



Medicare Open Enrollment Time

Medicare's annual open enrollment period begins October 15 and runs through December 7, 2020. It is an opportunity to review and choose the plan that best suits your health care needs.

By way of background, Medicare health and drug plans can make changes to costs, coverage, and providers and pharmacies in their networks each year. Beginning October 15 to December 7 is the period when all individuals with Medicare can change their Medicare health plans and prescription drug coverage for the following year.

Revisiting your current Medicare enrollment options each year is a good idea to see whether you would be better off in another plan. There may be changes in your health conditions or the physicians you are seeing. Also, plan costs change, as do reimbursements for different medications that you may be using, so there may be other policies that would be more cost-effective for you.

Washington State's **SHIBA** (State Health Insurance Benefits Advisors) provides free, unbiased and confidential help to determine the best Medicare insurance option for you. These Volunteer Advisors, located around the state, can help you assess health care coverage needs, determine general eligibility for health care coverage programs, evaluate and compare health insurance plans and programs, and also provide enrollment help with Medicare.

To schedule a **free** appointment with a **SHIBA** volunteer, you can contact one of the following:

Officer of the Insurance Commissioners **SHIBA** Volunteer Consultations
1-800-562-6900

King County **SHIBA** Volunteer Consultations
1-206-727-6221 (Leave a message regarding the type of assistance needed and a **SHIBA** volunteer will get back to you.)

Snohomish County **SHIBA** Volunteer Consultations
1-425-290-1276 (Leave a message regarding the type of assistance needed and a **SHIBA** volunteer will get back to you.)