



News Release

Timothy Jeffries, Director

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DES Announces Assistance with 2016 Medicare Open Enrollment

PHOENIX – Medicare Open Enrollment runs this year October 15 to December 7, which provides an opportunity for individuals to change their Medicare health plan and prescription drug coverage for 2016. Medicare is a federal medical insurance program for people age 65 and older and those under the age of 65 who have a qualifying condition or disability.

The DES Division of Aging and Adult Services partners with the Area Agencies on Aging to offer assistance through the State Health Insurance Assistance Program (SHIP), which are free, state counselling services that help people understand their Medicare, Medicare Advantage, Medigap and Medicaid benefits. Anyone with Medicare-related questions can receive free assistance from a SHIP counsellor, even if they are not currently enrolled.

For existing Medicare members, is important to compare your current plans to what is offered in 2016, to ensure you have the plans that are best for you. If you feel that the 2016 Medicare Advantage or Part D coverage will meet your health care needs, it is still wise to check if there are other plans that offer better coverage at a more affordable price.

The Plan Finder tool at Medicare.gov is the best way to search for a Medicare Part D and Medicare Advantage Plan. The tool lists all of the plans available in your area, with details about the premiums and personalized information about the out-of-pocket costs you'd pay, please go to: <https://www.medicare.gov/find-a-plan/questions/home.aspx>

Need local help with enrollment? Call (800) 432-4040 for FREE assistance from a SHIP Counselor or visit: www.azdes.gov/daas/ship/ or www.medicare.gov.

Free enrollment assistance is also available, with no appointment necessary, at sites around the state.

Gila County

10/16/15	Payson Senior Center, Payson	10:00 am to 4:00 pm
10/20/15	Hayden Senior Center, Hayden	9:00 am to 4:00 pm
10/29/15	Globe Active Adult Center, Globe	9:00 am to 2:00 pm
10/30/15	Isabel Hunt Library, Pine	10:30 am to 1:30 pm
11/05/15	Miami Senior Center, Miami	9:30 am to 2:30 pm
11/09/15	Globe Active Adult Center, Globe	9:00 am to 2:00 pm

11/10/15	Hayden Senior Center, Hayden	10:00 am to 3:30 pm
11/13/15	Payson Senior Center, Payson	10:00 am to 4:00 pm

La Paz County

11/05/15	Parker Senior Center, Parker	9:00 am to 2:00 pm
11/16/15	Quartzite Library, Quartzite	10:00 am to 2:00 pm

Maricopa County

11/02/15	Chandler Senior Center, Chandler	10:00 am to 2:00 pm
11/06/15	Area Agency on Aging, Region One, Phoenix	9:00 am to 4:00 pm
11/07/15	Pyle Adult Recreation Center, Tempe	9:00 am to 3:00 pm
11/13/15	HIV Care Directions, Area Agency on Aging, Region One, Phoenix	9:00 am to 1:00 pm
11/16/15	Desert Palm Presbyterian Church, Sun City West	10:00 am to 2:00 pm
11/18/15	ABIL, Phoenix	10:00 am to 2:00 pm
12/01/15	Area Agency on Aging, Region One, Phoenix	9:00 am to 4:00 pm

Mohave County

10/19/15	Bullhead City Nutritional Center, Bullhead City	9:00 am to 3:00 pm
10/20/15	Kingman Senior Center, Kingman	9:00 am to 3:00 pm
10/21/15	Lake Havasu City	9:00 am to 3:00 pm
11/02/15	Kingman Senior Center, Kingman	9:00 am to 3:00 pm
11/03/15	Lake Havasu City	9:00 am to 3:00 pm
11/09/15	Bullhead City Nutritional Center, Bullhead City	9:00 am to 3:00 pm

Pinal County

10/19/15	San Manuel Sunlife, San Manuel	10:00 am to 4:00 pm
10/21/15	Superior Senior Center, Superior	10:00 am to 3:00 pm
10/22/15	Superior Arboretum Apts., Superior	11:00 am to 1:00 pm
10/26/15	Coolidge Adult Center, Coolidge	10:00 am to 2:00 pm
10/27/15	A.J. Active Adult Center, Apache Junction	8:00 am to 3:00 pm
10/28/15	Dorothy Nolan Senior Center, Florence	9:00 am to 1:00 pm
11/12/15	COPA Center, Maricopa	9:00 am to 3:00 pm
11/16/15	San Manuel Sunlife, San Manuel	10:00 am to 4:00 pm
11/18/15	Eloy Adult Center, Eloy	10:00 am to 1:30 pm
11/19/15	Dorothy Powell Senior Center, Casa Grande	9:00 am to 2:00 pm
12/04/15	Copper Sky Multi Center, Maricopa	9:00 am to 1:00 pm

Yuma County

10/27/15	Yuma Foothills Library, Yuma	10:00 am to 3:30 pm
10/28/15	Yuma Main Library, Yuma	9:00 am to 3:00 pm
11/12/15	Yuma Foothills Library, Yuma	10:00 am to 3:30 pm
11/13/15	Yuma Main Library, Yuma	9:00 am to 3:00 pm

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