



National Center for Benefits Outreach and Enrollment (NCBOE) (MIPPA Resource Center)

Ryan Ramsey

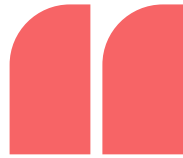
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Overview of MIPPA Funding and Grant Activities





*What is the Medicare
Improvements for Patients
and Providers Act (MIPPA)
of 2008?*

Explanation of MIPPA



Purpose of MIPPA

- MIPPA was enacted to improve Medicare access to preventative services and expand financial assistance for eligible older adults.
- To be eligible for Medicare preventative services:
 - ☐ Must be enrolled in Medicare Part B (medical insurance);
 - ☐ use a provider who accepts assignment.
- To be eligible for Medicare cost assistance programs, older adults must meet two requirements:
 - ☐ Be receiving, or within initial enrollment period for, Medicare.
 - ☐ Have gross income below 150% the federal poverty limit (FPL) and assets below the federal limits.

Note: State programs may have different income exceptions or may have no assets testing

Explanation of MIPPA



- MIPPA funds outreach, education, and enrollment assistance, helping beneficiaries navigate healthcare programs through counseling and helplines.
- MIPPA focuses on three critical areas that directly affect low-income Medicare beneficiaries:
 - ☐ Medicare Savings Programs
 - ☐ Low-Income Subsidy (LIS)/Extra Help Benefits
 - ☐ Preventive Services Access
- Let's discuss further details on the specific functions of each priority area

Priority Areas

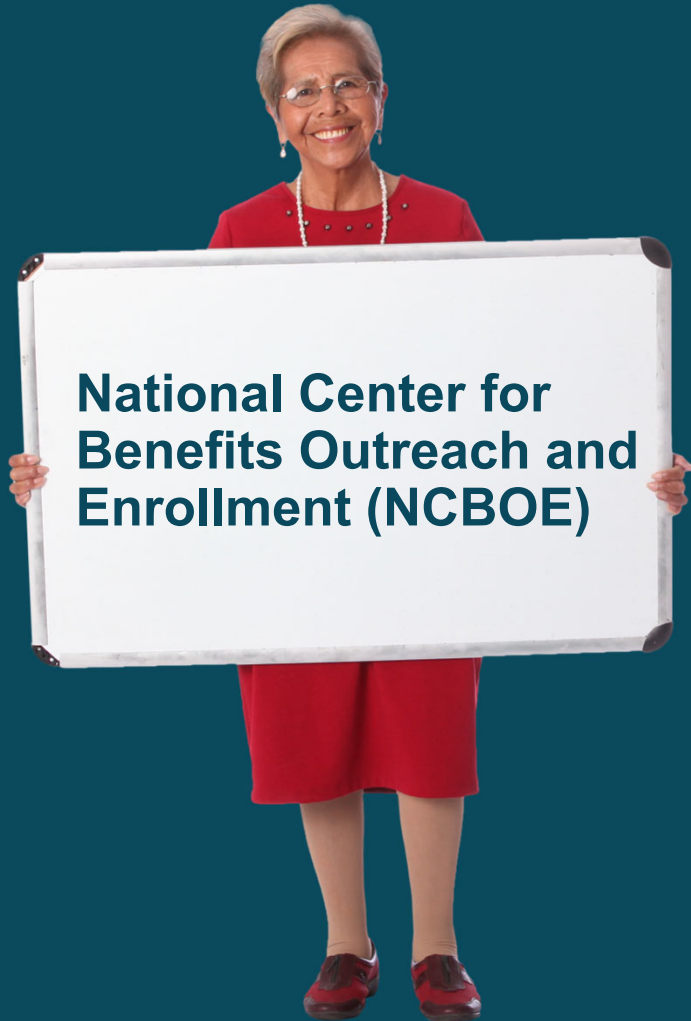
Priority Area 1 Funding to state agencies (State Units on Aging or State Departments of Insurance) that administer SHIP to provide enhanced outreach to eligible Medicare enrollees regarding their preventive, wellness, and benefits; and application assistance to individuals who may be eligible for LIS or MSPs.

Priority Area 2 Funding to state agencies for AAAs programs to provide enhanced outreach to eligible Medicare enrollees regarding their preventive, wellness, and benefits; and application assistance to individuals who may be eligible for LIS or MSPs.

Priority Area 3 Funding to established ADRCs or designated state agency serving as the No Wrong Door lead to provide enhanced outreach regarding Medicare Part D benefits related to LIS and MSP, and conduct outreach activities aimed at preventing disease and promoting wellness.

National Center for Benefits Outreach and Enrollment (NCBOE)





- ACL releases a cooperative agreement opportunity in various cycles and NCOA was selected to serve as the NCBOE.
 - ❑ Previous cycles were 5 years.
 - ❑ This was for 3 years.
- NCOA has served as the NCBOE for 18 years, since MIPPA's inception.
- Also known as the MIPPA Resource Center.
- Provides training & technical assistance, to support increases in outreach and enrollment into MSP/LIS.
- Utilizes data and mapping/data visualization to help target outreach.

Benefits Enrollment Centers (BECs)

- BECs connect eligible individuals to federal, state, and local benefit programs that help them afford daily expenses or help them reduce their expenses.
- Serving older adults and adults with disabilities eligible for Medicare.
- Our network of BECs extends to 90 agencies working across 40 states and territories.



To see the lists of Benefits Enrollment Centers across the country visit:
www.ncoa.org/article/meet-our-benefits-enrollment-centers

Benefits Enrollment Centers (BECs)

- BECs assist individuals with the following programs:



Medicare Low-Income Subsidy
(assistance with prescription drug costs)



Medicare Savings Programs (MSP)
(assistance with Medicare premiums)



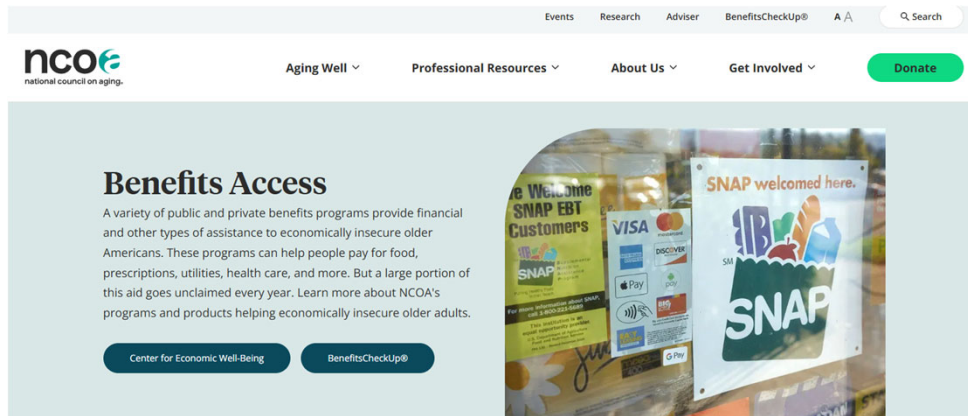
Supplemental Nutrition
Assistance Program (SNAP)
(food assistance)



Medicaid
(health coverage program
for low-income individuals)

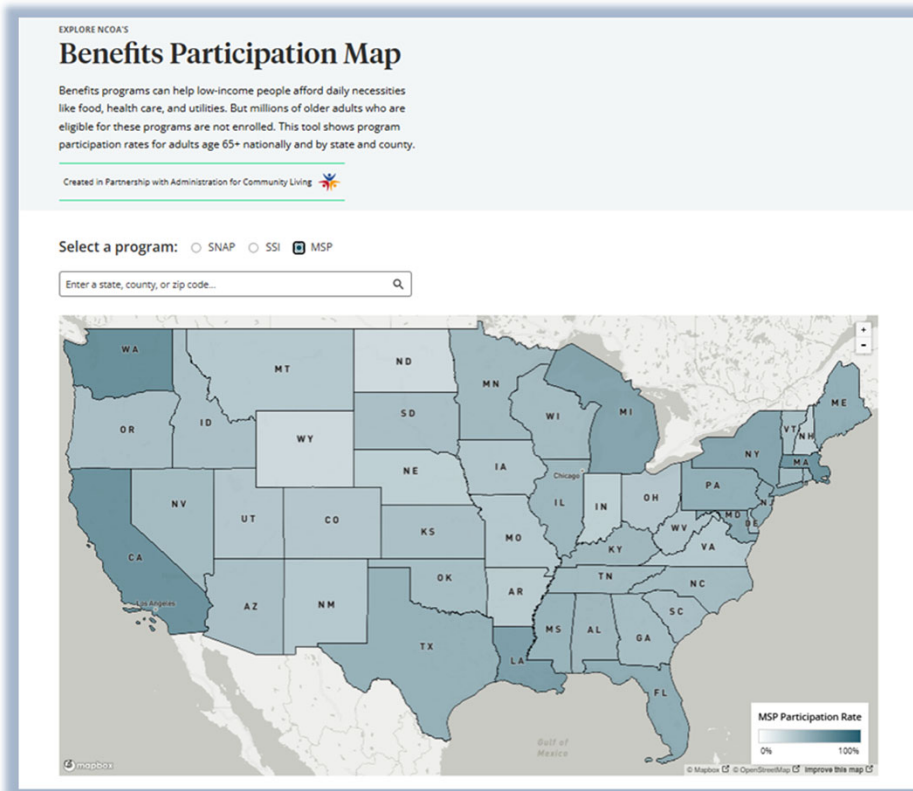
- On average these programs can save individuals:
 - ❑ MSP ≈ \$2,434.80 per year (\$202.90/month)
 - ❑ LIS ≈ \$5,700 per year
 - ❑ SNAP ≈ \$2,256 per year (≈ \$188/month)
 - ❑ Medicaid ≈ \$26,484 per year
- These benefits and more can be found on NCOA's [Estimated Value of Benefits for Benefits Enrollment Centers](#) page.

NCOA's Website



- Information on MIPPA, resources and fact sheets on core benefit programs.
- Sample outreach materials and toolkits.
- Promising practices in benefits outreach and enrollment.
- Mapping/data visualization tools.
- [NCOA.org: Center for Economic Well-Being](https://www.ncoa.org/)

Benefits Participation Map



- This tool shows program participation rates for adults age 65+ nationally and by state and county.
- On this page you will find the interactive map which allows you to select up to five counties or states to compare on a chart and table beneath.
- There is also further ability to filter by SNAP, SSI, and MSP participation rates.
- <https://www.ncoa.org/benefits-participation-map/>

BenefitsCheckUp®

www.BenefitsCheckUp.org

Free online screening tool with 2,500+ public and private benefits

We have white labels available and can support a MIPPA lead in having a white label if it would be useful

The screenshot shows the homepage of the BenefitsCheckUp website. At the top, there is a navigation bar with the NCOA logo and the text "BenefitsCheckUp". Below this, a large banner features a smiling woman and the headline "Stay Healthy and Independent with BenefitsCheckUp". The banner text explains that the tool connects millions of older adults and people with disabilities to benefits programs that can help them afford nutritious food, health care, and more. A search bar with the ZIP code "40502" is visible. Below the banner, a section titled "What Is BenefitsCheckUp?" provides a brief description of the tool's purpose. To the right of this text is a photo of two men sitting on a bench. At the bottom, a dark blue section titled "Free Help to Get Started" lists three ways to get assistance: "Chat Online" (click the "Chat With Us" button), "Call Our HelpLine" (1-800-794-9559, Monday-Friday, 8 a.m. to 7 p.m. EST), and "Find Local Help" (use the map to locate NCOA partners and programs).

BenefitsCheckUp® connects millions of older adults and people with disabilities with benefits programs that can help them afford nutritious food, health care, and more. See what's available in your area by entering your ZIP code below.

40502

What Is BenefitsCheckUp?

BenefitsCheckUp connects older adults and people with disabilities to programs that can help them afford daily expenses, live healthy, and stay independent. Our free tool makes it easy to find programs that can boost your budget—then shows you how to learn more and apply online.

[Learn How BenefitsCheckUp Works](#)

Free Help to Get Started

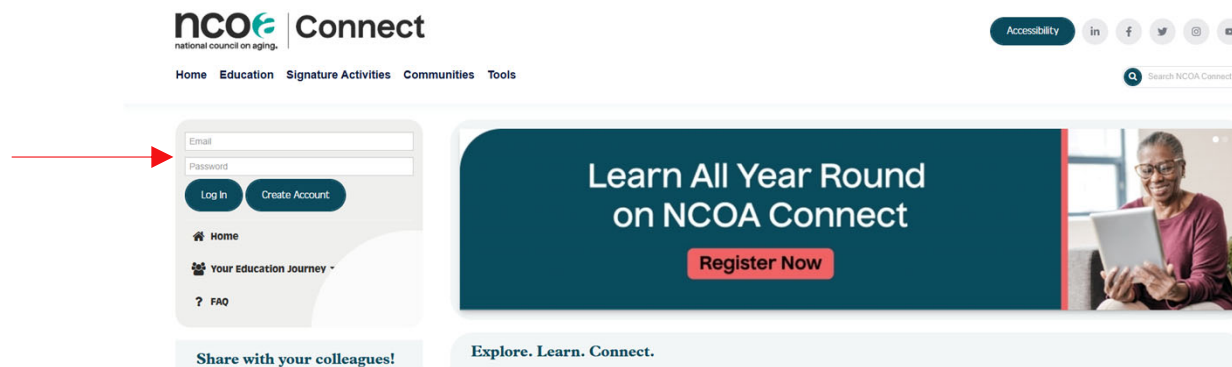
- Chat Online**
Click the "Chat With Us" button in the bottom right to talk to a live representative.
- Call Our HelpLine**
Call us at 1-800-794-9559 for benefits help anytime Monday–Friday, from 8 a.m. to 7 p.m. EST.
- Find Local Help**
Get help near you by using our map (available in English only) to locate NCOA partners and programs.

MIPPA Technical Assistance Calls

- TA Webinar:
 - ☐ Teams Webinars, Second Wednesday @ 2:00pm EST of Each Month
 - ☐ Peer-to-Peer Learning Replaces this Quarterly (March, June, September)
 - ☐ Register for these on NCOA Connect
 - ☐ Complete the Microsoft Teams Registration page linked to the registration button within each event
 - ☐ You will receive a registration confirmation and your link to join the meeting
- No calls scheduled for October, November, and December to allow focus on Medicare's Annual Enrollment Period.

NCOA Connect: the MIPPA Learning Management System

- Go to the website <https://connect.ncoa.org/>
- On the left-hand side, enter your email address and password to log in.
 - ❑ Don't have a log-in yet? Select "Create Account"
 - ❑ Forgot your password? Visit <https://connect.ncoa.org/password/forgot> to request a reset.
- Be sure to set your email filter to allow connect.ncoa.org@mailgun.commpartners.com to send notifications and reminders about any events/activities you register for using the platform.



Center Communications: MIPPA List-serv



- E-mail distribution of Medicare policy updates, MIPPA related fact sheets and education materials, outreach tools and training info, to MIPPA network.
- These communications are sent via our Simplelist and recipients will receive weekly updates:
 - ☐ Victoria Spera-Ballesteros manages these emails
 - ☐ May need to ensure it does not get caught in Spam folder and mark it as safe to ensure consistent receipt of that email
 - ☐ We will send the updated list of directors each month
- To join list-serv contact:

Victoria Spera-Ballesteros | victoria.spera-ballesteros@ncoa.org

Additional Resources



NCOA Video Shorts

Medicare Shorts Series



- [Medicare Shorts: For Professionals - YouTube](#)
- What is Medicare
- Overviews of each aspect of Medicare
- LIS/Extra Help
- Medicare Savings Programs
- Medicare Prescriptions Payment Plan
- Demo on Plan Finder and Case Scenarios
- And more to be added and updated in the future



Thank You!

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