October 3, 2014

Dear Blind Pension Participant:

You recently received a letter from the Department of Social Services (DSS) notifying you that if you are a blind pension participant and enrolled in Medicare, beginning January 2015, your prescription costs will be paid by a Medicare Part D benchmark plan before they are paid by the State. This letter provides you with instructions on what to do and resources to assist you with enrolling in a Medicare Part D benchmark plan. **You will not have to pay Medicare Part D premiums or additional out-of-pocket copays for prescriptions.**

Medicare Part D benchmark plans are prescription drug plans that offer coverage at or below a federally-established premium amount and are typically large, national plans. 2015 Medicare Part D benchmark plans are

* AARP MedicareRx Saver Plus (PDP)
* Aetna Medicare Rx Saver (PDP)
* Humana Preferred Rx Plan (PDP)
* SilverScript Choice (PDP)
* SmartD Rx Saver (PDP)
* Symphonix Value Rx (PDP)

Open enrollment for Medicare Part D begins October 15 and runs through December 7. During that time you should take one of the following actions.

* **If you are enrolled in Medicare and not enrolled in a Medicare Part D plan**

1. Enroll in a Medicare Part D benchmark plan during open enrollment
2. Complete the enclosed enrollment form
3. Fax the completed form to (573) 522-8514 or email a scanned copy to PartDQuestions@dss.mo.gov.

* **If you are enrolled in Medicare and currently enrolled in a Medicare Part D plan**

1. Make sure your Medicare Part D plan is a benchmark plan for 2015 (see above for a list of benchmark plans).
2. If you are not enrolled in a Medicare Part D benchmark plan, enroll in a benchmark plan during open enrollment
3. Complete the enclosed enrollment form
4. Fax the completed form to (573) 522-8514 or email a scanned copy to PartDQuestions@dss.mo.gov.

* **If you are enrolled in Medicare and have employer-sponsored or other third-party insurance** other than Blind Pension MO HealthNet

1. You do not need to enroll in a Part D plan
2. Complete the enclosed form with information on your employer-sponsored or other third-party insurance coverage
3. Fax the completed form to (573) 522-8514 or email a scanned copy to PartDQuestions@dss.mo.gov.

When enrolling in a Medicare Part D benchmark plan you will need to provide

* Your MO HealthNet card
* Your Medicare card
* Your Creditable Coverage letter included in this packet
* A photo ID; and
* A current list of your medications.

These items are needed regardless of how you enroll; information on enrollment assistance follows.

**Resources to help you enroll in a Medicare Part D plan**

* **MO HealthNet Division.** You may return the enclosed authorization form allowing the MO HealthNet Division to enroll you in a Medicare Part D benchmark plan. Send the completed authorization form to DSS using the contact information on the authorization form.
* **CLAIM (Community Leaders Assisting the Insured of Missouri),** the State Health Insurance Assistance Program, by calling 1-800-390-3330. A trained counselor can provide free education and assistance in choosing a Medicare Part D benchmark plan.
* **Area Agencies on Aging (AAA).** Missouri has ten AAA that are ready to assist you with your enrollment in a Medicare Part D benchmark plan. You can visit [www.moaging.com](http://www.moaging.com) to find your local agency or call 1-855-731-0022 for help locating an agency in your area.
* **Your local pharmacy.** Your local pharmacy can assist you with enrolling in a Medicare Part D benchmark plan.

If you choose to work with CLAIM, AAA, your local pharmacy or another entity, please ensure they complete and send the enclosed enrollment form on your behalf.

**Questions?**

For general questions related to this change, you can send an email to PartDQuestions@dss.mo.gov or call toll-free 1-855-731-0022.

For questions about your creditable coverage letter call (573) 751-6963.