

Medicare Grants 2024 Session 2 Initial Counselor Training Medicare Grants Coordinator AGENDA



9:00 **WELCOME** - Sign In, Agenda Review, Introductions SHICK Basics, MIPPA Information, SMP Information Privacy Practices and Confidentiality Rights & Appeals Medicare & the Marketplace

LUNCH? (1 hour please)

Medicare Plan Finder website – <u>www.medicare.gov</u>
STARS reporting website
SHIP TA Center resources
Test
Closing – Resource Information, Next Steps, Questions?

3:00 Thank you for your attention and time today!!

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Medicare Grants Training Program 2024 Initial Training Session 2 – Program Basics

Medicare Grants Coordinator



Welcome Back

- Welcome to 2024 SHICK/SMP/MIPPA Counselor Training Session 2
- · Begin at 9:00 a.m.
- · Agenda Review
- Required paperwork
- You will need to successfully complete the final test through the SHIP TA Center to receive credit and certify



Medicare Grants

- KDADS has three Medicare Grant programs awarded through the HHS Administration for Community Living (ACL)
 - Senior Health Insurance Counseling for Kansas (SHICK) State Health Insurance Assistance Program (SHIP) for Kansas
 - Senior Medicare Patrol (SMP)
 - · Medicare Improvements for Patients and Providers Act (MIPPA)



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State Health Insurance Assistance Program (SHIP)

- The State Health Insurance Assistance Program, or SHIP, is a national program
 that offers one-on-one counseling and assistance to people with Medicare and their
 families.
- They were created to provide personalized counseling and assistance to Medicare beneficiaries and their caregivers who need help navigating the increasingly complex health care system.
- SHIPs provide accurate, understandable, and objective information, counseling and assistance to Medicare beneficiaries on a wide range of health insurance issues including Medicare, Medicaid, long-term care, and prescription drugs







Senior Health Insurance Counseling for Kansas – SHICK

- The SHIP in Kansas is called the Senior Health Insurance Counseling for Kansas program (SHICK)
 - part of the Kansas Department for Aging and Disability Services (KDADS).
- SHICK Mission Statement
 - SHICK educates the public and assists consumers on topics related to Medicare and health insurance so they can make informed decisions.
- SHICK's mission is accomplished by
 - · Information and Education
 - · One-on-One Counseling



The SMP mission is...



to empower and assist Medicare beneficiaries, their families, and caregivers

to protect, detect, and report health care fraud, errors, and abuse through outreach, counseling, and education.









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Medicare Fraud, Errors, and Abuse Affect...

Everyone

- · Billions of taxpayer dollars lost to improper claims
- · Medicare trust fund at risk

Medicare Beneficiaries

- · Higher premiums
- · Less money for needed benefits
- · Quality of treatment





What is Medicare Fraud?

<u>Intentionally</u> billing Medicare for services that were not received or billing for a service at a higher rate than is actually justified





What is Medicare Abuse?

Providers supply services or products that are not medically necessary or that do not meet professional standards





Examples of Fraud & Abuse

Billing for services, supplies, or equipment that were not provided

Billing for excessive medical supplies

Obtaining or giving a Medicare number for "free" services

Improper coding to obtain a higher payment

Unneeded or excessive x-rays and lab tests

Claims for services that are not medically necessary

Using another person's Medicare number, or letting someone else use your number



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What about Errors?

- Health care services and billing are complicated, which can lead to errors.
- Only a review and investigation of the issue will determine if it is an error, fraud, or abuse.





Step 1: Protect Yourself and Others from Medicare Fraud

DO

- Do treat your Medicare card and number like your credit card.
- Do watch out for identity theft.
- Do be aware that Medicare doesn't call or visit to sell you anything.
- Do be cautious of offers for "free" medical services.
- Do pass it on!

DON'T

- Don't give out your Medicare number except to your doctor or other Medicare provider.
- Don't carry your Medicare card unless you will need it.





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Step 2: Detect Medicare Fraud & Abuse

Review Medicare Summary Notices (MSNs) and other statements for:

- 1. Services you didn't receive
- 2. Double billing
- 3. Services not ordered by your doctor

Access your Medicare information online at www.Medicare.gov.









Step 3: Report Suspected Medicare Fraud and Abuse

- Call the provider.
- · Gather information and documentation.
- Contact your SMP.
 - > This is a free and confidential service!





Kansas Senior Medicare Patrol Contact Information

Visit us online: http://www.kdads.ks.gov/commissions/commission-on-aging/medicare-programs/kansas-senior-medicare-patrol

For more information

Call Toll-free: 800-432-3535

- · For training, speakers, and/or materials
- · To volunteer with the SMP program
- Call OIG direct at 1-800-HHS-TIPS (1-800-447-8477)
 - · To report suspected fraud/abuse



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Medicare Improvements for Patients and Providers Act (MIPPA)

- MIPPA Under the Medicare Improvements for Patients and Providers Act of 2008 (MIPPA), states, territories, and the District of Columbia received funding to help Medicare beneficiaries apply for the Medicare Part D Extra Help/Low-Income Subsidy (LIS) and the Medicare Savings Programs (MSPs).
- MIPPA provides targeted funding for SHIPs, AAAs, and ADRCs to:
 - Conduct outreach and enrollment of low-income Medicare beneficiaries into Part D Low Income Subsidy (LIS/Extra Help) and the Medicare Savings Programs (MSPs).
 - Promote utilization of free preventive services offered under Medicare since the passage of the Affordable Care Act (ACA) in 2010.



MIPPA Reminders

- More information: https://www.ncoa.org/professionals/benefits/center-for-benefits-access/mippa-resource-center
- Make sure all beneficiaries seen by SHICK are screened for Extra Help and MSP.
- During a comprehensive counseling appointment be certain to hand out information about Medicare Preventive Services.
 - Talk to the beneficiary about http://www.medicare.gov/
- Make sure you are recording your contacts including low-income Medicare beneficiaries







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Protecting Beneficiary Confidentiality and Privacy

- As a SHICK counselor, you will have access to beneficiaries' health information as well as personal identifying information like Medicare numbers and Social Security Numbers.
- You must handle this information carefully and keep it confidential to protect beneficiaries from fraud, identity theft, health-based discrimination, and other potential problems.



Privacy Practices and Conflict of Interest

What is "confidentiality?"



- Confide: to trust in someone when sharing private matters
- Confidentiality: those entrusted with private or secret matters will keep information to themselves



Privacy Practices and Conflict of Interes

Importance of Confidentiality

It frees clients to share personal information that counselors need to do their work.

It demonstrates respect



It builds the program's reputation as a trusted, reliable resource.

It helps prevent costly privacy and security breaches.



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Rules Affecting Confidentiality













Privacy Practices and Conflict of Interest

Two Parts of HIPAA: The Privacy Rule

- Privacy rule defines protected health information (PHI)
 - Individually identifiable information held or transmitted by covered entity or business associate, in any form or media (electronic, paper, or oral)
 - · Relates to health condition and providing health care
 - · Identifies individual or give reasonable basis to use in identifying individual
 - · Medical bill is PHI because it contains individual name and their health data
- · Privacy rule defines covered entities
 - Organizations and individuals subject to the rule, including health insurance plans, health care providers, health care clearinghouses and business associates
- Privacy rule establishes health care provider may disclose personal health information for a good use without getting authorization from the patient (known as permitted uses)



Privacy Practices and Conflict of Interest

Two Parts of HIPAA: The Security Rule

- Security rule addresses safeguards for electronic PHI or (e-PHI)
 - Protected health information that is produced, saved, transferred, or received in electronic form
- Security rule places requirements on covered entities to ensure confidentiality and integrity of all e-PHI
- Covered entities expected to identify and protect against anticipated security threats
- US Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) Office of Civil Rights (OCR) oversees and enforces HIPAA compliance
- Report suspected violations to OCR at www.hhs.gov/OCR



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HIPAA's Privacy Rule

- Protects all individually identifiable health information held or transmitted by a covered entity
- Most SHIPs are not covered entities, but privacy rule provides guidance for best practices
- · Privacy rule applies to:
 - · Conversations that a person might have about a patient or client
 - · Things that could be overheard
 - · Paper left on a desk or copy machine that includes PHI
- Goal of privacy rule is to assure that individuals and health information are properly protected while allowing the flow of health information needed to provide and promote high quality health



Privacy Practices and Conflict of Interest

Required Disclosures

- · Covered entities may not use or disclose PHI except:
 - · as the privacy rule permits
 - · Or, as the individual or the representative authorizes in writing
- Privacy rule requires covered entities to disclose PHI in two situations:
 - · To individuals (or their personal representatives) when they request access to their PHI
 - · To HHS when it undertakes compliance or enforcement action



Privacy Practices and Conflict of Interes

Permitted Disclosures

- · Covered entities can disclose information:
 - · To the individual when necessary
 - · For purpose of treatment, payment, and health care operations
 - When individual would have had the opportunity to agree or object to the disclosure if not incapacitated
 - · When it is incident to otherwise permitted use or disclosure or to law enforcement
 - · For public interest and benefit activities, such during public health emergency
 - · For research in public health and operations using limited data set



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Privacy Rule Protections

An individual has rights under the Privacy Rule to:

- Receive notice about provider's privacy practices
- · Review and obtain copy of PHI in a covered entity's designated record set
- · Ask covered entity to amend their PHI when it is incomplete or inaccurate
- · Request covered entity restrict personal health information disclosure
- · Request list of times when covered entity has shared their PHI
- · Request alternate means or location for receiving communications of PHI



Privacy Practices and Conflict of Interes

HIPAA's Security Rule

Goal of security rule: Protect privacy of individual's health information and allow covered entities to adopt new technologies to improve quality and efficiency of patient care.

Security rule applies to electronic information that is:

- Transmitted over the Internet (e.g., email)
- · Stored on computer, CD, USB drive, magnetic tape, or other related means.
- Stored on personal devices like cell phones

The Security Rule does not apply to PHI that is transmitted or stored on paper or provided orally



Privacy Practices and Conflict of Interes

Security Rule Safeguards

Covered entities must take steps to protect PHI against anticipated threats and impermissible disclosures

- · Conduct risk analysis to identify and address system weaknesses
- Implement administrative safeguards such as hiring or consulting with security professionals
- Build physical safeguards such as requiring staff to turn off computers at the end of the day
- · Install technical safeguards that encrypt information
- · Document policies and procedures



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HIPAA: SHIP & SMP Operations

- · SHIPs and SMPs are not covered entities, but people who sponsor them could be
 - Example: Area agency on aging may be covered entity if it provides health care services and maintains
 patient records or contracts with organizations that provide those kinds of services
- HIPAA may affect SHIP and SMP access to information, as covered entities can't disclose individual's PHI without written or oral consent
 - · SHIPs and SMPS may address this by using consent forms or doing 3-way calls with client and provider
- Customer service representatives at 1-800-MEDICARE cannot disclose client's PHI with third parties, so using the CMS Unique ID is necessary



Privacy Practices and Conflict of Interest

State Law

- State laws related to privacy protection laws:
 - · Apply to individuals and organizations, including nonprofit organizations
 - · Define personal protected information (PPI)
 - · Create process for notifying people affected by security or data breach
 - · Some establish statutory duty to protect personal information
 - · Some set fines for breaches



Privacy Practices and Conflict of Interes

Personal Protected Information (PPI)

- PPI has a different definition from PHI that is subject to HIPAA rules
- PPI = Beneficiary's first name and last name (or first initial and last name) plus any of the following:
 - Social Security number
 - · Driver's license number or state-issued identification number
 - Financial account number, credit card or debit card number with or without any required access or password that would permit access to a resident's financial account



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PPI = PII + PHI

Personal protected information includes personally identifiable information and protected health information

Personally Identifiable Information (PII)

- Information which can be used to trace an individual's identity when combined with other personal information
- Examples: Person's name, social security number, or biometric records + personal information like date or place of birth, mother's maiden name

Protected Health Information (PHI)

- Information that is already explicitly linked to particular individual and includes health information which can allow individual identification.
- Examples: name, address, Social Security Number when associated with health information

Check with your supervisor to learn about your organization's protocols for entering personal information into your electronic systems.



Privacy Practices and Conflict of Interest

Security breach

Security breaches occur when unauthorized persons gain access to PPI/PHI by:

- · Stealing computers and/or computer files
- · Overhearing conversations about clients
- · Dumpster diving for medical and payment records
- Reading documents left on unattended desks or copy machines
- · Extracting data from the hard drives of discarded copy machines
- Any other means, such as hacking
- Unlike HIPAA, security breach under state law does not need to involve electronic records



Privacy Practices and Conflict of Interest

VRPM Confidentiality Policy

What is the policy for protecting client confidentiality?

SHIP & SMP volunteers are responsible for maintaining the confidentiality of all proprietary or privileged information to which they are exposed while serving as a volunteer, whether this information involves a member of staff, a volunteer, a beneficiary or other person, or involves the overall business of the SHIP.



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VRPM Policies and SHIP/SMP operations

How does VRPM affect SHIP & SMP operations?

- Volunteers are to be trained on confidentiality before they get a CMS Unique ID
- · Volunteers are to sign a written confidentiality agreement
- The agreement informs volunteers that a confidentiality breach is grounds for immediate dismissal
- Participation in SHIP & SMP is conditioned on full compliance with the agreement.



Privacy Practices and Conflict of Interest

and Disability Services

Confidentiality Best Practices

- · Use private spaces in meetings with clients
- · Use computer screen covers to block information from unauthorized viewers
- · Store documents and locked offices or filing cabinets
- · Shred documents when they were no longer needed
- Discuss cases in private
- · Collect the minimum amount of information from the client
- · Share minimum information related to a case as needed to assist train or report
- · Return original documents and only make copies when needed



Privacy Practices and Conflict of Interest

VRPM IT Policies

Volunteers are to comply with Information Technology (IT) procedures or protocols for:

- · Controlling access to and use of beneficiary information
- Safe operation of computers used to collect and store program and beneficiary information
- Using the Internet, including e-mail use and appropriate access to web sites.
- Using wireless devices to connect to the Internet while performing SHIP or SMP work
- Using personal computers while performing SHIP or SMP work.



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VRPM IT Policy Best Practices

Do's

- ✓ Store PPI in password-protected file on password-protected computer that only authorized users can access
- ✓ Encrypt or password-protect PPI before sending in email
- ✓ Report lost or stolen client information to supervisor
- ✓ Lock computer when you step away
- ✓ Clear web browser history
- ✓ Use strong passwords
- ✓ Lock up portable devices, laptops and cellphones

Don'ts

- ☑ Do not send work-related information to your personal email account
- ☑ Do not forward emails containing PPI unless properly encrypted
- ☑ Do not upload PPI to unauthorized websites
- ∑ Do not use unauthorized mobile devices to access PPI



Privacy Practices and Conflict of Interest

Strong Passwords

- Include a random combination of 8 or more numbers, symbols, capital and lower-case letters
 - Secure password generators and reputable password managers can help you keep track of strong passwords
 - · Passphrases are also an option.
 - . For example the phrase I like to sing and take long walks could be 1L2\$&tLW

DO NOT:

- create passwords that are easy to remember
- · use obvious passwords, like name of your favorite sports team
- · Make passwords that someone can guess using information on social media
- Write down password where someone can easily find it, like a sticky note on monitor



Privacy Practices and Conflict of Interest

Wi-Fi Networks



- Always use secured networks and look for HTTPS in URL's
- Someone can access information more easily when you use unsecured Wi-Fi at places like coffee shops or airports
- Do not transmit or access PPI when using unsecured Wi-Fi network



Conflict of Interest

No person who has a conflict of interest in connection with the work they will do for SHICK/SMP, whether personal, philosophical, or financial may serve as a volunteer. Volunteers do not promote any personal or business interest while undertaking their SHICK/SMP assignment.

SHICK/SMP volunteers sign a conflict-of-interest statement as part of the application and screening process and agree to immediately notify their local SHICK/SMP Coordinator if any potential conflict arises during performance of their duties.

All possible conflicts of interest are immediately reported by SHICK/SMP Coordinator to the KDADS Medicare Grants Team.



The Memorandum of Understanding

The Memorandum of Understanding(MOU) acknowledges a volunteer's awareness of program policies. This agreement is signed annually. Compliance with all program volunteer policies is a minimal expectation of SHICK/SMP volunteers. Sub-Grantees and their volunteers exist as a team in which each of the partners brings resources to their mutual effort and each of whom possesses rights and interests that deserve protection. Volunteers have an obligation to read, understand, and implement the requirements set out in policies for the volunteers and to stay current with any updates to the policies.



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Guaranteed Rights

- No matter how you get your Medicare, you have certain rights and protections.
- These rights are guaranteed. They protect you when
 - · You get healthcare
 - Make sure you get the medically necessary health care services that the law says you can get
 - · Protect you against unethical practices
 - · Protect your privacy



Medicare Rights for Everyone with Medicare— Protection from Unfair Treatment and Discrimination

You have the right to be:

- Treated with dignity and respect at all times
- Protected from discrimination

NOTE: The Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) doesn't exclude, deny benefits to, or otherwise discriminate against any person on the basis of race, color, national origin, disability, sex, or age.

If you think you haven't been treated fairly:

- Call the Office for Civil Rights (OCR) at 1-800-368-1019; TTY: 1-800-537-7697
- Visit <a href="https://https://https://html.ncbi.nlm.
- Contact the Medicare Beneficiary Ombudsman at 1-800-MEDICARE (1-800-633-4227); TTY: 1-877-486-2048



Medicare Rights for Everyone with Medicare—Information

- All people with Medicare have a right to:
 - · Have personal health information kept private
 - · Get information in a way you understand from
 - · Medicare
 - · Health care providers
 - · Medicare Contractors
 - · Get information to help you make decisions
 - · What is covered
 - · What Medicare pays
 - · How much you have to pay
 - · What to do to file a complaint or an appeal



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Medicare Rights for Everyone with Medicare—Access to Care

You have the right to:

- · Have access to doctors, specialists, and hospitals
- Learn about your treatment choices in clear language, and participate in treatment decisions
- · Get health care services in a language you understand and in a culturally sensitive way
- · Get Medicare-covered services in an emergency, when and where you need it
 - If your health is in danger due to a bad injury, sudden illness, or an illness gets worse and emergency help is needed, call 911
 - Medicare Advantage Plans, other Medicare health plans, and Medicare drug plans (known as PDPs)
 will cover emergency services without prior authorization



Medicare Rights for Everyone with Medicare—Grievances

- · You have the right to file complaints (also called grievances) about:
 - · A doctor, hospital, or provider
 - · Your health or drug plan
 - · The quality of your care
 - · Your dialysis or kidney transplant care
 - · Durable medical equipment
- · If you're concerned about the quality of care you're getting:
 - In Original Medicare, call the Beneficiary and Family Centered Care Quality Improvement Organization (BFCC-QIO) in your region
 - BFCC-QIO for Kansas, Livanta, Helpline: (888) 755 5580
 - In a Medicare Advantage Plan or other Medicare health plan, or Medicare drug plan, call the BFCC-QIO, your plan, or both
 - · If you have End-Stage Renal Disease (ESRD), call the ESRD network in your state



Your Rights in a Medicare Advantage Plan or Other Medicare Health Plan

You have the right to:

- Choose health care providers within the plan
- Get a treatment plan from your doctor
- Know how your doctors are paid
- Get a coverage decision or coverage information from your plan before getting services
- Request an appeal to resolve differences with your plan
- File a grievance about concerns or problems



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Your Rights with Medicare Drug Coverage

You have the right to:

- Request a coverage determination or appeal to resolve differences with your plan
- File a complaint (called a "grievance") with the plan
- Have the privacy of your health and drug information protected



Medicare Rights - Claims and Appeals

- · Have a claim for payment filed with Medicare
- · Get decisions about
 - · Health care payment
 - · Coverage of services
 - · Prescription drug coverage
- · Get an appeal (review) of the decisions above



Your Coverage and Appeal Rights

- When a claim is filed, you get a notice from Medicare letting you know what will and won't be covered.
- The coverage may be different from what your doctor says.
- If you disagree with Medicare's decision on your claim, you have the right to appeal
- Appeal if you disagree with a decision about your health care payment, coverage of services, and prescription drug coverage.
- Instructions on how to start the appeal process are included on the Medicare Summary Notice



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Rights in Original Medicare

- Your rights when you are enrolled in Original Medicare include the following
 - The right to see any participating doctor or specialist
 - · Including women's health specialists
 - To go to any Medicare-certified hospital
 - Get certain information such as notices, and appeal rights that help you resolve issues when Medicare isn't expected to pay or doesn't pay for health care



How to Appeal in Original Medicare

- · "Medicare Summary Notice" (MSN) will tell you
 - · Why Medicare didn't pay
 - How to appeal
 - · Where to file your appeal
 - · How long you have to appeal
- Every three months
- Collect information that may help your case
- Keep a copy of everything you send to Medicare



Protection from Unexpected Bills

- Medicare Advance Beneficiary Notice of Non-Coverage or ABN
 - Given by a health care provider or supplier
 - · Says Medicare probably won't pay for an item or service
 - · Used only in Original Medicare
 - · Not required for items or services excluded under law
 - · Will ask you to choose whether to get service
 - · Will ask you to confirm you read/understood notice
- · More than one kind of ABN



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Medicare & the Marketplace



If you have Medicare:

It's against the law for someone to sell you a Marketplace plan



You may have a Marketplace plan through your employer, sold through the Small Business Health Options Program (SHOP) if you're an active worker or a dependent of one

NOTE: SHOP plans are available through issuers, agents, and brokers, not through HealthCare.gov.



Marketplace & Becoming Eligible for Medicare



<u>HealthCare.gov</u> to connect to the Marketplace in your state.



Once you're eligible for Medicare Part A (Hospital Insurance)

You won't be eligible for premium tax credits or other cost savings you may be getting for your Marketplace plan



Sign up for Medicare

During your Initial Enrollment Period (IEP) to avoid a possible lifetime late enrollment penalty



Connect with the Marketplace in your state

Before your Medicare enrollment begins to learn more



Choosing Marketplace Coverage Instead of Medicare

What if I have Medicare Part A and Part B, but I'm paying a premium for Part A?

You can drop your Part A and Part B coverage and get a Marketplace plan instead.

What if I only have Part B, and would have to pay a premium for Part A?

You can drop Part B and get a Marketplace plan instead.

What if I'm eligible for Medicare but haven't enrolled?

You can get a Marketplace plan if you haven't enrolled because you'd have to pay for Part A, have a medical condition that qualifies you for Medicare, or are in your

24-month disability waiting period.



Marketplace/Medicare Enrollment Considerations

- If they don't enroll in Medicare when they're first eligible (Initial Enrollment Period)
 - · A late enrollment penalty may apply (lifetime)
 - they generally can't enroll until the Medicare General Enrollment Period (January 1 to March 31) coverage starting the first day of the following month
- If their Marketplace plan isn't through their employer
 - And they must pay a premium for Part A, they would need to drop Part A and Part B to be eligible to get a Marketplace plan
 - However, if they're also receiving Social Security benefits, they would have to drop their Social Security if they drop Medicare



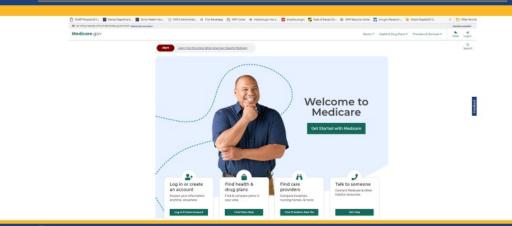
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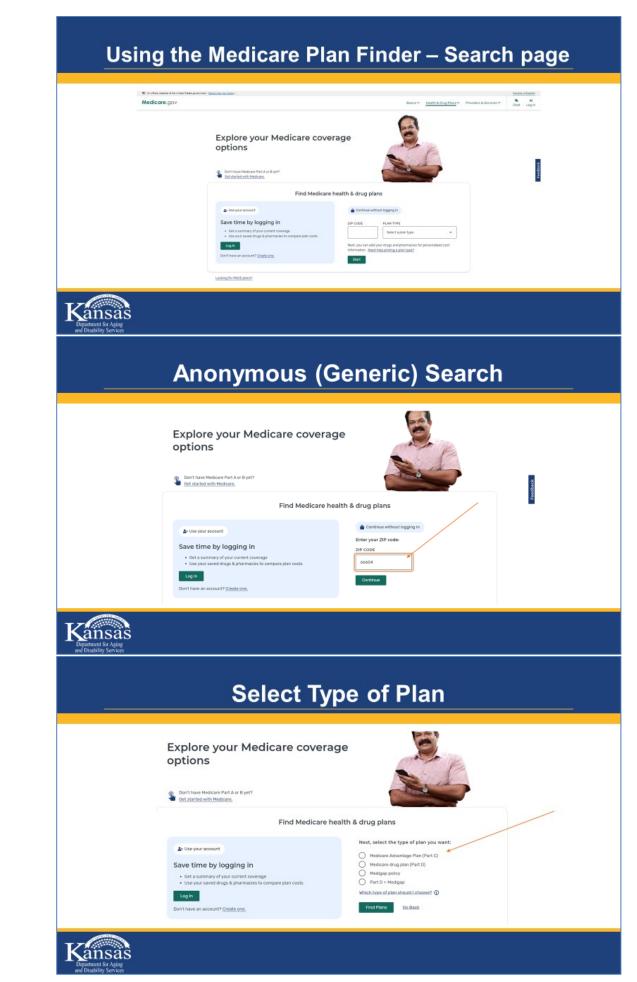


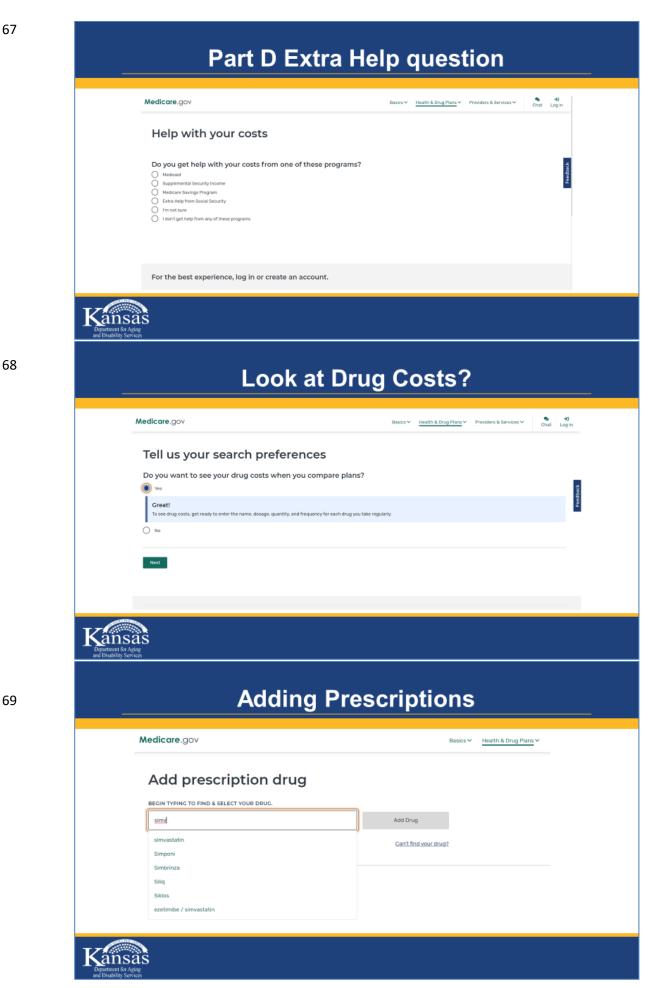
Using the Medicare Plan Finder - Medicare.gov

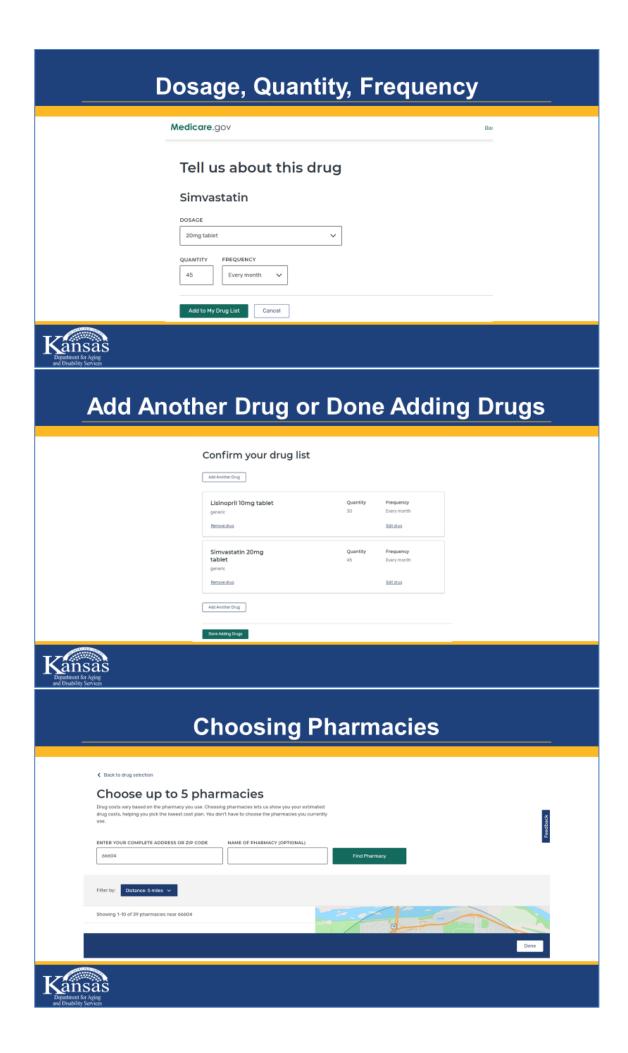




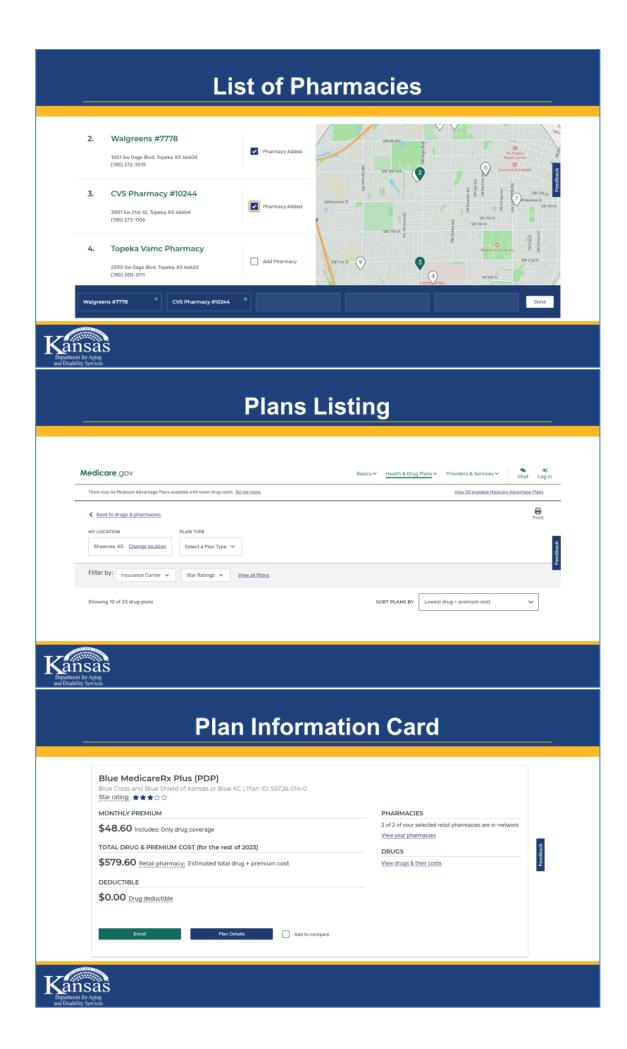




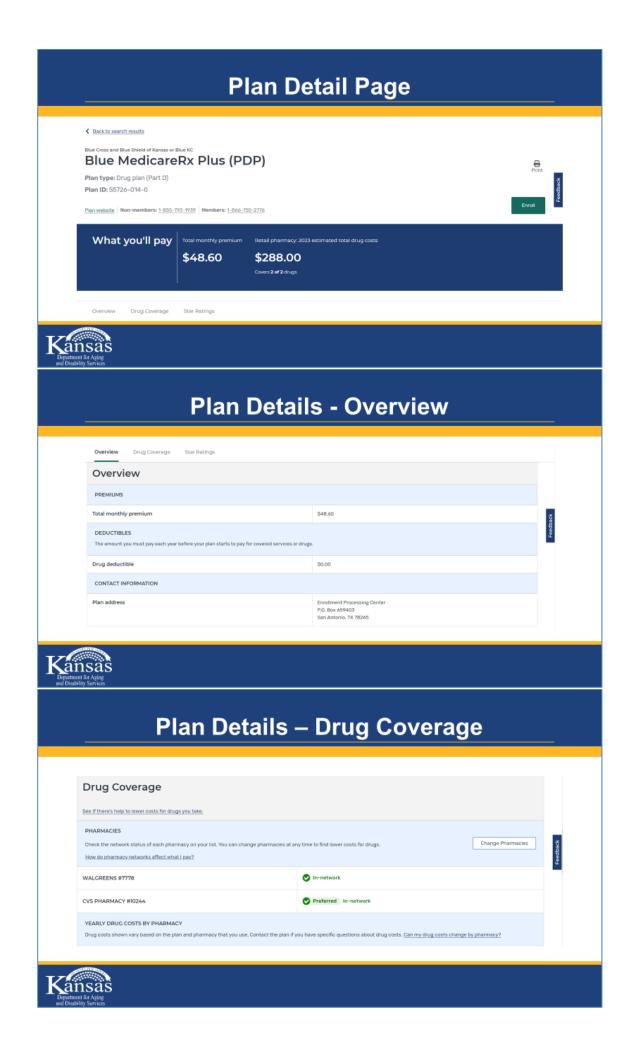












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Plan Details – Annual Drug Costs

YEARLY DRUG COSTS BY PHARMACY Drug costs shown vary based on the plan and pharmacy	r that you use. Contact the plan if you have specific questions	about di	rug costs. Can my drug costs change by pharmacy?	
	Walgreens #7778 ☑ In-network		Pharmacy #10244 Preferred	adback
Eliquis 5mg tablet	\$282.00	\$282	\$282.00	
Simvastatin 20mg tablet	\$13.80	\$6.0	\$6.00	
Total yearly drug cost	\$295.80	\$288	\$288.00	
ESTIMATED TOTAL DRUG + PREMIUM COST				
	Walgreens #7778 ☑ In-network		CVS Pharmacy #10244 Preferred	
Total drug + premium cost (for the rest of 2023)	\$587.40		\$579.60	

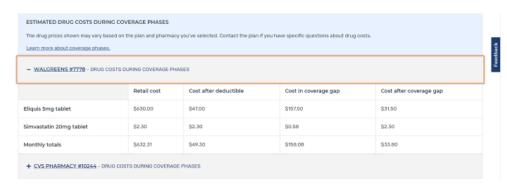


Plan Details Drug Costs by Pharmacy

The drug prices shown may vary based on the	he plan and pharmacy you've selected. Contact the plan if you have specific questions about drug costs.	
+ WALGREENS #7778 - DRUG COSTS DUI	RING COVERAGE PHASES	
+ CVS PHARMACY #10244 - DRUG COSTS	S DURING COVERAGE PHASES	



Plan Details - Costs by Coverage Stage





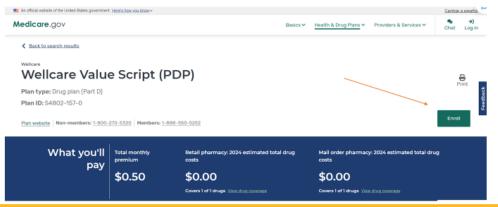
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Plan Details - Star Ratings





Enrollment Available





Demographic Data Best Practices

- The questions are optional for the consumers to answer. However, the team member should always ask the consumer these questions so consumers can choose whether to answer them.
- Responses should always be self-reported by the consumer. The team members should
 not guess the answers or make any assumptions even if they think they know the answers
 based on their interaction with the consumer. The consumer should have the opportunity
 to decide how to answer each question.
- These questions may be sensitive, and it is understandable that some may feel discomfort
 asking demographic questions. One way to normalize the questions is to explain that all
 consumers are asked these same questions. Although some may assume their clients will
 be offended by SOGI questions, research shows this is rarely the case.

Source: CMS Marketplace Presentation https://regtap.cms.gov/reg_librarye.php?i=4790



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Improving Equity in Data Collection

Executive Order On Advancing Racial Equity and Support for Underserved Communities Through the

FO 13085 Federal Government

Executive Order on Preventing and Combating Discrimination on the Basis of Gender Identity or EO 13988 Sexual Orientation

CONSENSUS STUDY REPORT

Executive Order on Advancing Equality for Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Queer, and

Intersex Individuals



NASEM Report: Guiding Principles

- · Inclusiveness
 - · People deserve to count and be counted
- Precision
 - · Use precise terminology that reflects the constructs of interest
- Autonomy
 - · Respect individual identity and autonomy
- Parsimony
 - · Collect only necessary data
- Privacy
 - · Use data in a manner that benefits respondents and respects their privacy and confidentiality



Counselor Tips on Data Collection

- Practice asking questions by speaking them out loud several times to avoid selfconsciousness on either side and ensure smooth delivery
- Do not pause after reading the question, move right into the demographic answer options so the client hears all the options quickly and repeats one or says prefer not to answer
- Learn the terminology and prepare to answer client/respondent about how the information will be used and privacy of the information



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Data Collection Tips Continued

Consumer Comfort

- Let the client have the appearance of control and disarm fears. For example, say "I'm entering the portion of our
 conversation that asks for personal information. You can skip the questions or not answer the questions as I ask them. I
 have to ask each question."
- · Ask the client for their preferred name and pronouns, some clients do not use their legal name
- Frame all question as 'the application asks' or "the application asks everyone this question" versus "please tell
 me...your gender orientation" or 'I need to know...your sexual identity' to preserve trust building with client
- When in-person, offer
- · ability to point to the screen
- · fill out a form to alleviate respondent having to say out loud sensitive info or words
- · a second monitor so the consumer can follow along
- · Be ready to explain how the information collected will be used
- · If the consumer is frustrated, allow them to vent, skip or answer, and move on
- Thank you for doing this work! You would be surprised on how many older individuals live in the "closet" because
 they were never given the space to just be who they are.



Identity in Aging Services

- Why am I being asked about my sexual orientation, gender, and gender identity?
- Why is it essential to ask demographic questions?
- · Who has access to this information?



Why am I being asked about my sexual orientation, gender, and gender identity?

- There are federal and some state mandates requiring we ask these questions.
- It is important for service providers to not assume a person is heterosexual or straight or to assume a person's gender or gender identity.
- Assumptions can often be wrong and when this happens it can lead to people not feeling welcomed to access services.



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Why is it essential to ask demographic questions?

- Every day decisions are made based on data gathered through intake forms and assessments.
- Common demographic or data questions, include such race, ethnicity, educational background, income, relationship status, emergency contact, sexual orientation, gender, and gender identity.
- These question help us know the community we serve and unique needs and challenges.
- The data helps us ensure programs are addressing needs of the community they serve.



Who has access to this information?

- Your responses to demographic questions are voluntary and not required to receive services.
- When you do share this information, aging and health service organizations have policies required by state and federal privacy laws that protect the confidentiality of personally identifying information.
- Your provider and staff providing you services will see this information to assist in providing you services.
- If you are unsure about privacy rules, ask to see the organization's privacy policy.



SOGI Questions - Current

1. Which of the following best represents how you think of yourself?

Lesbian or gay
Straight, that is, not gay or lesbian
Bisexual
I use a different term
Don't know
Prefer not to answer

2. What is your current gender?

Female
Male
Transgender
I use a different term
Don't know
Prefer not to answer

Prefer not to answer

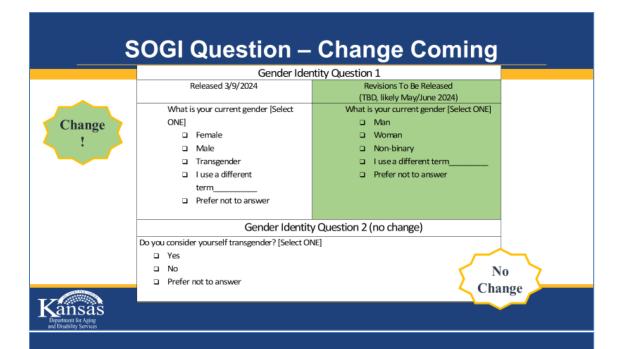
No

3. Do you consider yourself to be transgender?

isas



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Current SOGI Question FAQ

· Current "What is your current gender" answer Options:

Female
Male
Transgender
I use a different term
Don't know
Prefer not to answer

- Q: What should I do until this STARS SOGI question changes later this year?
- A: If a person responds 'transgender' to the "What is your current gender" question, do not ask the second gender identity question, which is "Do you consider yourself to be transgender?"



Demographic Questions - Script

ACL has provided a script and FAQs to help you ask demographic questions.

See the appendix of chapter 4 or the excerpted file in the resource library.

(See also the STARS Resources toolbox, Beneficiary Contacts)



Kansa Department for Aging and Disability Service

STARS

- ► SHIP Tracking And Reporting System (STARS)
 - ≽stars.acl.gov
- ➤ Developed and owned by ACL
- >Hosted, enhanced, and supported under a contract with Booz Allen Hamilton
 - ➤BoozAllenStarsHelpDesk@bah.com
- ➤ Training and Technical Assistance by the national SHIP TA Center
 - ➤ STARS@shiptacenter.org



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Programs that use STARS

Co-trained SHIP/SMP team member efforts

STARS



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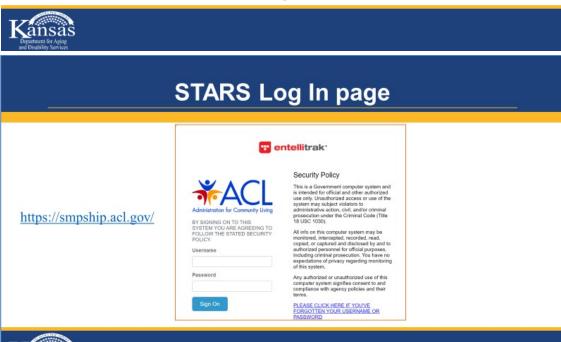
35

STARS Landing Page

• https://stars.acl.gov

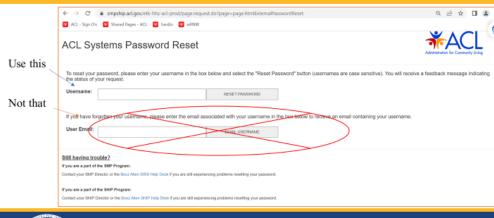


- **C**.
 - Contains link to SHIP TA Center's STARS Resources page
 - · Contains link to Booz Allen STARS Help Desk



Kansas
Department for Aging
and Disability Services

STARS Password Reset page





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Due Dates for Data Entry

Month Effort Occurred	Data Entry Due Dates for Efforts		
January	February 28		
February	March 31		
March	April 30		
April	May 31		
May	June 30		
June	July 31		
July	August 31		
August	September 30		
September	October 31		
October	November 30		
November	December 31		
December	January 31		

- Important for accurate reports
- See Chapter 1 of STARS Manual
- If you miss these deadlines, you can still enter your data
 - · "Better late than never"



Group Outreach & Education (GOE)

- Report
 - 1. Interactive presentations
 - 2. Booth/Exhibits
 - Enrollment Events
- Select date range for multiday events



Media Outreach & Education (MOE)

Report all other media outreach and education

Billboards Print Radio Email Blasts Ads/Articles Television

• Wide range of Geographic Coverage selections

Zip Code Statewide Regional County/Counties Multi-state National

· Select date range for multiday events and campaigns



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Definition of a Beneficiary Contact

 All contacts for the purpose of relaying Medicare and State Health Insurance Assistance Program (SHIP) related information between a properly trained and state certified SHIP team member and a Medicare beneficiary or a representative working on their behalf.



Beneficiary contacts do NOT include:

Unsuccessful attempts to reach a beneficiary (e.g., leaving messages on an answering machine) Individuals reached at public events such as presentations or health fairs, or for questions asked during or after a presentation

Calls or other contacts in which the only purpose is to schedule an appointment

Calls or other contacts in which the sole purpose is referral to another agency or program

Unsolicited or mass mailings (email or postal) to SHIP contacts

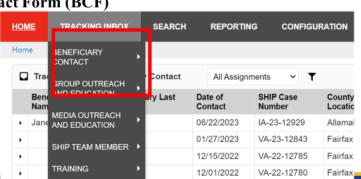


STARS Tracking Inbox for Data Entry

All data is entered on a form in the Tracking Inbox.

Beneficiary Contact Form (BCF)

Group Outreach Media Outreach Team Member Training





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Beneficiary Additional Sessions (BAS)

- Illustrate complexity of a single issue
- Do not use annually for Open Enrollment sessions. Each year's Open Enrollment is a new issue.
- Each additional contact counts the same way as a stand-alone contact.

 Beneficiary Contact: SHIP Reneficiary Additional Sections

 SHIP Reneficiary Additional Sections







Multiple Contacts on the Same Day

 Same day, same team member

Only one form should be entered to capture the nature of the contacts with the beneficiary for that day with that team member.

→Edit the original BCF to add time spent and topics discussed.

Same day, different team member

A separate form should be entered for the session with the different team member.

It can be a new BCF.

→ It can also be a BAS, <u>if it is the same issue</u>, but that depends upon user role access.



Multiple Contacts on Different Days

 Different day, same team member

Is the contact about a **new** issue?

→Enter a new BCF.

Is the contact about the **same** issue?

→You can add a Beneficiary Additional Session (BAS) to the previous BCF about that issue. It is also correct to enter a new BCF.

Different day, different team member

A separate form should be entered for the session with the different team member.

It can be a new BCF.

→ It can also be added as a BAS to the other team member's BCF, but only if it is the same issue (and you may or may not have access).



- When one team member counsels multiple beneficiaries in a single counseling session, such as the members of a couple who are both Medicare-eligible, a BCF should be completed for **each person**.
- The total time of the counseling session should be **divided** between the two BCFs based upon the approximate time spent on each person.
 - For example, if the total time spent was an hour, shared evenly between the two beneficiaries, enter 30 minutes on one BCF and 30 minutes on the other.



Topics Selected

- Select all topics touched on during the contact. Some topics can trigger the responsibility of sending the contact to either the SMP grant reporting, the MIPPA grant reporting, or both
 - Do not select the topic "Dual Demonstrations" under Medicaid
 - Kansas does not participate in this Demonstration project



SMP and MIPPA Program Qualifying Topics

- To effectively use the "Send to SMP" functionality and the MIPPA Performance Measures Report, a qualifying topic must be selected.
- The qualifying topics can be found on the following slides and are also in the Appendix as a printable handout for ease when completing data entry.



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MIPPA Qualifying Topics

Part D Low Income Subsidy (LIS/Extra Help)	Medicaid	Additional Topic Details		
Application Assistance	Benefit Explanation	Preventive Services		
Application Submission	Eligibility/Screening			
Benefit Explanation	Medicaid Application Assistance			
Eligibility/Screening	Medicaid Application Submission			
LI NET/BAE	Medicaid Recertification			
	Medicare Buy-In Coordination			
	MSP Application Assistance			
	MSP Recertification			



SMP Qualifying Topics Discussed

Original Medicare (Parts A	Medigap and Medicare	Medicare Advantage	Medicare Part D
& B)	Select	(MA and MA-PD)	
Appeals/Grievances	Claims/Billing	Appeals/Grievances	Appeals/Grievances
Claims/Billing	Fraud and Abuse	Claims/Billing	Claims/Billing
Coordination of Benefits		Disenrollment	Disenrollment
Eligibility		Enrollment	Enrollment
Enrollment/Disenrollment		Fraud and Abuse	Fraud and Abuse
Fraud and Abuse		Marketing/Sales	Marketing/Sales
		Complaints & Issues	Complaints & Issues
QIO/Quality of Care		QIO/Quality of Care	



SMP Qualifying Topics Discussed (cont.)

Medicare Low Income	Medicaid Additional Topics		Additional Topics
Subsidy (LIS/Extra Help)		Discussed	Discussed
Appeals/Grievances	Claims/Billing	Ambulance	Hospice
Claims/Billing	Fraud and Abuse	Dental/Vision/Hearing	Hospital
		DMEPOS	Preventive Benefits
		Home Health Care	Skilled Nursing Facility



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Validation Error: MIPPA or SMP Qualifying Topics

- You will receive an error message and be required to edit your form and resave under the following circumstances:
 - 1. If MIPPA "Yes" is selected and no MIPPA-qualifying topics discussed are selected.
 - 2. If Send to SMP "Yes" is selected and no SMP-qualifying topics discussed are selected.
- A list of qualifying topics for each of these subjects is in the appendix of the Course handout, page?.
 - Validation Error
 - At least one MIPPA qualifying topic must be selected for the MIPPA field to be set to Yes
 - Send to SMP Error
 - An error has occurred while attempting to send your record to SIRS. At least one SMF related topic must be selected for the record to be sent to SIRS.



Check for Duplicates

This blue button appears on most STARS forms.

Check For Duplicate Records

• Upon clicking, it will alert you if there are **potential** duplicates, and it provides the reference number for the potential duplicate/s.

Potential duplicate records have been located for this Beneficiary Contact form. This message will not prevent you from saving. Please find matching records' reference numbers below. If you are unable to view duplicate records, please reach out to your state Director

VA-24-13034



Criteria for Potential Duplicates

Beneficiary Contacts in user's organization (or below) with matching:

- Beneficiary First Name
- Beneficiary Last Name
- Beneficiary Zip Code and Beneficiary County
- · Date of Contact

Group Outreach or Media Outreach in user's organization (or below) with matching:

· Start Date of Activity



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Part One: Forms You Commonly Use

• STARS Menu Options Lower User Roles See:



My Account Sign Out Help

HOME TRACKING INBOX SEARCH

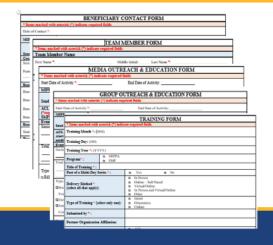


Printable STARS Forms

Updated printable STARS forms by Booz Allen Hamilton reflect the March 2024 STARS enhancements. Helpful for collecting counseling session data on paper for later entry into STARS.

- Beneficiary Contact Form
- Group Outreach and Education Form
- Media Outreach and Education Form
- Team Member Form
- Training Form





Tracking Part D Enrollment Outcomes Overview

ACL uses STARS to collect data related to the cost changes as result of enrollment in Part D prescription drug plans (PDPs) and Medicare Advantage plans with prescription drug coverage (MA-PDs) available through the Medicare Plan Finder (MPF).

By collecting this data, SHIPs can demonstrate the impact of their work on behalf of beneficiaries in three ways:

- Data on the number of beneficiaries who received PDP/MA-PD enrollment assistance from SHIPs;
- Data on the average cost change per beneficiary who received PDP/MA-PD enrollment assistance from SHIPs;
- 3. Data on the reported total of PDP/MA-PD cost change for each state.



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Part D/MA-PD Enrollment Data Steps

1. Collect Plan Cost Information

2. Assist Beneficiary with Enrollment

3. Enter Data in STARS

4. Attach Verification



Step 1: Collect PDP/MA-PD Cost Data

- Track when you actively assist a beneficiary with PDP/MA-PD enrollment*
 - Online through the MPF or the plan website, or
 - Over the phone with a plan customer service representative or 1-800-Medicare, or
 - · With a paper application
- Two kinds of enrollment
 - Switching from one plan to another
 - · New to Medicare PDP/MA-PD

*Cost changes resulting from any action outside PDP/MA-PD are important and not part of the Enrollment Outcomes tracking. Examples may include change in pharmacy, applications for Part D subsidies like Extra Help/LIS, State Pharmaceutical Assistance Program (SPAP), or drug manufacturer discount programs.



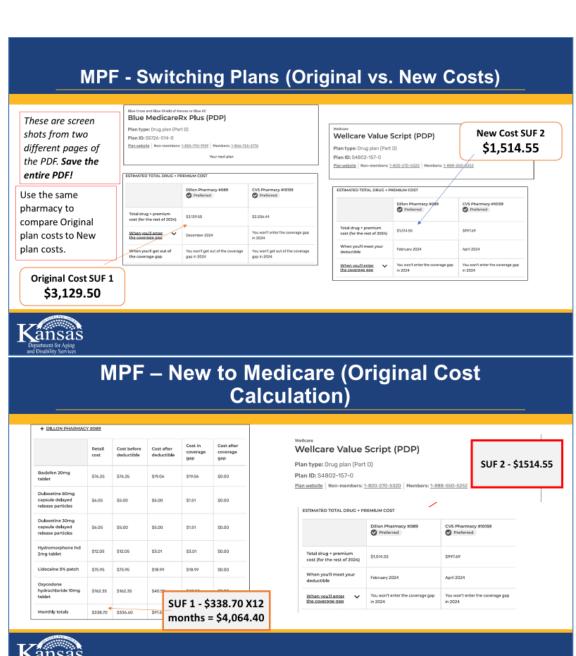
Standardized Documentation - Plan Detail Pages as PDF

- All documentation of the New and Old Plans must be the Plan Detail Page as a PDF
 - · At the top of every page there is an option to print the page
 - · You will be taken to a new window and the print options will appear.
- Select "Print to PDF". You will be able to save a PDF version of the Plan Finder page on your computer.





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New to Part D (PDP or MA-PD)?

- Topics Discussed: "Additional Topic Details" category
 - · Select "New to Medicare"
 - · even if the beneficiary has been enrolled in other parts of Medicare previously





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Step 2: Assist with Enrollment and Save Application Confirmation

- If enrolling by another method (plan's website, phone, etc.) an enrollment confirmation information must be saved.
- If using MPF, upload the MFP application confirmation

An official website of the United States government Here's how you know.		
Medicare.gov	1	■ Menu
You're all set. Y with the plan.	our applic	ation is
For 2024, you're joining: We	ellcare Value Script	(PDP)
Plan ID: S4802-157-0		, ,
Plan Includes: Only drug coverage		
Name of person joining plant		
Confirmation number for your application:		
Keep this number. You'll need it if you contact	t the plan before your coverage	starts.



Step 3 - Enter Data in STARS

- All Part D cost changes are entered on the Beneficiary Contact Form (BCF) in the Special Use Fields
- The first two Special Use Fields (SUFs) on the BCF are designated (Original and New).
- Enter only numbers or currency symbols (dollar sign, comma, or decimal points)
- · Currently, there is no calculation of the cost change on the BCF or elsewhere in STARS
- · Do not add the cost change amount to SUF 3





Validation Messages – SUF 1 & 2

- Validation has been added to BCF and BAS SUF 1 and 2 to only accept dollar signs, commas, number, and decimal points. Limited to two decimal places
- While filling out the form or at the back end appears as
 - 'Please enter valid input into the PDP/MA-PD Cost fields. Valid input examples: "1.00"; "1.23"; "1"; "\$1"; "\$1.00"; "1,000"; "1,000.00"
- Validation has been added to require SUF 1 and 2 to both be completed or empty for successful record submission
 - "Please enter valid input into both Special Use fields"



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"Enrollment" Topic Discussed

- Topic Discussed: "Medicare Part D" category or "Medicare Advantage (MA and MA-PD)" category
 - Check "Enrollment" in one category (not both) to report enrollment assistance (pictured below).





Enrollment Field Validation Message

- Validation prevents "Enrollment" from being selected in both Medicare Part D and Medicare Advantage (MA and MA-PD) if data is entered into SUF 1 and SUF 2
 - "You have entered cost into SUF 1 and SUF 2, please ensure that only one "Enrollment" topic is selected in Medicare Part D or Medicare Advantage (MA and MA-PD)"
- Form submission not allowed if data is entered into SUF 1 and SUF 2 but "Enrollment" was not selected for Medicare Part D or Medicare Advantage (MA and MA-PD)
 - "You have entered cost into SUF 1 and SUF 2, if enrollment assistance was provided, please ensure you have checked the Medicare Part D or Medicare Advantage (MA and MA-PD) enrollment box. If enrollment assistance was not provided, please remove costs from SUF 1 and SUF 2."



Step 4: Attach Cost Verification Sources

- Attach the following verification to the Beneficiary Contact Form:
 - 1. Application confirmation
 - 2. Cost changes verification detailing Original and New Cost

Attach File	Browse
Attach File	Browse

- File types accepted: PDF ONLY
- File size limit: 500MB per file.



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Enrollment Outcomes and Quality Assurance

- The State SHIP performs quality assurance for ACL biannually
 - · Incomplete records are reviewed
 - · Valid records documentation verification checks



Part D Enrollment Outcomes (PDEO) Resources



Resources

- · NEW Interactive Online Course
- · STARS Manual Chapter 7A
- · Micro-Training Video Demonstrations

Visit the "Part D Enrollment Outcomes (PDEO) Section of the STARS Resources Kit.



CMS Unique ID

- · Unique ID numbers are assigned through STARS
- It is for your use only and should not be shared with anyone else, including your area SHICK/SMP coordinator
- · Your Unique ID can be accessed by using your SHIP Team Member Tracking Inbox in STARS
- A SHIP-only number, 1-888-647-6701, allows SHIP counselors to reach customer service representatives at 1-800-MEDICARE
 - · This number is not to be given to beneficiaries.
- A job aid for Unique ID users is available on the SHIP TA Center or the SHICK website, https://kdads.ks.gov/kdads-commissions/aging-services/medicare-programs/shick/shick-coordinator-counselor-information/frequently-used-counselor-procedures



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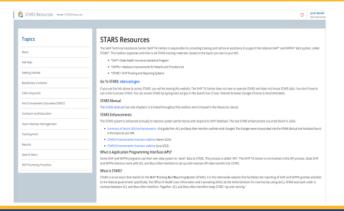
120 Day Inactivity Rules

These rules affect the ability to log in, team member status, and/or CMS Unique ID status. Below are some overarching considerations and charts that illustrate this functionality further.

- Locked accounts and direct entry users. If the 120 Days of Inactivity rules are met, the team member's
 account becomes locked, preventing STARS log in. Affected team members must contact the Booz Allen
 STARS help desk to have their accounts unlocked. That is the only solution.
- Inactivity and the Team Member Form Status field. If a team member with an active status does not log in and also does not have program work entered in STARS for 120 days, the Status field on their team member form will be automatically set to inactive.
- Inactivity and the CMS Unique ID. The CMS Unique ID status depends upon counseling activity, as shown on
 the Beneficiary Contact and Beneficiary Additional Sessions forms. The CMS Unique ID will become
 automatically inactive even if a team member is conducting SHIP activities other than counseling. SHIP
 directors and assistant directors can manually update unique IDs, which prevents automatic inactivation.



STARS Resources Kit in STARS Menu





Individualized Technical Assistance

- For STARS username, password, account locked, and hierarchy support:
 - Contact the STARS help desk at Booz Allen Hamilton, boozallenstarshelpdesk@bah.com
- For STARS resources support:
 - Contact the SHIP TA Center, <u>stars@shiptacenter.org</u> or 877-839-2675.



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Helpful Resources

Kansas Insurance Department	800-432-2484 https://insurance.kansas.gov/
Kansas Department for Aging and Disability Services	800-432-3535 https://kdads.ks.gov/home
SHICK counselor information and resource page	https://kdads.ks.gov/shick/shick-coordinator- counselor-information/counselor-information- resource-page
KanCare Clearinghouse	800-792-4884 https://kancare.ks.gov/
KanCare Ombudsman	855-643-8180 - https://www.kancare.ks.gov/kancare-ombudsman-office/about-contact-us
CMS Product Ordering Website	http://productordering.cms.hhs.gov



Medicare Grants Staff

Emily Blanch, maily.blanch@ks.gov, 785-296-8450, Director of Medicare Programs Janet Boskill, janet.boskill@ks.gov, 785-296-6319, Medicare Grants Coordinator Chris Merriweather, chris.merriweather@ks.gov, 785-296-2991, Medicare Grants Coordinator

Tressie Lewis, <u>tressier.lewis@ks.gov</u>, 785-296-6471, Medicare Program Consultant Jami Boone, <u>jamim.boone@ks.gov</u>, 785-296-3003, Senior Medicare Patrol Program Coordinator



What's next?

- Complete the Course 4 test through the SHIPTA Center
- · You are a certified SHICK Counselor
- Continue your mentoring sessions!
- Practice, Practice, Practice
- Questions? Issues? Concerns?
 - · Contact Local Coordinator, Mentor, or Regional Manager
 - Use SHICK Handbook
 - Use <u>www.medicare.gov</u>



APPENDIX

Using the Medicare Plan Finder

Medicare videos available through YouTube

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=WWouFwIsf64

Creating a Medicare.gov account

https://cmsnationaltrainingprogram.cms.gov/sites/default/files/shared/2022 12104 Create an Account 50 8.pdf

Medicare Plan Finder – Ready to choose a plan?

https://cmsnationaltrainingprogram.cms.gov/sites/default/files/shared/2022 12105 Ready to Choose a M edicare Plan 508.pdf

Using STARS

Use the STARS manual available on the SHIP TA Center

Using the SHIP TA Center

User Basics: SHIP Login at www.shiphelp.org

Contents

This tip sheet is for anyone who logs into the password-protected portion of shiphelp.org using the SHIP Login button. This website is operated by the SHIP Technical Assistance Center (SHIP TA Center). It has a secondary address, shiptacenter.org which redirects to the more consumer-friendly website address for the same website, shiphelp.org.

The direct address for the password-protected portal is https://portal.shiptacenter.org. You can choose to bookmark that page; however, bookmarks may need to be refreshed periodically. If your bookmark malfunctions, return to the login button at shiphelp.org.

Receiving your account

There are two ways to get an account to log in at www.shiphelp.org. You can register online, or a SHIP director or administrator can create an account for you.

User registered online

- 1. Upon registration at portal.shiptacenter.org, the person who registered will receive an email from DoNotReply@shiptacenter.org asking them to verify their registration.
 - a. This prevents anyone from posing as someone else or registering using someone else's email address. Only the true user of an email address will be able to verify a registration by email.
- 2. After the user who registered online verifies their email address, they receive another email from DoNotReply@shiptacenter.org alerting them that their registration is waiting for approval.
- 3. After a SHIP director or SHIP administrator has approved or denied the user's request, the newly registered user will receive an email from DoNotReply@shiptacenter.org explaining whether their account request was approved or denied. If approved, the email explains how to re-set their password and log in.

User account is created by a SHIP director or SHIP administrator

Only one email is sent from DoNotReply@shiptacenter.org alerting the user that an account has been approved for them. The email explains how to re-set their password and log in.

Forgot Your Password?

If you have an approved account at portal.shiptacenter.org (accessed also from the SHIP Login button at shiphelp.org), you can click the Forgot Password below the login windows to reset your password.

- If you do not receive the "SHIP-TA Center Portal Login Information" email from the DoNotReply@shiptcenter.org address, check your junk mail or spam.
- If you still cannot find the password reset email, contact us for technical assistance at info@shiptacenter.org or call 877-839-2675 and say "Center" when prompted.

Email: Email Password: Password Login Forgot Password?

90 Day Password Reset

Passwords are set to expire every 90-days. The first time you log after this 90-day period has passed, you will be directed to change your password.

Troubleshooting Tips

Here are some typical issues users have reported, with the solutions:

Change Password

Re-Enter New Password:

in

link

You did not get your automatic email from DoNotReply@shiptacenter.org.

- Check your junk mail or spam filter. If the email is there, take the necessary action to deliver this and future emails, such as: mark us as a safe sender, allow our emails, allow our domain, deliver the email, etc.
 - If the email is not in your junk mail or spam folder, contact a SHIP administrator for your program or the SHIP TA Center. They can:
 - Compare the email address you are using with the email address associated with your account and check for discrepancies.
 - Change your password and convey the new password to you. Once you successfully log in, change your own password to something known only to you.

You are not successful in logging in, even with a username and password

- If you commonly access the login page with a bookmark, try this instead: Go to www.shiphelp.org and click the orange SHIP Login padlock. A fresh login page will appear. Enter your username and password.
- If there is a message on the screen, follow the instructions. You may need to re-enter your username or password because of typos. Your account may not have been approved yet. You may need to re-set your password by clicking Forgot Password.
- Try clearing your cache, cookies, or browsing history. One easy way is to hold the control key and the F5 key at the same time while on the page. Otherwise, use your browser settings.
- Try a different browser than the one you usually use. For example, switch to Firefox or Google Chrome.

For technical assistance, contact the center at info@shiptacenter.org or by calling 877-839-2675 (and say "Center" when prompted).

About the Site's Buttons

Training And Certification (OCCT) – Green Button

Access online courses and online certification tests using the green button titled Training and Certification (OCCT). OCCT stands for Online Counselor
Certification and Training. The green button is the top right of the website for quick navigation.

All users have the green button, regardless of role.

Dashboard - Blue Button

All users except those with the SHIP Trainee role have a role-based dashboard. It includes these kinds of information:

- Top Toolbox views (including the STARS and Medigap Plan Finder menu items)
- Top resource views and downloads
- Top keywords used in resource library searches
- Most accessed events
- Most accessed news
- User Analytics for directors, administrators, and Administration for Community Living (ACL) users only

All roles have access to a version of this dashboard. However, staff-users and lower only have the top toolbox views, lists of resources, and events.

The SHIP Trainee role is intended to be temporary. Trainees should be graduated to a SHIP Counselor user role or higher upon successful certification. If you are a certified SHIP counselor, contact your supervisor to request a higher user role

About the Navigation Menu Options

All content within each menu is role-based. SHIP Trainees can only see their name, user role, profile, and limited news (OCCT tips).

User Role

All users can now see their user role below their name. In the example on the next page, the user's role is "SHIP Staff." If you believe your user role is too low, contact your supervisor.

My Favorites

This site allows you to mark pages and resources as a favorite. Click the red heart on any page or resource (in the upper right corner) to mark it a favorite. Access all saved favorites through this red button.

Logout

If you do not manually log out, you will be automatically logged out after approximately 60 minutes of inactivity.

My Profile

All users can access their profile to keep their information updated. From this page, users can change their email address, password, contact information, and subscribe to SHIP TA Center publications and announcements.

STARS

Find the STARS Resources Kit on the STARS web page. Some users don't see the STARS menu. If your user role is SHIP Trainee or if your program doesn't enter data into STARS, your program may have chosen to hide this menu.

Medigap Plan Finder

The SHIP TA Center offers a Medigap Plan Finder tool for all SHIPs nationally. It is created by and managed by CSG Actuarial. Filter by client characteristics, review prices, compare plan options, and more.

Resource Library

Most materials created for SHIPs and by SHIPs are housed here.

News

The News page is what you see when you log in. If you click the News menu, you can search for News by date or category.

Events

Register for upcoming events, search for past events, and filter by categories.

Profiles and Practices

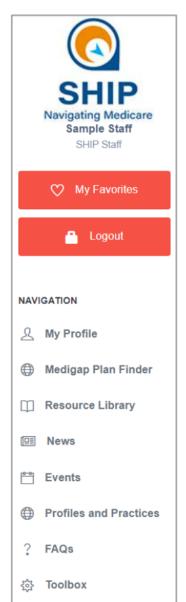
SHIP Profiles and Practices are created by SHIP directors and can be filtered. Review operational models, counselor training approaches, and more. SHIP Counselors do not have this menu option.

FAQs

Review answers to questions according to categories, such as STARS, VRPM, and more.

Toolbox

The toolbox houses webpages for Counselors, Trainers, Coordinators of Volunteers, and SHIP Directors or Administrators. What you will see depends upon your user role.



MIPPA Qualifying Topics Discussed				
Part D Low Income Subsidy (LIS/Extra Help)	Additional Topic Details			
Application Assistance	Benefit Explanation	Preventive Services		
Application Submission	Eligibility/Screening			
Benefit Explanation	Medicaid Application Assistance			
Eligibility/Screening	Medicaid Application Submission*			
LI NET/BAE	Medicaid Recertification*			
	Medicare Buy-In Coordination			
	MSP Application Assistance*			
	MSP Recertification*			

SMP Qualifying Topics Discussed					
Original Medicare (Parts A & B) Medicare Select (MA and MA-PD) Medicare Parts (MA and MA-PD)					
Appeals/Grievances	Claims/Billing	Appeals/Grievances	Appeals/Grievances		
Claims/Billing	Fraud and Abuse	Claims/Billing	Claims/Billing		
Coordination of Benefits		Disenrollment	Disenrollment		
Eligibility		Enrollment	Enrollment		
Enrollment/Disenrollment		Fraud and Abuse	Fraud and Abuse		
Fraud and Abuse	Marketing/Sales Mark		Marketing/Sales		
		Complaints & Issues	Complaints & Issues		
QIO/Quality of Care		QIO/Quality of Care			
Medicare Low Income Subsidy (LIS/Extra Help)	Medicaid	Additional Topics Discussed	Additional Topics Discussed		
Appeals/Grievances	Claims/Billing	Ambulance	Hospice		
Claims/Billing	Fraud and Abuse	Dental/Vision/Hearing	Hospital		
		DMEPOS	Preventive Benefits		
		Home Health Care	Skilled Nursing		
			Facility		

Qualifying Enrollment Topics				
_		Medigap and Medicare Select	Medicare Advantage (MA and MA-PD)	
Eligibility		Eligibility/Screening	Eligibility/Screening	
Enrollment/Disenrollment		Plan Non-Renewal	Plan Non-Renewal	
		Plans Comparison	Plans Comparison	
			Enrollment	
			Disenrollment	
Medicare Part D		D Low Income sidy (LIS Extra Help)	Medicaid	
Eligibility/Screening	Application Assistance		Eligibility/Screening	
Enrollment	Application Submission		Medicaid Application Assistance	
Disenrollment			Medicaid Application Submission	
Plan Non-Renewal			Medicaid Recertification	
Plans Comparison	ſ		MSP Application Assistance	
			MSP Application Submission	
			MSP Recertification	

120 Day Inactivity Rules					
No Login for 120 Days - Scenarios					
Scenario	"Status" field	Account lockout	Unique ID Status field		
Team member has not logged in for 120 days and no records have been linked to the team member via Session Conducted By fields	If previously Active, Status field is automatically set to Inactive	Account is automatically locked	CMS Unique ID Status field is automatically set to <i>Inactive</i>		
Team member has not logged in for 120 days. However, beneficiary contacts have been linked to the team member via Session Conducted By fields	Status field is not automatically set to <i>Inactive</i>	Account is not automatically locked	CMS Unique ID Status field is not automatically set to Inactive (if ID status was Active, it will remain Active)		
Team member has not logged in for 120 days. However, records other than beneficiary contacts have been linked to the team member via Session Conducted By fields (or Training Form Submitted By field)	Status field is not automatically set to <i>Inactive</i>	Account is not automatically locked	CMS Unique ID Status field is automatically set to <i>Inactive</i>		
Has Logged in Within 1	20 Days - Scenarios				
Scenario	"Status" field	Account Lockout	Unique ID Status field		
Team member has logged in within 120 days, but no records have been linked to the team member via Session Conducted By	Status field is not automatically set to Inactive	Account is not automatically locked	CMS Unique ID Status field is automatically set to Inactive		
Team member has logged in within 120 days, and beneficiary contacts (on Beneficiary Contact forms or Beneficiary Additional Session Forms) have been linked to the team member via Session Conducted By	Status field is not automatically set to Inactive	Account is not automatically locked	CMS Unique ID Status field is not automatically set to Inactive (if ID status was Active, it will remain Active)		
Team member has logged in within 120 days, and records other than beneficiary contacts have been linked to the team member via Session Conducted By fields (or Training Form Submitted By field)	Status field is not automatically set to Inactive	Account is not automatically locked	CMS Unique ID Status field is automatically set to Inactive		

	GRO	OUP OUTF	REACH	& EDUC	ATION FORM
* Items marked with	asterisk (*) in	dicate required	fields		
Start Date of Activity *	* :		End D	ate of Activity:	
MIPPA Event *:	□Yes	□ No			
Send to SMP:	□Yes	□No	SIRS eF (*requir record to	ed if sending	This field will automatically utilize the SIRS eFile ID entered on the Session Conducted By user's SHIP Team Member form
ACL SMP Consumer Alert (*required if sending record to SM		□ Yes	□No		
Event Details *	,				
Session Conducted By	*:			Partner Organ	nization Affiliation*:
Total Time Spent on E	vent *:			Title of Intera	action *:
Hours					
Minute				Daliana Mad	h - 1 (141).
Type of Event * (selection Booth/Exhibit (Healt	•	Fair or Commun	nity	☐ In-person	hod (select only one):
Event)	in run, semor	Tun or commun	iity	□ Web-based	
☐ Enrollment Event				□ Hybrid (in-	person and web-based)
☐ Interactive Presentation to Public (In-Person, Video					
Conference, Web-ba	sed Event, Tel	econference)			
Number of Attendees *	k				
Event Location *					
State of Event *:			p Code of l	Event * :	
County of Event * :					
Event Contact Inform Event Contact First Na				Event Contac	t Dhana
Event Contact First Na	ime:			Event Contac	t Phone:
Event Contact Last Name:		Event Contac	et Email:		
Intended Audience *	(multiple sele	ctions allowed):		•	
☐ Beneficiaries ☐ Employer-Related C ☐ Family Members/Ca		☐ Medicar☐ Partner (☐ Other			
Target Beneficiary G					
 □ American Indian or □ Asian □ Black or African Ar □ People with Disability 	nerican	Limited LGBTQ	-English Pı I+	roficiency	 □ Native Hawaiian or other Pacific Islander □ Rural □ Other □ N/A

Topics Discussed * (multiple selections	allowed):	
□ Duals Demonstration	☐ Medicare Fraud and Abuse	☐ Partnership Recruitment
□ Extra Help/LIS	☐ Medicare Part D	☐ Preventive Services
☐ General SHIP Program Information	☐ Medicare Savings Program	☐ Substance Misuse/Fraud
□ Long-Term Care Insurance	☐ Medigap or Supplemental Insurance	□ Volunteer Recruitment
□ Medicaid	☐ Original Medicare (Parts A and B)	□ Other
☐ Medicare Advantage	☐ Other Prescription Drug Coverage	!
		_
Special Use Fields		
T::14 1.		· ·
Field 1:		
Field 2:		I
Field 3:		
Field 4:		I
		I
Field 5:	<u></u>	I
Notes		

MEDIA OUTREACH & EDUCATION FORM								
* Items marked with asterisk (*) indicate required fields								
Start Date of Activity *: End Date of Activity:								
MIPPA Event *:	□ Yes	□ No						
			SIRS eFile ID: (*required if sending This field will automatically utili eFile ID entered on the Session C					
Send to SMP:	□Yes	□ No	record to SMP)	eFile ID entered on the Session Conducted By user's SHIP Team Member form				
ACL SMP Consumer (*required if sending SMP)		□ Yes	□ No					
Event Details *								
Session Conducted By *:			Partner Organiz	Partner Organization Affiliation*:				
Total Time Spent on E	vent *:		Title of Interacti	ion *:				
Hours								
Minute	es							
Type of Media * (selec	et only one):	Estimated Numl	Estimated Number of People Reached:				
□ Billboard		□ Radio	Coormanhia Cox	wana aa (aalaat anku ana).				
□ Email		☐ Social Media		verage (select only one):				
□Magazine		□ Television	□ County					
□Newsletter		□ Website	Countie					
□Newspaper		□ Other	□ Multi-S	1				
			□ Nation:	al				
Event Location *		7 .	C. I. CD. Att.					
State of Event *:		Zı _l	Code of Event * :					
County of Event *: _	4:							
Media Contact Inform	nation							
Media Contact First Name:			Media Contact I	Media Contact Phone:				
Media Contact Last Name:		Media Contact I	Media Contact Email:					
Intended Audience * (multiple selections allowed):								
□ Beneficiaries □ Medicare Pre-Enrollees □ Employer-Related Groups □ Partner Organizations □ Family Members/Caregivers □ Other								

Target Beneficiary Group * (multiple selections allowed):									
☐ American Indian or Alaskan Native☐ Asian	☐ Hispanic/Latino ☐ Limited-English Proficiency	☐ Native Hawaiian or other Pacific Islander							
☐ Black or African American	□ LGBTQI+	□ Rural							
 People with Disabilities 	□ Low Income	□ Other							
-		□ N/A							
	Topics Discussed * (multiple selections allowed):								
□ Duals Demonstration	☐ Medicare Fraud and Abuse	☐ Partnership Recruitment							
□ Extra Help/LIS	□ Medicare Part D	☐ Preventive Services							
☐ General SHIP Program Information	☐ Medicare Savings Program	□ Substance Misuse/Fraud							
□ Long-Term Care Insurance	☐ Medigap or Supplemental Insurance	□ Volunteer Recruitment							
□ Medicaid	☐ Original Medicare (Parts A and B)	□ Other							
☐ Medicare Advantage	☐ Other Prescription Drug Coverage								
Special Use Fields									
Field 1:									
7: 110									
Field 2:	_								
Field 3:									
Field 4:									
Field 5:									
1 iciu 5.	_								
Notes									

BENEFICIARY CONTACT FORM										
* Items marked with asterisk (*) indicate required fields										
Date of Contact *:										
MIPPA Contact *:	□ Yes	□No								
Send to SMP:	□Yes	□ No	(*req	eFile ID: uired if sending d to SMP)	entere	This field will automatically utilize the SIRS eFile ID entered on the Session Conducted By user's SHIP Team Member form				
Counselor Information *										
Session Conducted By	ZIP Code of Sess	of Session Location *: State of Session Location *:								
Partner Organization Affiliation*:				County of Sessio	ounty of Session Location *:					
Beneficiary & Repres	entative Na	me and Contac	t Infor	mation						
Beneficiary First Name					tative Firs	t Name:				
Beneficiary Last Name	:			Represen	tative Last	t Name:				
Beneficiary Phone: (_)			Represen	tative Pho	ne: () -				
Beneficiary Email:				Represen	tative Ema	ail:				
Beneficiary Residence	*									
	State of Bene Res. *: County of Bene Res. *:									
How Did Beneficiary										
□ CMS Outreach □ Previous Contact □ SHIP TA Center □ Other □ Congressional Office □ SHIP Mailings □ SSA □ Not Collected □ Employer □ SHIP Media □ State Medicaid Agency □ Friend or Relative □ SHIP Presentation □ 1-800 Medicare □ Health/Drug Plan □ State SHIP Website □ Partner Agency										
Method of Contact * (select only	one):			Beneficiary Age Group * (select only one):					
□ Phone Call □ Email □ Web-based	ntion/ Event Site Home/ Facility	0.7								
Which of the following best represents how you think of yourself? (Multiple selections allowed):					What is your current gender? (select only one):					
 □ Lesbian or gay □ Straight, that is, not gay or lesbian □ Bisexual □ Don't know □ Prefer not to answer □ I use a different term Other Orientation Term: 			□ Male □ Tran □ Don □ Prefe	☐ Male ☐ Transgender ☐ Don't know ☐ Prefer not to answer						
Do you consider yourself to be transgender? (Select only one): ☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ Prefer not to answer										
Beneficiary Race * (multiple selections allowed): Beneficiary Language *:										
☐ American Indian or Alaska ☐ Native Hawaiian or Native Other Pacific				English is Ber	English is Beneficiary's Primary Language					
□ Asian	I DAY				Have you or a family member ever served in the military?					
☐ Black or African Am☐ Hispanic or Latino	erican	□ White□ Not Collecte	d	□ Yes		□ No □ Unsure				

Receiving or Applying for Social Security Disability or Medicare Disability * (select only one):									
□Yes	□ No								
Beneficiary Mo	nthly Income * (select only one):	Be	Beneficiary Assets * (select only one):						
□ Below 150% FPL □ Not Collected			Below LIS Asset Li	mits	□Not Collected				
□ At or Above 150% FPL			Above LIS Asset Li	mits					
Topics Discusse	ed * (At least one Topic Discussed selection	is r	equired. Multiple se	lecti	ons allowed)				
Original	☐ Accountable Care Organizations (ACOs)		Part D Low		Appeals/Grievances				
Medicare	□ Appeals/Grievances		Income		Application Assistance				
(Parts A & B)	☐ Benefit Explanation		Subsidy		Application Submission				
	□Claims/Billing		(LIS/Extra		Benefit Explanation				
	□Conditional Enrollment		Help)		Claims/Billing				
	□ Coordination of Benefits				Eligibility/Screening				
	□ Eligibility □ Enrollment/Disenrollment			ш	LI NET/BAE				
	□ Equitable Relief		0.1		Manufacturer Programs				
	☐ Fraud and Abuse		Other		Military Drug Benefits				
	□ Late Enrollment Penalty		Prescription		Prescription Discount Cards				
	□ Provider Participation		Assistance		State Pharmaceutical Assistance Programs				
	□QIO/Quality of Care				Union/Employer Plan				
					1 3				
Medigap and	☐ Application Assistance		Medicaid		Appeals/Grievances				
Medicare	☐ Benefit Explanation				Benefit Explanation				
Select	□ Claims/Billing				Claims/Billing				
	□ Complaints				Duals Demonstration				
	□ Eligibility/Screening				Eligibility/Screening				
	☐ Fraud and Abuse				Fraud and Abuse				
	☐ Guaranteed Issue Rights				Medicaid Application Assistance				
	□ Plan Non-Renewal				Medicaid Application Submission				
	☐ Plans Comparison				Medicare Buy-in Coordination Medicaid Expansion (ACA) Transition to				
Medicare	□ Appeals/Grievances			_	Medicare Medicare				
Advantage	☐ Benefit Explanation				Medicaid Recertification				
(MA and	☐ Chronic Condition Special Needs Plans				Medicaid Managed Care				
MA-PD)	□ Claims/Billing				Medicaid Spend Down				
	☐ Disenrollment				MSP Application Assistance				
	☐ Dual Eligible Special Needs Plans				MSP Application Submission				
	□ Eligibility/Screening				MSP Recertification				
	□ Enrollment				Program of All-Inclusive Care for the				
	☐ Fraud and Abuse			_	Elderly (PACE)				
	☐ Institutional Special Needs Plans				Provider Participation				
	☐ Marketing/Sales Complaints & Issues ☐ Plan Non-Renewal			ш	QMB Improper Billing				
	□ Plans Comparison			П	Active Employer Health Benefits				
	□ Provider Network		Other		COBRA				
	□ QIO/Quality of Care		Insurance		Indian Health Services				
	□ Supplemental Benefits		msurance		Long Term Care (LTC) Insurance				
	Please explain:				LTC Partnership				
			_		Marketplace Transition to Medicare				
					Other Health Insurance				
					Retiree Employer Health Benefits				
					Tricare For Life Health Benefits				
					Tricare Health Benefits				
					VA/Veterans Health Benefits				

Topics Discu	ssed (multiple selections allowed) (continued	from p. 2)*		
Medicare Part D	□ Appeals/Grievances □ Benefit Explanation □ Claims/Billing □ Disenrollment □ Eligibility/Screening □ Enrollment □ Fraud and Abuse □ Late Enrollment Penalty □ Marketing/Sales Complaints & Issues □ Pharmacy Network □ Plan Non-Renewal □ Plans Comparison	Additional Topic Details		Income Related Monthly Adjustment Amount Mail Order Prescription Medicare Card Medicare.gov Account Mental Health New to Medicare Opioids Physical Therapy
Total Time S	pent on This Contact *	Status	•	•
Hours _	Minutes	☐ In Progress		□ Completed
Special Use F	[⊋] ields	•		
Original PDP/MA	/MA-PD Cost:	Field 3: Field 4: Field 5:		
Notes				
-1000				