4-6 Months before your month of eligibility:

- Confirm your eligibility for Medicare benefits.
  - Contact the Social Security Administration
    *(Railroad retirees contact the Railroad Retirement Board)*

- Review your current health insurance to see what happens after you become eligible for Medicare
  - Contact your HR Department or current insurer

- Find out what Medicare covers and the different options for coverage
  - Contact SHICK or attend a local New to Medicare or Medicare Basics program

3 months before your month of eligibility:
*The following steps MAY not be necessary for everyone*

- Decide which Medicare option is best for you
  - Contact SHICK or attend a local New to Medicare or Medicare Basics program

- Check with your doctor(s) to see if they accept the different types of Medicare coverage
  - Contact your providers and local hospitals

1-3 months before your month of eligibility:
*The following steps MAY not be necessary for everyone*

- Enroll in Medicare A and B
  - Contact your local Social Security office or enroll online
  - If you are continuing work, enrolling in Part B may not be your best option

- Enroll in a Medicare Supplement Plan OR a Medicare Advantage (MA) Plan
  - You only need one of these options. Do NOT enroll in both a Supplement and MA plan
  - Contact in insurance agent to enroll in a Supplement
  - Contact SHICK for assistance in choosing a MA plan

- Enroll in a Part D Prescription Drug Plan
  - Enroll online or contact SHICK for assistance
  - If you are enrolled in a MA plan that includes drug coverage, do not enroll in a Part D plan

For more information, contact Debra Wood at K-State Research and Extension, Central Kansas District Salina office at 785-309-5850.
**Medicare Resources**

**Turning 65 and Eligible for Medicare**
Enroll online at:

or in person at:
Social Security Administration
1410 East Iron Avenue, Suite 7
Salina, KS 67401
Call 1-877-405-3494 for an appointment.

**Information on Medicare Supplements at:**
https://insurance.ks.gov/healthlife/medicare/medsupp.php

**Compare Drug Plans and Medicare Advantage Plans:**
Medicare Website www.medicare.gov
- Call local SHICK Counselor (area extension offices with SHICK Counselors listed below), Area Agency on Aging at 1-800-432-2703, or SHICK Hotline at 800-860-5260.
- Have Medicare card and list of medications including dosage and quantity available.

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**Medicare Open Enrollment**
**October 15 – December 7**

**K-State Research and Extension (Call to make an appointment)**

**Central Kansas District**
(Saline and Ottawa Counties)
Deb Wood
K-State Polytechnic campus
2218 Scanlan Ave
Salina, KS 67402
dwood@ksu.edu or 785-309-5850

**Chisholm Trail District**
(Dickinson and Marion Counties)
Renae Reidy
712 S Buckeye Ave.
Abilene, KS 67410
renae@ksu.edu or 785-263-2001

**Midway District**
(Ellsworth and Russell Counties)
Jessica Kootz
210 N Kansas Ave, Suite 1
Ellsworth KS 67439
jessicak@ksu.edu or 785-472-4442

**Or**
North Central Flint Hills Area Agency on Aging
401 Houston Street
Manhattan, KS 66502
Phone: (785) 776-9294 or (800) 432-2703
Ask for SHICK counseling

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**SHICK Counselors provide free, unbiased, confidential information on Medicare, Medicare Supplement Insurance, Long-Term Care, and other health insurance subjects that concern older Kansans.**

The goal is to educate and assist the public to make informed decisions on what's best for them.