

Things to Remember:

ADAP recognizes that Medicare Part D is overwhelming for most of us. The following is a list of basic steps to help guide you through the process. We advise you to seek assistance immediately through resources listed on the following page, Medicare Part D Resource List.

- 1) **Review your mail carefully:** Your current drug plan and Medicare will be sending you important notices regarding your 2009 Part D benefits. Plans may change in 2009, so watch for changes that might impact you.
- 2) **Medicare Part D Open Enrollment:** Open enrollment is November 15, 2008 through December 31, 2008. Review your 2009 plan options to ensure that you enroll in the Part D plan that will best meet your medication needs. You can enroll in a plan by contacting the plan directly or by contacting: (800) Medicare.
- 3) **“Extra Help” Low Income Subsidy (LIS):** ADAP requires that most Medicare eligible ADAP clients apply for the “Extra Help” LIS. LIS significantly lowers the costs that the Part D plan is permitted to charge clients. LIS eligibility ensures that you have the lowest out-of-pocket costs for medications that may not be on the ADAP formulary.

To apply for LIS, go into your local Social Security Administration office, request an application by phone (800) 772-1213, or apply online at www.ssa.gov. The Social Security Administration will take a few weeks to process your application and will notify you of your eligibility by mail. Once you receive your LIS determination notice, please take a copy of the notice to your ADAP Eligibility Worker and mail or fax a copy to the ADAP Medicare Part D Premium Payment Program.

- 4) **Creditable Coverage:** If you have creditable coverage and do not wish to enroll in a Medicare Part D plan, please take a copy of your 2009 Certificate of Creditable Coverage to your ADAP Enrollment Worker. You do not need to apply for the ADAP Medicare Part D Premium Payment Program. Some individuals indicated that they have had difficulty obtaining these certificates. Here are a few tips to try:
 - Look in the “Evidence of Coverage” book that your insurance coverage provides each year. A “Creditable Coverage” statement is frequently placed in these books under “Medicare” or “other coverage.”
 - If you have not received these materials by mail, most evidence of coverage books are available online.
 - If you have insurance through a group or employer, ask the person in charge of benefits to assist you.

Medicare Part D Resource List

Medicare:

Web site includes general Part D information including links to important tools that can assist you with the Part D plan selection process.

www.Medicare.gov

(800) Medicare

Social Security Administration:

Web site includes “Extra Help” Low Income Subsidy (LIS) information including links to the LIS application. You can also apply for LIS in person at your Social Security Administration office or by telephone.

www.ssa.gov

(800) 772-1213

Health Insurance Counseling and Advocacy Program (HICAP):

Local agencies provide consumer counseling relating to all Medicare issues, including Medicare Part D. Offices are located in each county. Contact the number below to locate the office in your county.

(800) 434-0222

Cal-Medicare:

Web site includes California specific Medicare Part D information and a link to all local HICAPs (see above) in each county.

www.calmedicare.org

California ADAP:

Web site includes current information regarding ADAP’s Medicare Part D policies and application information for the new “ADAP Medicare Part D Premium Payment Program.”

www.cdph.ca.gov/programs/AIDS

(916) 449-5900

Ramsell Public Health Rx:

This Pharmacy Benefits Management company contracts with ADAP to conduct the day-to-day administration of California’s ADAP. Web site includes links to the ADAP formulary, ADAP enrollment site, and ADAP pharmacy network information.

www.publichealthrx.com

National Health Law Program:

Web site includes a link to an important new resource guide, “Medicare Part D and Dual Eligibles: A Guide for California Advocates.”

www.healthlaw.org