

Criteria

An Active SHIP volunteer must:

- Complete a 24-hour basic training
- Want to help people with Medicare in his/her community
- Attend regular local in-service training sessions (usually 2 half-day sessions per year)
- NOT be affiliated with (i.e., employed by, or in a position to sell) any insurance product, agency, company or service
- Make a minimum one-year commitment
- Be willing to assure complete confidentiality to every client
- Complete required paperwork
- Enjoy meeting new people and helping others
- Like to have fun

Volunteer Form

If you would like to volunteer or receive more information on volunteering, please fill out the following information and mail to the address on back of brochure or e-mail us.

I would like to hear more about becoming a volunteer...

Name _____

Address _____

City _____

State _____ Zip _____

County _____

Phone _____

State Health Insurance Assistance Program

In 1992, all U.S. states and territories received grants from the Center for Medicare and Medicaid Services to begin state health insurance counseling programs.

In Indiana, this program is called SHIP (State Health Insurance Assistance Program). For over 10 years, SHIP has offered:

- Free impartial health insurance information
- Trained volunteers to assist through an 800 help line or at local sites in most Indiana counties
- One-on-one health insurance counseling for people with Medicare
- Presentation in local communities



LOCAL HELP FOR PEOPLE WITH MEDICARE

INDIANA DEPARTMENT
OF INSURANCE - SHIP

714 W. 53rd Street • Anderson, Indiana 46013

1 (800) 452-4800 ext. 4
www.medicare.in.gov

All about becoming a volunteer for the



LOCAL HELP FOR PEOPLE WITH MEDICARE

STATE HEALTH INSURANCE
ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

1 (800) 452-4800, ext. 4
www.medicare.in.gov

What is SHIP?

SHIP (State Health Insurance Assistance Program) is a statewide network of trained volunteers who educate and assist people with Medicare and their families with questions on health insurance.

SHIP provides consumers with free, impartial and confidential health insurance counseling regarding Medicare, Medicare supplement insurance, Medicare managed care plans, assistance, long-term care financing options, Medicaid and finding help with prescription costs. SHIP wants to help people with Medicare including people under 65 with disabilities get more value from their health insurance dollars.

This program is sponsored by the Center for Medicare and Medicaid Services and the Indiana Department of Insurance.



YOU have choices!

SHIP is a satisfying volunteer opportunity for hundreds of people across Indiana.

SHIP provides services through many channels: seminars, local community training, one-on-one counseling, public speaking, publications, videos and more. Volunteers are the key to the program's success.

SHIP volunteers are called on to assist with questions on Medicare, Medicare supplements, Medicaid, employer benefit plans, managed care plans, long-term care, help pay for prescriptions and more.

Counseling can include an analysis of insurance needs, side-by-side policy comparisons, help with filing claims, and appeals or filling out applications for assistance.

SHIP offers its volunteers choices on how they would like to volunteer:

Phone Counselor - Phone calls made to the SHIP 800 number can be transferred to a SHIP site or to your home (at no cost to you).

On-Site Counselor - You can go to your local sponsoring agency to answer phone calls made to SHIP or assist with one-on-one client interviews.

Volunteers can do both phone and site counseling.

Be a part of Indiana's answer to consumer protection!

Insurance can be complex, even confusing. National surveys show that fraud merchants seek out seniors and the disabled. SHIP volunteers are trained to detect fraud as well as overlap between policies and risky coverage gaps.

YOU can help! Give your local community (and yourself) the education, options and referrals needed to make informed choices about health insurance.



Volunteering is good for you!

Herbert Benson, a professor of medicine at Harvard Medical School, says volunteering produces the same relaxing effects as meditation and yoga.

Dr. James House of the University of Michigan has found doing volunteer work more than any other activity, dramatically increases life expectancy.