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Date: 11/2/2016 2:36:42 PM

Subject: Say hello to our new Benefits Enrollment Centers

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Say hello to our 13 new BECs

NCOA has awarded grants to 13 more organizations to become part of our growing Benefits Enrollment Center (BEC) network. The new grantees—serving broad geographic areas and special populations—expand benefits enrollment for Medicare beneficiaries into 31 states.

[Learn More](#)

Nov. 2, 2016

Temporary moratorium on new seamless conversions

The process of seamless conversion—wherein an individual in a private insurance plan is automatically enrolled into that company’s Medicare Advantage plan upon aging into Medicare—has faced scrutiny from advocates and beneficiaries alike. In a new memo, the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) has announced it is temporarily suspending its acceptance of any new seamless enrollment proposals from Medicare Advantage plans, and will soon issue another memo clarifying current policy.

[Read the memo](#) | [Find data on seamless conversion enrollments](#)

Featured resource: Part D late enrollment penalty

People who don’t sign up for Medicare drug coverage when they’re first eligible may face paying a penalty if they enroll later and don’t qualify for Extra Help. Learn how this late enrollment premium penalty is calculated, and what it might cost your clients next year.

[Learn more](#)

Social Security announces 0.3% COLA for 2017

The Social Security Administration recently announced that beneficiaries could expect a 0.3% cost of living adjustment (COLA) in the coming year. Because the COLA has implications for Medicare premiums and deductibles, we are awaiting a formal statement from CMS regarding how much Medicare beneficiaries will pay for Part B in 2017.

[Read the SSA press release](#)

Did you miss these resources?

- [Quick Guide to Recertification](#): Learn what your clients can expect to get in the mail when it comes time to recertify their benefits.
- [What’s Happening with Medicare in 2017](#): Download the slides and access the recording from our latest webinar.
- [Spotlight on Senior Independence](#): Share our video highlighting how BenefitsCheckUp® can help older adults identify programs to save

- them money.

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