

**From:** NCOA Center for Benefits Access <centerforbenefits@ncoa.org>  
**To:** Kester, Tonykester@aging.sc.gov  
**Date:** 11/16/2016 6:27:25 PM  
**Subject:** CORRECTED: Webinar: Seniors & SNAP Promising Practices

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View it in your browser.

## Webinar: SNAP promising practices

Since launching the Senior SNAP Enrollment Initiative, we've discovered numerous promising strategies to help older adults enroll in the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP). Join NCOA and DC Hunger Solutions for a webinar Nov. 30 to hear what we've learned.

[Register](#)

*Please see correction **below**. We apologize for the error.*

*Nov. 16, 2016*

## Medicare beneficiaries may face cost increases in 2017

People with Medicare are looking at increases in their Parts A & B premiums and deductibles unless Congress acts before the end of this year. The Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) announced increases beginning Jan. 1. Absent Congressional action, about 30% of Medicare beneficiaries who are not protected by the hold harmless provision will see their monthly Part B premium rise to **\$134**. In addition, the Part B deductible will go up to \$183 and the Part A deductible to \$1,316.

[Download our Medicare cost chart](#) | [Read the CMS notice](#)

## See 2017 Extra Help/LIS asset limits

CMS announced 2017 Extra Help/Low-Income Subsidy (LIS) asset or resource limits effective Jan. 1. The 2017 resource limits are \$7,390 (\$11,090 if married) for the full LIS and \$12,320 (\$24,600 if married) for other low-income subsidies. If a beneficiary reports in their application that they expect to use resources for burial expenses, the 2017 resource limits increase by \$1,500 for the full LIS and \$13,820 (\$27,600 if married) for other low-income subsidies. The 2016 income limits are effective until the Federal Poverty Level updates in early 2017.

[Get details](#)

## Find updated MSP enrollment data

CMS has released 2015 state- and county-level data on how many Medicare beneficiaries are enrolled in Medicare Savings Programs (MSP) or any form of Medicaid. You can compare these figures with historical MSP enrollment data in our visualization tool, which will be updated with these numbers soon.

[Download the latest figures](#) | [See historical enrollment data](#)

## CMS publishes fact sheet on star ratings

Medicare Advantage (MA) and Part D plan star ratings are published annually by CMS. These ratings attempt to measure quality in the plans, assist beneficiaries in finding the best plan for them, and determine MA Quality Bonus Payments. A new fact sheet from CMS outlines the distribution of high and low rated plans for the coming year.

[Read more](#)

## Help your clients become savvy savers

We've updated our Savvy Saving Seniors® modules on finding benefits, avoiding scams, and using prepaid cards. Each toolkit includes everything you need to host a financial education workshop for seniors in your community—including a presentation, facilitator's and participant guides, marketing flyers, and more.

[Download or order today](#)

### *Did you miss these resources?*

- **Meet our newest BECs:** Learn where the Center for Benefits Access has funded additional organizations to serve as Benefits Enrollment Centers.
- **National Medicare Education Program:** Find materials from monthly

- CMS calls about different topics in Medicare.
- **Data and Outcomes: National Survey Findings:** Explore trends and findings from a survey of data collection and outcome measures in this webinar presentation and recording from the National Association of States United for Aging and Disabilities (NASUAD).

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