Feb. 15.