

Resources for Medicare Beneficiaries, Families and Caregivers

"New to Medicare Class" offered the first Wednesday of each month from 2:00 - 4:00 pm at Pima Council on Aging
Call 546-2011 for a reservation

WEBSITES:

www.medicare.gov
for online information for Pima County Health Plans, Compare Medicare Prescription Drug Plans, and the Rx formulary finder

www.id.state.az.us
for online information for approved companies selling Medigap and Long-Term Care Insurance

www.ahcccs.gov
for online AHCCCS applications

www.va.gov
for online enrollment priority groups, financial income thresholds for VA health care benefits

www.tricare.mil/tflcostmatrix
for online TRICARE for Life information

Group Presentations Available

Counselors also conduct public presentations on:

- Medicare benefits
- Medicare Prescription Drug choices
- Medicare supplemental insurance
- Medicare Advantage (Medicare Replacement) options
- Medicare/Medicaid fraud, waste and abuse
- What to look for when purchasing Long-Term Care Insurance
- And other issues of importance to beneficiaries, to families and to caregivers.

Phone: (520) 546-2011

Medicare and You!

With more Medicare choices than ever, it is important that each beneficiary look at their coverage each year.

Plan costs and benefits change, and so can your health. The coverage that worked for you this year might still meet your needs next year. Or, there might be a better option.

Pima Council on Aging's SHIP Program can provide you with up-to-date information, tips on what to consider when comparing plans, and resources where you can get detailed information and personalized help.



PCOA Medicare/Health Insurance Assistance Program (SHIP)

A Program of Pima Council on Aging, Inc.
Area Agency on Aging, Region II
(Pima County)

8467 E. Broadway Blvd.

Tucson, AZ 85710-4009

Medicare Line: (520) 546-2011

Online: www.pcoa.org

E-Mail: help@pcoa.org

Pima Council on Aging receives SHIP funding from the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) and the Arizona Administration on Aging.



08/2008

SHIP

State Health Insurance Assistance Program

A counseling service for Medicare beneficiaries and their caregivers



The State Health Insurance Assistance Program

What is SHIP?

The Arizona State Health Insurance Assistance Program (SHIP) is a health-benefits counseling service for Medicare beneficiaries and their families or caregivers. Our mission is to educate, to advocate, to counsel and to empower people to make informed benefit decisions.

SHIP is an independent program funded by federal agencies and is not affiliated with the insurance industry.

This program is a partnership of the Arizona Department of Economic Security Aging and Adult Administration and Pima Council on Aging.

Who Are the SHIP Counselors?

SHIP Counselors are specialists trained in Medicare law and regulations, health insurance counseling and relevant insurance products.

Counselor volunteers complete 24 hours of initial training, 16 hours of mentoring, and 10 hours of in-service annually.

SHIP Counselors are not connected with any insurance company, nor are they licensed to sell insurance. Their purpose is to serve beneficiaries objectively and confidentially.



**Local Help for
Local People with Medicare**

How Can the SHIP Help Me?

When you contact the Insurance Counseling office at Pima Council on Aging, the insurance counselor can help you with:

- Medicare eligibility and Medicare benefits
- Medigap insurance choices to supplement your Medicare coverage including Medicare Select plans
- Medicare Advantage Plan options (Medicare Replacement Plans) and enrollment: including HMO's (Managed Care), PPO's (Preferred Provider Organizations), POS (Point of Service) and PFFS (Private Fee for Service)
- Medicare and other health benefits: how Medicare works with other types of insurance such as employer plans

- Medicare Prescription Drug Plan options and enrollment
- Medicare/Medicaid/AHCCCS Arizona Health Care Cost Containment System Application
- Medicare Cost Sharing Programs: (QMB) Qualified Medicare Beneficiary (SLMB) Specified Low-Income Beneficiary (QI-1) Qualified Individual -1
- Long-Term Care Insurance Information
- Medicare fraud, waste and abuse
- Other types of health insurance benefits



How Do I Contact SHIP?

To receive assistance with your Medicare issues, call the Medicare/Health Insurance Assistance Program at:

(520) 546-2011

or visit us online at

www.pcoa.org