**THE NARRAGANSETT INDIAN HEALTH CENTER**

**Information about Social Security and Medicare Enrollment**

**We are forwarding information regarding Medicare Open Enrollment which begins on October 15th.**

Medicare Open Enrollment begins on October 15, 2020, and ends on December 7, 2020. During this time, Medicare beneficiaries can compare coverage options like Original Medicare and Medicare Advantage and choose health and drug plans for 2021.

Medicare health and drug plan costs and covered benefits can change from year to year, so people with Medicare should look at their coverage choices and decide on the options that best meet their health needs. They can visit Medicare.gov ([https://www.medicare.gov](https://www.medicare.gov/)), call 1-800-MEDICARE, or contact their [State Health Insurance Assistance Program](https://www.shiptacenter.org/). People who want to keep their current Medicare coverage do not need to re-enroll.

**CONTACT FOR RHode ISland SHIP: Senior Health Insurance Program (SHIP)**

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| --- | --- |
| **Call** | 1-888-884-8721 |
| **TTY** | 401-462-0740 |
| **Website** | <http://oha.ri.gov/> |
| **Facebook** | [Find on Facebook](https://www.facebook.com/RISHIP.SMP/) |

The Social Security office has been encouraging their customers to use their [online services](https://www.ssa.gov/onlineservices/) or <https://www.ssa.gov/onlineservices/>.  For those who are unable or unwilling to conduct their business online, they will help you by phone.  They make appointments for anyone who needs to file a claim. Dire-need situations are brought to the attention of the manager and if needed, an appointment can be made to visit an office.

If you are a senior who is turning 65 and wants to file for Medicare (and don’t get checks from Social Security yet) you can file online or call the office for an appointment.  If you are over 65 and already enrolled in Part A but refused Part B because you were working and didn’t need the coverage, there are a couple of ways that you can file for Medicare Part B. (See SEP Enrollment Handout attached.)

I’ve attached the two forms needed to enroll in Part B during a Special Enrollment Period (which is the 8 months following the date they stop working or their employer health coverage stops). They can mail or fax those forms to the office.

Also, [Here](https://blog.ssa.gov/sign-up-for-medicare-part-b-online-by-fax-or-mail/#more-4934) is a link to an article on our website about the ways to file for Part B or click on the links below:

**Estimate your retirement**

<https://www.ssa.gov/benefits/retirement/estimator.html?utm_source=ssamatters&utm_medium=blog-overlay&utm_campaign=ssmatters-blog-overlay>

**Create your Personal *my* Social Security account today**

<https://www.ssa.gov/myaccount/?utm_source=socialsecuritymatters.gov&utm_medium=Overlay&utm_campaign=my_social_security_blog_overlay&utm_content=my_social_security_overlay>

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