

# Pathway to Medicare Counselor Certification

## Initial or Recertification

## Required Training and Checklist

<p>A Certified Medicare Counselor can accept referrals to provide local, in-depth, and objective counseling and assistance to Medicare-eligible individuals, their families, and caregivers.</p> <p>Counseling is a collaborative effort. State staff and <b>1-800-MEDICARE</b> are available to support Medicare Counselors.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Initial interview with Medicare Information Office staff (Q and A) by phone, in person, or Webinar and go over Counselor roles and responsibilities.</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Submit a request to be a registered user at the SHIP TA Center (<a href="https://www.shiptacenter.org/login">https://www.shiptacenter.org/login</a>)</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Complete the following courses from the Medicare Rights University for SHIPs at the SHIP TA Center (including tests):             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Level 1: Medicare Basics                 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Course 1: Health Insurance Terms</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Course 2: Medicare Overview</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Course 3: Medicare Options</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Course 4: Enrollment Periods</li> </ul> </li> <li>Level 2: Medicare Coverage Rules                 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Course 1: Part A (Hospital Insurance)</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Course 2: Part B (Medical Insurance)</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Course 3: Part D (Medicare Prescription Drug Benefit)</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Course 4: Medigap Plans (Supplemental Insurance)</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Course 5: Medicare Advantage Plans</li> </ul> </li> <li>Level 3: Appeals and Penalties                 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Course 1: Original Medicare Health Appeals</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Course 2: Medicare Advantage Health Appeals</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Course 3: Medicare Part D Drug Appeals</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Course 4: Enrollment Penalties and IRMAA</li> </ul> </li> <li>Level 4: Other Insurance and Assistance Programs                 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Course 1: Medicare and Employer Insurance</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Course 2: Medicare and Other Insurances</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Course 3: Programs that Help Pay Medicare Health Costs</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Course 4: Programs that Help Pay Medicare Drug Costs</li> </ul> </li> <li>Special Topics                 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Medicare Fall Open Enrollment (OPTIONAL)</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> The Affordable Care Act and Medicare: Medicare and the Marketplaces</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Medicare Coverage of Durable Medical Equipment (DME)</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Medicare and End-Stage Renal Disease (ESRD)</li> </ul> </li> <li>Special Topics Module: Medicare and Hospital Care Transitions                 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Course 1: Medicare and Hospital Care (OPTIONAL)</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Course 2: Medicare and Hospital Discharge Planning (OPTIONAL)</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Course 3: Medicare and Post-Hospital Care (OPTIONAL)</li> </ul> </li> </ul> </li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Follow-up interview with Medicare Information Office staff to discuss and plan your mentoring/co-counseling with a Certified Medicare Counselor</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Receive your Medicare Counselor Certification</li> </ul>
<b>Phone: (907) 269-3680 Fax: (907) 269-2045 Email: <a href="mailto:hss.medicare@alaska.gov">hss.medicare@alaska.gov</a></b>	