

About My Medicare Matters

My Medicare Matters is a new, comprehensive national education program to help people with Medicare and their families understand the new Medicare Prescription Drug Coverage, assess their personal situation, understand their choices, compare plan options and make the enrollment decision that is right for their health and their financial situation. It is sponsored by The National Council on the Aging and the Access to Benefits Coalition, with support from AstraZeneca Pharmaceuticals LP.

- My Medicare Matters is a grassroots, community-based educational initiative with a *national presence*:
 - On-the-ground teams in 27 states and the District of Columbia
 - Donation of wireless laptops with pre-loaded software to organizations that assist people with Medicare Part D in the other 23 states
 - A Web site for people with Medicare, their families and friends who want to help.
- My Medicare Matters will be active *continuously throughout the entire six-month* Part D enrollment period.
- My Medicare Matters provides the *ideal combination of tech and talk* –sophisticated information and education technology via laptop computers, and one-on-one support via NCOA benefits educators who will be part of the on-the-ground teams.

My Medicare Matters is multi-faceted and will reach people with Medicare at many levels close to home

- A fleet of 37 mobile education vans will bring trained staff and technology to 27 states and the District of Columbia (44 metro areas and nearly 300 counties).
 - My Medicare Matters will work with trusted community organizations, such as local Access to Benefits Coalitions, to support events where seniors can sit down with educators who will provide individualized, personal attention and guidance as they learn about the new coverage and their options.
 - The educators will use the latest technology via Web-enabled computers, to help seniors learn about the new prescription drug coverage, assess their situation, understand the choices they need to make, use Internet-based tools such as NCOA's BenefitsCheckUpRx or the Medicare Plan Finder to assess their situation, and find and compare plans
 - And if and when seniors are ready to join a plan, the educators may assist them in completing the online enrollment process or advise them about other methods for joining a plan.
- In 23 other states, My Medicare Matters will provide the same technology that the mobile education teams are using, donating hundreds of laptop computers to community organizations that work with people with Medicare. This will enable staff in these organizations to help educate and assist people with Medicare in learning about and understanding their choices in relation to Part D.
- And a new Web site, MyMedicareMatters.org will be available for use by people with Medicare, by their family and friends, or by professionals and organizations. The Web site will provide both educational materials, and the same tools that can be used to learn about Part D, assess an individual's rights and options and find and compare plans by linking to CMS' Medicare Prescription Drug Plan Finder. They will also be able to enroll online or request Extra Help from the Social Security Administration.
- All of these resources will be available and helpful to the family members and friends of people with Medicare who want to help their loved one understand their choices and make decisions about the enrollment process.