



Montana Department of Public Health and Human Services

Big Sky Rx

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March 23, 2006 Big Sky Rx Program Update

3344	Entered applications
1670	Enrolled into the Big Sky Rx (eligible for March premium payment)
491	Ineligible for the Big Sky Rx
9	Dis-enrolled from Big Sky Rx
217	Pending Applications (Missing application demographic information, income, PDP and possibly LIS information. We cannot determine if they are qualified for the program until we have received completed income information.)
957	Qualified (Passed the income and MT resident requirements, but we still need PDP and/or LIS information.)

For March, we are averaging about 22 new applications per day with an additional 20 cases where we receive updated information on open cases.

We have started a media campaign for the Big Sky Rx program that includes advertising on the television, radio and newspapers. The campaign started on March 19th and will run for a total of 6 weeks. We waited until this time in hopes that the majority of the negative press about the Medicare Prescription drug coverage would be over. Also, the open enrollment period ends on May 15th and we are anticipating that people will be signing up for the pharmacy coverage to avoid the penalty and ensure they have pharmacy coverage before January 2007.

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If you have any questions, please contact Duane Preshinger, Acute Services Bureau Chief at (406) 444-4144.