

Deadline to buy health insurance through Healthcare.gov is hours away

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Deadline to buy health insurance through Healthcare.gov is hours away



(KUTV) If you want to purchase health insurance through the federal government's exchange at healthcare.gov, and you want coverage on Jan. 1, 2016, you must enroll by the end of Thursday night, Dec. 17. The final deadline to avoid penalties is Jan. 31.

Anyone who is not insured by Jan. 31 will be fined when they file a tax return. The penalty is \$695 per adult -- half that cost per child -- or 2.5 percent of one's income, whichever is higher.

Already, more than 80,000 Utahns have purchased coverage through the government's website, according to Randal Serr, director of Take Care Utah.

Serr said TakeCareUtah.org was created to help people navigate the federal website to find a health plan. "People are scared of the process because health insurance is intimidating to figure out on your own," he said.

People who want to ask questions over the phone or need help in a language other than English can call 2-1-1 for help.

