



# ALL THINGS SHIP

ECIAAA Quarterly SHIP Newsletter



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## SHOUTOUT TO SHIP COUNSELORS IN PSA 05

**Dear SHIP Counselors,**

We hope that this month's newsletter finds you well! With the general open enrollment period coming to a close in March, we would like to give a shoutout to all SHIP counselors in PSA 05 who are putting their best foot forward each day to help older adults navigate the complexities of Medicare. This quarter's newsletter is dedicated to helping you stay informed on what is new with SHIP, Covid-19 vaccinations, and targeting caregivers who care for or will soon be caring for Medicare-eligible older adults.



# EVENTS

## Coming Up: Changes to Medicaid Following the Public Health Emergency

CMS published a new regulation on November 6, 2020 which allows Medicaid beneficiaries to be moved to the Medicare Savings Program (limitations apply). NCOA is hosting a webinar on March 12th to discuss this new rule. [Click here](#) to learn more and register for the event.

## Past Event: What's New for Medicare in 2021

The SHIP TA center hosted a webinar on January 13th detailing the changes to Medicare costs and Medicare Advantage Plans. You can access all resources [here](#).

### Highlights:

- Beneficiaries with End-Stage Renal Disease (ESRD) can enroll in any MA Plan
- Special Supplemental Benefits for the Chronically Ill for any chronic condition
- Part D Senior Savings Model - beneficiaries can enroll in a Part D plan that charges no more than a \$35 copayment per insulin prescription each month

## A FRIENDLY REMINDER

Providers are strongly advised to attend bi-monthly calls to stay informed. If you have not been receiving updates and bi-monthly call invites, contact Sandy Leith, Director of SHIP, at [Sandy.Leith@illinois.gov](mailto:Sandy.Leith@illinois.gov).

Save the date for these upcoming bi-monthly calls:



**April 6**  
**June 1**  
**August 3**  
**October 5**  
**December 8**

# NEW FUNDING: BACKGROUND CHECKS

The Administration for Community Living (ACL) has implemented a new policy for SHIP sites which mandates that all SHIP counselors must have a national fingerprint background check completed every three years. ECIAAA has reached out to SHIP sites to plan for funding allocation to help accomplish this task. The following are some of the entities that providers can use for fingerprint background checks in PSA 05:

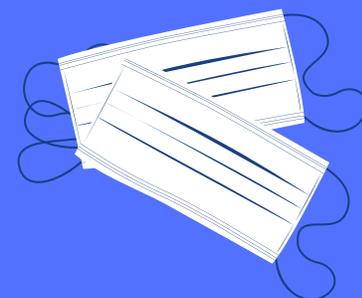
- Search your zip code at [Accuratebiometrics.com](https://www.Accuratebiometrics.com) - does not require an ORI number
- Search ink and Live Scan locations by county at [ApplicantServices.com](https://www.ApplicantServices.com)
- Search your location at [IdentoGo](https://www.IdentoGo.com)
- Bloomington, Decatur, Champaign, and Charleston: [Biometric Impressions](#)
- Bloomington, Champaign, Charleston, Danville, Decatur, Pontiac, Normal, Paxton, Urbana, Watseka: [Bushue Background Screening](#) - does not require an ORI number
- Bloomington/Normal, Pontiac: [Ethos Fingerprinting](#)
- Champaign, Danville, Paris: [Flawless Biometrics](#)
- Champaign, Decatur, Shelbyville: [Firm Systems](#)
- Champaign/Urbana: [Jimi-Q FingerPrinting](#)

The completed background check should be sent to your agency and retained for your records. If the vendor requires an ORI number, you can apply for one by contacting the IL State Police:

815-740-5160 or email at [ISP.BOI.Customer.Support@illinois.gov](mailto:ISP.BOI.Customer.Support@illinois.gov).

## COVID-19 RESOURCES & VACCINE INFO

- VA facilities offering Covid-19 vaccines: [Covid-19 Vaccines at the VA](#)
- [State of Illinois Covid-19 Vaccine Response](#)
  - [Vaccine FAQs](#)
- [IDOA Covid-19 Resources and Flyers](#)
- [IDPH Covid-19 Vaccine Resources](#)
- [CDC Vaccine Resources](#)
- Addressing Misinformation:
  - The Wall Street Journal: [Covid-19 Vaccine Scams Grow, Leveraging Confusion About How to Get the Shot](#)
  - CRIS Healthy Aging Center [Covid-19 Fact Sheet](#)
  - CDC: [Addressing COVID-19 Misinformation on Social Media Preemptively and Responsively](#)
  - [Achieving Acceptance of COVID-19 Vaccine](#)
  - [No, COVID-19 vaccine patients are not being injected with a microchip](#)



# COVID-19 VACCINE SCAMS

The Federal Trade Commission created social media graphics about Covid-19 vaccine scams which can be shared broadly with older adults and caregivers. Providers are also welcome to brand them. Click [here](#) for more.

**One Way to Avoid COVID-19 Vaccine Scams**

On Medicare? You don't have to pay to get the COVID-19 vaccine. Only scammers will ask you to pay.

Learn more at [ftc.gov/coronavirus/scams](https://ftc.gov/coronavirus/scams) or call **877-355-0213**



FEDERAL TRADE COMMISSION

**Una manera de evitar las estafas de vacunas contra el COVID-19**

¿Es beneficiario de Medicare? Usted no tiene que pagar para obtener la vacuna contra el COVID-19. Únicamente los estafadores le pedirán que pague.

Más información en [ftc.gov/coronavirus/estafas](https://ftc.gov/coronavirus/estafas) o llamando al **877-355-0213**



COMISIÓN FEDERAL DE COMERCIO

**One Way to Avoid COVID-19 Vaccine Scams**

On Medicare? You don't have to pay to get the COVID-19 vaccine. Medicare has you covered.

Learn more at [ftc.gov/coronavirus/scams](https://ftc.gov/coronavirus/scams) or call **877-355-0213**



FEDERAL TRADE COMMISSION

**Una manera de evitar las estafas de vacunas contra el COVID-19**

¿Es beneficiario de Medicare? Usted no tiene que pagar para obtener la vacuna contra el COVID-19. Medicare le cubre la vacuna.

Más información en [ftc.gov/coronavirus/estafas](https://ftc.gov/coronavirus/estafas) o llamando al **877-355-0213**



COMISIÓN FEDERAL DE COMERCIO

The toll free number brings callers to the following message:

Thank you for calling the FTC's Helpline for tips to help you avoid COVID-19 vaccine scams.

Press: 1 for English Press: 2 for Spanish

Here are three ways to avoid a COVID-19 vaccine scam:

- You can't pay to put your name on a list to get the vaccine. That's a scam.
- You can't pay to get early access to the vaccine. That's a scam.
- Nobody legit will call, text, or email about the vaccine and ask for your Social Security, bank account, or credit card number. That's a scam.

To learn more, visit [ftc.gov/coronavirus/scams](https://ftc.gov/coronavirus/scams)

To find out how, when, and where to get a COVID-19 vaccine in your community, contact your state or local health department.

Press: \* to repeat

No repeat request: Thank you for calling the FTC. Goodbye

# SPOTLIGHT: CAREGIVERS

An increasing amount of adult children are providing care to relatives who are older adults. It is important to target caregivers with information that increases their awareness of available programs that could benefit their care receiver.

## TARGETING CAREGIVERS

Article highlight: [Rural & Frontier Outreach: A Culturally Relative Approach](#)

"In rural communities word of mouth is the best marketing that money can't buy."



- See NCOA's new and improved site for [Professionals](#)
- Consider doing a Facebook Live session to educate caregivers about Medicare benefits and enrollment periods.
- NCOA's [Benefits Outreach to Underserved Populations](#)

## MEDICARE RESOURCES FOR CAREGIVERS

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- NCOA's site for [Caregivers](#) contains comprehensive resources on aging well and staying informed about important benefits.
- Encourage caregivers to check out NCOA's [Age Well Planner](#) for themselves and with their care receiver to plan for a healthy financial future. Caregivers can explore this user-friendly resource with their care receiver prior to speaking with a certified SHIP counselor.
- NCOA's [BenefitsCheckUp tool](#) is another way in which caregivers can discover programs their care receiver may be eligible for.
- Share this article from AARP: [Understanding Medicare's Options: Parts A, B, C and D](#)