

## Training Offered on Medicare Part D and Behavioral Health Issues

In recognition of past problems with Medicare Part D meeting the needs of individuals with behavioral health service concerns, the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) is supporting training for providers and APPRISE staff and volunteers to help them to better assist individuals in selecting the Medicare products and programs that best meet their needs. The Pennsylvania Department of Aging, with the Department of Public Welfare, the Pennsylvania Health Law Project, PCPA, and the Pennsylvania Behavioral Health and Aging Coalition, is presenting regional training programs to help understand the issues involved and resources available to resolve Medicare Part D concerns. There is no fee to attend.

Register online through [www.aging.state.pa.us/aging/cwp/view.asp?a=304&q=255419](http://www.aging.state.pa.us/aging/cwp/view.asp?a=304&q=255419) up to three days before the scheduled session date. Please contact Jack Vogelsong (717-772-0380 or [jvogelsong@state.pa.us](mailto:jvogelsong@state.pa.us)) with questions. The first session was held October 25 at Marywood University. The remaining sessions are:

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|-------------|---|-------------|--|
| November 5  | Masonic Village at Elizabethtown<br>Freemasons Cultural Center<br>One Masonic Dr<br>Elizabethtown, PA 17022 | November 15 | Holiday Inn North Hills<br>4859 McKnight Rd<br>Pittsburgh, PA 15237              |
| November 8  | Norristown State Hospital<br>Building 33<br>1001 Sterigere St<br>Norristown, PA 19401                       | November 28 | The Penn Stater Conference Ctr<br>215 Innovation Blvd<br>State College, PA 16801 |
| November 14 | Erie Bayfront Convention Center<br>1 Sassafras Pier<br>Erie, PA 16507                                       |             |  |

The training agenda for each session follows:

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|-----------------------|---|
| 8:00 a.m. – 8:45 a.m. | Registration  |
| 8:45 a.m. – 9:15 a.m. | Opening Remarks by Pennsylvania Departments of Aging and Public Welfare - Introduction of APPRISE Program and the New Mental Health Part D Initiative |

9:15 a.m. – 10:00 a.m. Introduction Into the Fundamentals of the Medicare Program - Overview of the Medicare program with a special emphasis on specific topics most relevant to the dual eligible Medicare beneficiary. Overview of Medicaid - Medicaid provides a critical benefit to the individuals experiencing mental health difficulties. An overview of Medicaid including eligibility and a description of covered benefits as well as the delivery system

10:00 a.m. – 10:15 a.m. Break

10:15 a.m. - 12:15 p.m. It's In the Details: In-depth discussion of the Medicare Part D program with special emphasis on the dual eligible mental health population to include:

- Eligibility and enrollment and disenrollment from plans. Tips to navigate the process.
- The specifics of Part D plans including the use of formularies; prior authorization requirements; patient rights; transitional supplies; and access to certain non-covered drugs.
- Benchmark Plans – What are they and what do they mean to the dual eligible consumer?
- Medicare Advantage – Special needs plans; types of special needs plans; pros and cons.
- Plan changes to drug formulary.
- Department of Public Welfare safety net programs – why they are needed?
- Enrollment/Disenrollment process.
- What to do when no one can figure out the problem.

12:15 p.m. Adjourn

Provider participation is encouraged at these training sessions.