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Free workshop on health care reform law Wednesday

The anniversary of the health care reform law is this week. And to mark the occasion, there will be a free workshop on the particulars sponsored by Baltimore City Community College and Baltimore HealthCare Access Inc., the quasi-public city agency that helps hook low-income residents up with programs.

The event will be held from 12 p.m.-4 p.m. Wednesday at the college's Liberty Campus Physical Education Center, 2901 Liberty Heights Ave. There will be information on consumer protections and coverage options, as well as free screenings for blood pressure and diabetes, among others.

There will be information specifically for the uninsured, seniors, young adults and those in need of behavioral services.

On hand will be Rep. Elijah Cummings and Dr. Joshua Sharfstein, Maryland Secretary of Health and Mental Hygiene.

"As the new provisions of the Affordable Care Act roll out, many of Baltimore's 96,000 uninsured will have the opportunity to obtain health care coverage and everyone benefits from the new consumer protections," said Baltimore HealthCare Access President Kathleen Westcoat, in a statement. "But we also know that, particularly in this economy, people need help now so we are pleased to be able to offer some relief."

She said many of Baltimore's uninsured may be eligible for health coverage through a Maryland Medical Care program and that onsite enrollment will be provided

There will be free parking on the campus with shuttle bus service to and from the Bon Secours overflow parking lot at 2600 Liberty Heights Ave. A free shuttle will also be available to all seniors through senior services centers in the city. Call Action in Maturity (AIM) at 410-889-7915 for more information on that.

For more information, contact Baltimore HealthCare Access at 410-649-0500.

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