

## Medicare Advantage Open Enrollment Period Begins in January

From January 1, 2024 – March 31, 2024, if you are enrolled in a Medicare Advantage Plan, you can switch to a different Medicare Advantage Plan or switch to Original Medicare (and join a separate Medicare drug plan) once during this time. Your coverage will start the first day of the month after you ask to join the plan.

### What can I do?

- If you are in a Medicare Advantage Plan (with or without drug coverage), you can switch to another Medicare Advantage Plan (with or without drug coverage).
- You can drop your Medicare Advantage Plan and return to Original Medicare. You will also be able to join a separate Medicare drug plan.

### What can't I do?

- Switch from Original Medicare to a Medicare Advantage Plan.
- Join a Medicare drug plan if you are in Original Medicare.
- Switch from one Medicare drug plan to another if you are in Original Medicare

**Note:** You can only switch plans once during this period.

If you need assistance changing your Medicare Advantage Plan during the Medicare Advantage Open Enrollment, you can find help locally at the McDowell Senior Center in Marion or the A.C. Bud Hogan Community Center in Old Fort. We request that you fill out and return a SHIIP Medicare Program Assistance & Information Contact Form available at the reception desk at both sites and our SHIIP counselors will contact you for an appointment.

You can also get help from North Carolina SHIIP, the Seniors' Health Insurance Information Program, by calling 1-855-408-1212, Monday through Friday, from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Or you can call 1-800-MEDICARE (1-800-633-4227) 24 hours a day, seven days a week, to find out more about your coverage options. TTY users should call 1-877-486-2048.

Additionally, visit [www.medicare.gov](http://www.medicare.gov) and login into your Medicare account to compare your current coverage with all of the options available in your area and you can enroll in a new Medicare Advantage Plan or switch to a stand-alone drug plan if you decide to make a change.