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**Jan. 21, 2015**

#### **MIPPA IV at a glance**

Since 2009, Medicare Improvements for Patients and Providers Act (MIPPA) funding has helped nearly one million low-income beneficiaries apply for benefits that make Medicare affordable. With the latest round of funding, state grantees have plans to reach even more individuals, including veterans, rural residents, and those with limited English proficiency. Learn more about the proposed interventions, target populations, and partnerships in our *MIPPA IV at a Glance* fact sheet.

[Get the fact sheet](#)

#### **Apply for SNAP grants!**

Thanks to continued generous funding from the Walmart Foundation, NCOA is soliciting proposals from community-based organizations to help low-income seniors enroll in the Supplemental Nutritional Assistance Program (SNAP). Grants are available in two categories, for \$25,000 and \$50,000. Optional letters of intent are due Feb. 13, and applications are due March 6.

[Learn how to apply](#)

#### **Medicare Advantage Disenrollment Period ends Feb. 14**

If you have clients who are dissatisfied with their Medicare Advantage (MA) plan, there's still time for them to switch to Original Medicare. The MA Disenrollment Period runs from Jan. 1 until Feb. 14. During this period, only those with MA plans can choose to leave MA and return to Original Medicare, picking up a Part D plan if they do not already have one. Be aware that clients who do so may not have guaranteed issue rights to pick up a supplemental (Medigap) plan.

[Explore the MA Disenrollment Period rules](#)

#### **Special Enrollment Period (SEP) available for some Aetna Part D enrollees**

During Open Enrollment, incorrect information was posted on the Medicare Plan Finder, Aetna websites, and provided to the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) regarding which pharmacies were in-network for Aetna/Coventry Part D enrollees. Those enrollees who have since discovered their pharmacies are not in-network can take advantage of a SEP to choose a new Part D plan. Beneficiaries can call 1-800-MEDICARE and explain that they need to select a new Part D plan because of inaccurate marketing information. Aetna is also offering temporary access (until Feb. 28) to all pharmacies in its preferred network for Part D plan members.

[Read more](#) | [Get info from Aetna](#) | [Learn about other SEPs](#)

#### **Register...**

*Benefits University: Understanding the "terms of art" of applications*, Jan. 28 at 3 p.m. ET—Register for this webinar that explains common terminology found in benefits eligibility criteria.

#### **Don't miss these resources...**

*Visualizing LIS eligibility*—Access our county-level visualization of where there are high concentrations of Medicare beneficiaries likely eligible but not enrolled in the Part D Low Income Subsidy.

*How health coverage affects your taxes*—Discover how subsidized Marketplace insurance and other forms of coverage affect 2014 federal tax returns.

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