

*State of Idaho*  
**DEPARTMENT OF INSURANCE**

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**Idaho Department of Insurance News Release**

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## **Medicare Open Enrollment begins October 15**

**BOISE, ID (October 2, 2024)** – The Idaho Department of Insurance and Senior Health Insurance Benefits Advisors (SHIBA) encourage consumers eligible for Medicare to review their plan options and costs during this year’s open enrollment. From October 15 through December 7, Idahoans can make changes to existing Prescription Drug or Medicare Advantage plans or enroll in new plans.

“Medicare can be confusing, and plans and one’s circumstances can change. It’s important that Idaho seniors who have Medicare take the time to review their plans during open enrollment and choose the plan that best fit their medical needs,” said Director Dean Cameron. “I strongly encourage consumers to seek guidance from our SHIBA representatives and a licensed agent.”

Senior Health Insurance Benefits Advisors (SHIBA) from the Idaho Department of insurance are available to talk with Medicare beneficiaries and those eligible to join the federal health care program. SHIBA representatives can provide free Medicare information, including reviewing Medicare coverage options.

Call toll free (800) 247-4422 to speak with a SHIBA counselor. SHIBA also offers monthly Medicare webinar workshops. To register for an upcoming Medicare webinar, please contact the SHIBA Helpline at 1-800-247-4422.

The open enrollment period can also be a time when improper marketing can make things confusing for seniors and healthcare providers. Idahoans can learn more about how to protect themselves during 2024 Medicare Open Enrollment by visiting <https://doi.idaho.gov/shiba/medicare-improper-marketing/>

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### **About the Department of Insurance**

The Idaho Department of Insurance has been regulating the business of insurance in Idaho since 1901. The mission of the Department is to serve and protect Idahoans by equitably, effectively and efficiently administering the Idaho Insurance Code and the International

Fire Code. For more information, please visit us at [doi.idaho.gov](http://doi.idaho.gov) or email us at [consumeraffairs@doi.idaho.gov](mailto:consumeraffairs@doi.idaho.gov).

**About SHIBA**

Senior Health Insurance Benefits Advisors (SHIBA) serves Idahoans on Medicare and those who help them by offering free, unbiased Medicare benefits information and assistance through workshops, group presentations and personal counseling. SHIBA – a service of the Idaho Department of Insurance – is Idaho’s provider for the federal network of State Health Insurance Assistance Programs (SHIPs). The program is partially funded by and operated under the authority of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services Administration for Community Living (ACL).