

PRESS RELEASE

For Immediate Release
April 1, 2008

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AccessWV Announces Referral Fee for Producers

CHARLESTON, WV – West Virginia Insurance Commissioner, Jane L. Cline, announced today, AccessWV, the State's high risk health insurance pool, will now pay a one-time referral fee of \$50 to an individual health insurance producer who assists an applicant in completing and submitting an AccessWV application, if the applicant is accepted for coverage. Any producer with a current WV license with authority for "Accident and Sickness" may earn a referral fee.

Offered by the State of West Virginia, AccessWV guarantees that all West Virginia residents who qualify can purchase health insurance through the Plan, regardless of their current and past health circumstances. AccessWV enrolls more than 500 West Virginians who have had difficulty obtaining insurance in the private individual market.

Commissioner Cline stated, "The decision to offer a referral fee was made by the AccessWV Board of Directors in the hope that formally involving insurance producers in the application process will increase the number of eligible persons served by the Plan. The Board is grateful to the many West Virginia health insurance producers who have been informing their clients about the program."

In addition to covering individuals who are eligible based on medical status, AccessWV serves as an option for persons with portability rights under the federal Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPPA) and as a qualified health plan for the federal Health Coverage Tax Credit (HCTC) program.

To be eligible for the referral fee, the application must be complete and approved for coverage in AccessWV. For detailed information, visit www.accesswv.org and click under "**Agent Information**". Interested producers may also call 1-866-445-8491 (toll-free) for more information.