



Get ready for

Medicare Open Enrollment



We have resources for you!

Medicare Open Enrollment is October 15 - December 7.
Get your free toolkit early so you're ready!

1

Go to our website.

Place an order for
your free toolkit.

**Here's how to
get started!**



Here's where to order your packet:

www.insurance.wa.gov/about-us/current-initiatives



2

Let us know where to send it.

On the website, we just need your shipping
info such as name, address, and zip.

3

Unpack your Toolkit and get started!

It usually takes a week or so to receive it in the mail.

But, after that get started planning for
Open Enrollment!

Medicare's annual open enrollment period starts Oct. 15

For the more than 1.3 million Medicare beneficiaries in Washington state, this is an important time of year. Medicare's Open Enrollment Period – also called the Annual Election Period – runs each year from Oct. 15 to Dec. 7. During this time, those on Medicare:

- Can switch from Original Medicare to a Medicare Advantage plan – and vice versa.
- With Original Medicare can join, drop or switch a Part D prescription drug plan.
- With a Medicare Advantage plan can switch to a different Medicare Advantage plan.

The Statewide Health Insurance Benefits Advisors (SHIBA) program – part of the Office of the Insurance Commissioner - is ready to help with all of these decisions.

Medicare is not a one-size fits all program. Each person's needs, situation and benefits are different – and that includes spouses who may have their own unique Medicare plan. So before you make a final decision, consider these tips:

- Plan costs and coverage can change every year, so review and keep all letters and notices your current plan sends you.
- List all of the current prescription drugs you take, the doses, and how often. Then, use the Plan Finder at www.medicare.gov to compare Part D plans.
- Review the Medicare & You hand book. You should receive it by mid-October.
- If you have questions, call SHIBA at 1-800-562-6900 before you sign up.
- Attend a SHIBA workshop (check out our online events calendar at www.insurance.wa.gov/shiba).



Need help with Medicare?

The Statewide Health Insurance Benefits Advisors (SHIBA) program – part of the Office of the Insurance Commissioner - is ready to help with all of these decisions.

- Call our Insurance Consumer Hotline at 1-800-562-6900 and ask to speak with a SHIBA volunteer in your local area.
- Call your local SHIBA office at: 509-625-4801.