



Programs for Older Adults

Resources in Suburban Cook County

AgeOptions

Area Agency on Aging for suburban Cook County serves people with disabilities and those 60+ years old.

- 30 townships
- 130 communities

We serve approximately **573,000** Older Adults

In FY21, AgeOptions and funded partners served **204,399** individuals.

Funding sources include: state, federal, corporate, private foundations and individual donations



AgeOptions

- **AgeOptions** innovates, partners, and advocates to improve systems and services in order to strengthen communities so people thrive as they age
- **AgeOptions** supports services and programs that make it possible for older adults to live independently in their homes and communities



Public Benefits Programs

- Benefit Eligibility Criteria changes periodically.
- Information in this presentation is accurate as of January 2021.
- AgeOptions is not responsible for determination of eligibility or the amount of benefits granted.
- Always consult with current eligibility guidelines at the time of application.



Benefits Access Goal

- To increase the financial stability of older adults and persons with disabilities through enrollment in...

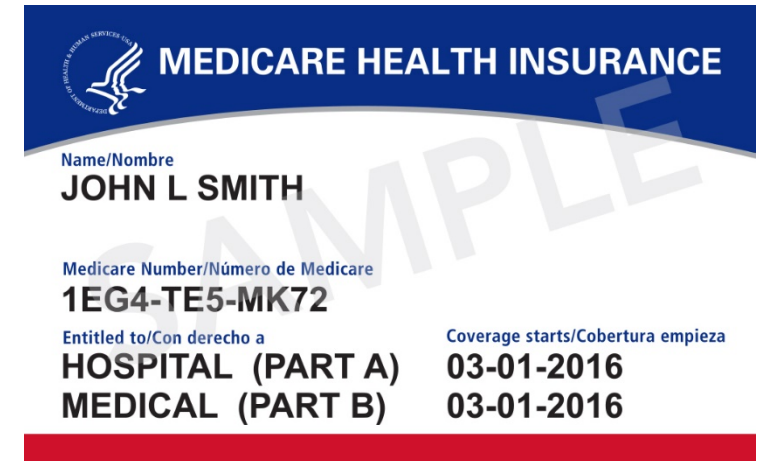


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Medicare Savings Program (MSP)

- A Medicare Savings Program pays for Medicare Part A and Part B premiums.
- An MSP may also cover deductibles and co-insurance



A sample Medicare Health Insurance card for John L. Smith. The card features the Medicare logo and the text 'MEDICARE HEALTH INSURANCE'. It displays the cardholder's name, Medicare number, and the start date of coverage for both Part A and Part B, which is 03-01-2016. A large 'SAMPLE' watermark is visible across the card.

MEDICARE HEALTH INSURANCE	
Name/Nombre JOHN L SMITH	
Medicare Number/Número de Medicare 1EG4-TE5-MK72	
Entitled to/Con derecho a HOSPITAL (PART A)	Coverage starts/Cobertura empieza 03-01-2016
MEDICAL (PART B)	03-01-2016



Extra Help/Low-Income Subsidy (LIS)

- Works with coordinating Medicare Part D plans
 -
 - No or low premium and deductible, low co-payments for drugs



Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP)

Helps buy groceries!

- Covers people who are age 60 or older, blind, or disabled
- Must meet Gross Monthly Income Standards
Income:
 < \$2,127 individual, <\$2,873 household of two
- Assets do not matter
- Monthly expenses are taken into consideration
- \$16-\$204 for an individual



SNAP is NOT Apple Pie



When Pieces Are Gone, SNAP is NOT Gone



SNAP – Then and Now

- SNAP benefits used to be issued as Food Stamps and not a LINK Card.
- A LINK Card is like a debit card. Your monthly benefits are electronically deposited on your card on your specified reload day.



What Can You Buy with SNAP Benefits?

- Fruits and Vegetables
- Seeds for planting
- Meat, fish, eggs, tofu
- Dairy products
- Bread, pasta, rice, cereal, other grain products
- Ingredients used for baking or cooking
- Prepackaged and frozen foods
- Water, juice, ice



What Can You **NOT** Buy with SNAP Benefits?



Where Can I Use My SNAP Benefits?

Jewel-Osco®



TARGET



**Other
Stores**



Where to Use SNAP Online



Benefit Access Application

Seniors Ride Free and License Plate Discount

- Qualifications: Must be 65 or older, or individual with a disability and live in IL
- Income Limit: \$33,562/yr individual; \$44,533/yr couple
- Can only apply online at IDOA website:
webapps.illinois.gov/AGE/BAA/Welcome.aspx



Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP)

Administered by CEDA (Community and Economic Development Association) in Cook County

- Assists eligible low-income households pay for winter energy services
- May also offer furnace assistance – repair or replace
- Summer Cooling programs will operate if money is available
- Seniors and people with disabilities who are connected or disconnected get priority assistance in applying
- **Income Guidelines:** \$2,127 one person household; \$2,873 two person household

To locate a LIHEAP intake site in cook county, go to www.cedaorg.net or call the IL LIHEAP Hotline at 877-411-9276



Helpful Resources



Benefits CheckUp

- Created by the National Council on Aging
- National database
- Geared for people 55 years and older
- Screens for over 2,000 benefits programs

www.benefitscheckup.org

Medicare.gov

- Sign Up/Change Plans
- Find helpful forms, help, resources
- File claims/appeals
- Find out what Medicare does/doesn't cover

www.medicare.gov



Eldercare Locator

- Public service of the U.S. Administration on Aging
- Connects older adults and families to services
- Nationwide service
- Provides referral information for I&A providers, Area Agencies on Aging, Aging Disability Resource Centers, State Agencies on Aging, SHIP sites, Long Term Care Ombudsman, Legal Services and Elder Abuse prevention
- Go to www.eldercare.gov
- Call 1-800-677-1116



Additional Services for Individuals with Disabilities

- **Progress Center for Independent Living** (708)209-1500
[?] for people with disabilities under the age of 60 and reside in suburban Cook County: (708)209-1500
- **Access Living** (312)640-2100
[?] for people with disabilities under the age of 60 and who reside in Chicago
- **IL Network of Centers for Independent Living**
[?] Go to <http://www.incil.org/locate/> to find a Center for Independent Living in Illinois by County



Countywide Information and Assistance

Suburban Cook County

AgeOptions
(708)383-0258

City of Chicago

Chicago Department of Family and Support Services –
Senior Services
(312)744-4016

Collar Counties Outside of Cook County

AgeGuide
(800)528-2000



Who to Contact in your Community?

AgeOptions funds a group of agencies to serve as

Aging Disability Resource Networks (ADRNS)

- These organizations are the first point of contact to access aging services.
- Each agency covers a specific geographic area of Suburban Cook County

To find your ADRN:

- Visit our website at <https://services.ageoptions.org>
- Call us at 708-383-0258



Thank you!

For information and a screening please contact:

benefits@ageoptions.org

(708)383-0258 Ext. 393 or

Toll Free (800)699-9043 Ext. 393



Questions and Conversation

