

Application Assistance

The Senior Health Information and Insurance Education Program (SHIINE) has volunteers trained to assist you free of charge. Your local SHIINE volunteer would be happy to help you fill out your Medicare Savings Program application. These volunteers can also offer you counseling and assistance regarding Medicare.



A SHIINE volunteer can help with:

- ✓ Medicare questions
- ✓ Medicare supplemental insurance
- ✓ Medicare prescription drug coverage
- ✓ Long-term care insurance
- ✓ Medicare+Choice options
- ✓ Presenting to your local senior center

Contact Information:

Eastern South Dakota: 800.536.8197

Western South Dakota: 877.286.9072

Central South Dakota: 877.331.4834



South Dakota
Department of
Social Services

Medicare Savings Program

The Department of Social Services does not exclude, deny benefits to, or otherwise discriminate against any person on the basis of actual or perceived race, color, religion, national origin, sex, age, gender identity, sexual orientation or disability in admission or access to, or treatment or employment in its programs, activities, or services. For more information about this policy or to file a Discrimination Complaint you may contact: Discrimination Coordinator, Director of DSS Division of Legal Services, 700 Governor's Drive, Pierre, SD 57501, 605.773.3305.

Español (Spanish) - ATENCIÓN: si habla español, tiene a su disposición servicios gratuitos de asistencia lingüística. Llame al 877.999.5612 (TTY: 711).
Deutsch (German) - ACHTUNG: Wenn Sie Deutsch sprechen, stehen Ihnen kostenlos sprachliche Hilfsdienstleistungen zur Verfügung. Rufnummer: 877.999.5612 (TTY: 711).

Printed on recycled paper | May 2023
Quality Quick Print | 5,000 copies | \$0.12 per copy
EA05



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The Medicare Savings Program can put money back into your pocket

The Medicare Savings Program can save people with Medicare up to \$1,969.20 each year. Lots of people have applied for this program and now receive \$1,969.20 more in their Social Security checks each year. Many people use the extra money to help pay for living expenses.

Many people could receive this assistance, but they don't because they have not applied. You may be one of these people.



You could apply to receive this assistance if you answer “YES” to the following three questions:

1. Do you have or are you entitled to Medicare Part A, also known as hospital insurance?

If you are unsure, look on your red, white and blue Medicare insurance card. Or you can call Social Security at 800.633.4227 to ask. If you have or are entitled to Medicare Part A, go on to question 2 because the Medicare Savings Program may pay the Medicare Part A and/or Part B premium for you.

2. Are you an individual with a monthly income of less than \$1,660* or a couple with a monthly income of less than \$2,239**?
3. Are you an individual with savings of \$9,090 or less or a couple with savings of \$13,630 or less?

Savings include things like money in a checking or savings account, as well as stocks or bonds. When you are figuring out your savings, do NOT include your home, one car per couple used for transportation, burial plots, up to \$1,500 for burial expenses, or a limited amount in an irrevocable burial trust.

*Income limits for 2023 include a \$20 monthly income disregard.

**Income and savings limits may change slightly in 2024.

Call to get more information

Get the most out of Medicare by taking advantage of the Medicare Savings Program.

It is very important to call if you think you qualify for any of these savings, even if you are unsure.

Call your local Department of Social Services office. When you call, ask for a benefits specialist to discuss the Medicare Savings Program or call toll-free at 877.999.5612 (TTY/TDD 877.486.2048).

Online information:

Department of Social Services: dss.sd.gov

Local Office Information: dss.sd.gov/findyourlocaloffice/

Medicare Savings Program Information: dss.sd.gov/medicaid/generalinfo/medicarerecipients.aspx

Extra help with Medicare prescription drug plan costs

Medicare beneficiaries can qualify for extra help paying for their monthly premiums, annual deductibles, and co-payments related to Medicare Part D (prescription drug coverage). This program is run by the Social Security Administration. You can call Social Security at 800.772.1213 (TTY 800.325.0778) to apply over the phone, request a paper application, or to schedule an appointment to apply at your local Social Security office.