

Medicare Savings Program

Milwaukee SHIP Collaborative, Milwaukee County Department on Aging

Video Link: [Medicare Savings Program Informational Video](#)

Video Transcript

Hi. Thanks for tuning into the 2021 Medicare Information Video series sponsored by the Milwaukee SHIP collaborative.

In this segment, we'll talk about how to apply for the Medicare Savings Program.

I'm Shae Williams, a Benefit Specialist at The Social Development Commission. The Social Development Commission's mission is to empower Milwaukee County residents with the resources to move beyond poverty.

The S.D.C also a member of the MKE Ship Collaborative led by Milwaukee County. This collaborative brings together federal, state, and local agencies. It allows us to provide you with timely, accurate, and unbiased information about Medicare programs. We assist you with Medicare cost, Medicare appeals, and Medicare fraud prevention.

Here's what I'd like to talk about now.

The Medicare Savings Program may help you save on Medicare premiums. If your gross monthly income is at or below the Federal Poverty Guidelines for 2021, you may qualify.

This project is supported in whole or in part by grant numbers 2001WIMISH, 2001WIMIAA and 2001WIMIDR from the U.S. Administration for Community Living, Department of Health and Human Services, Washington, D.C. 20201. Grantees undertaking this project with government sponsorship are encouraged to express freely their findings and conclusions. Points of view or opinions do not, therefore, necessarily represent official ACL policy.

For the Medicare Saving program, the income guidelines are as follows:

- 1 person \$1,449 with an asset limit of 7,970
- 2 people \$ 1,959 with an asset limit of 11,960

Assets include saving and checking accounts, stocks, bonds, mutual funds, retirement accounts and real estate.

Assets will never include: a primary house, a car, household items or things like wedding rings.

It doesn't include burial space, and burial funds up to \$1,500 per person or life insurance which includes a cash value of less than \$1,500.

Also, keep in mind there are Medicare Savings Programs which can help you pay your Medicare premiums, deductibles, and co-payments. These programs can help you keep more money in your pocket and balance your expenses.

To see if you are eligible, call the Aging Resource Center at (414) 289-6874.

And remember, we're here to help.

Contact Information and Resources

The Aging Resource Center

The ADRC provides accurate and timely information regarding community resources for older adults, consultations about long-term care options, and information about benefits such as Medicare, Medicaid, and Social Security.

- **Phone Number:** (414) 289 – 6874
- **Website:** <https://county.milwaukee.gov/EN/Department-on-Aging>

Medicare Part D Helpline

The Medicare Part D helpline serves Medicare beneficiaries with disabilities and is run by Disability Rights Wisconsin.

- **Phone Number:** (800) 926-4862
- **Website:** <https://disabilityrightswi.org/program/medicare-part-d-helpline/>

Medigap Helpline

The Medigap Helpline serves Medicare beneficiaries 60 and older and is operated by the Wisconsin Board on Aging and Long Term Care.

- **Phone Number:** (800) 242 – 1060
- **Website:** <https://www.dhs.wisconsin.gov/aging/medigap.htm>

Benefits Specialists

Benefit Specialists are in every county and provide individualized counseling and advocacy, including help with Medicare and other public and private benefits issues.

- **Website:** <https://www.dhs.wisconsin.gov/benefit-specialists/index.htm>