MEDICARE/MEDICARE PART B ENROLLMENT ADVISORY LETTER (AUTOMATED)

Name
Address
Address
City
MID:
DOB:
SSN#:

Your Medicaid record shows that you are age 65 or older or that you will soon be 65. We do not show that you are enrolled in **Medicare Part B**.

Medicare is a health insurance program administered by the federal government. It helps pay for medical care provided by doctors, hospitals, home health agencies, and skilled nursing homes. People who have resided in the United States for five years or longer and who are 65 years old are eligible for Medicare.

Because you meet the age requirement for Medicare, you MUST do the following:

- 1. Call the Social Security office at **1-800-772-1213** for an appointment to apply for Medicare Part B.
- 2. Give the operator your name and social security number.
- 3. Identify yourself as a Medicaid client when you make your appointment.
- 4. Obtain a copy of your birth certificate for valid proof of your age. If you do not have a birth certificate, contact your case worker at the county DSS for assistance.
- 5. Use the same name in Social Security records and in Medicaid records.
- 6. Enroll in a Medicare Prescription Drug Plan. Medicaid cannot pay for your prescription drugs.

Once your Medicare application has been approved by the Social Security Administration, you will receive a red, white, and blue Medicare card. Show this card to your caseworker and medical providers. After you receive this Medicare card, the Medicaid program will:

- 1. Pay the monthly Medicare Part B premium for you.
- 2. Pay Medicare Part A and B cost sharing amounts (up to the Medicaid allowable amounts) for doctor and hospital care.

If you refuse to enroll in Medicare, the Medicaid Program cannot pay for any medical bills you incur that Medicare would have paid. This means that you will have to pay these medical bills yourself. The providers of service (doctors and hospitals) will bill you and expect you to pay for their services.

IMPORTANT: Call the Social Security Administration at **1-800-772-1213** immediately for an appointment to apply for Medicare benefits. You **do not** have to have worked and paid taxes to be eligible for Medicare.

If you have questions about this letter, contact your county Department of Social Services.