

Tribal Health Reform Resource Center

A project of the
National Indian Health Board



Tribal Healthcare Reform Newsletter

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[NIHB](#)
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July 2017

The National Indian Health Board Tribal Healthcare Reform Newsletter provides a brief overview on NIHB's outreach and education activities in Indian Healthcare reform.

Your tribal healthcare reform resource. Go to [HERE](#) for more information.

Upcoming Dates

NIHOE Monthly Call

July 6, 2017

IHS Q&A Call/NIHB Webinars

July 16, 2017

NIHB 34th Annual National Tribal Nations Health Conference

September 25-28th.
Seattle, WA

Stories for Health Tribal Communities

NIHB needs help to tell your stories of how Marketplace coverage, Medicaid, Medicare, or the Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP) have helped our Native people to continue progress under the current administration!



NIHB is launching a storybanking campaign to record the positive stories of impact on Indian health for the last 8 years so we can continue the progress for #HealthyTribalCommunities everywhere.

Your personal information will not be shared in these stories and your identities will stay hidden! If you have any positive impact stories

[Submit Online Now!](#)

Please email Chawin 'Win' Reilly if you have any questions at Wreilly@nihb.org

Join Our List

[Join Our Mailing List!](#)

Change to Occur to Medicare Cards-- Elders, Enrollment Assisters, beware of potential scams!

By April 2019, the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid services is required to remove Social Security Numbers (SSNs) from all Medicare cards.

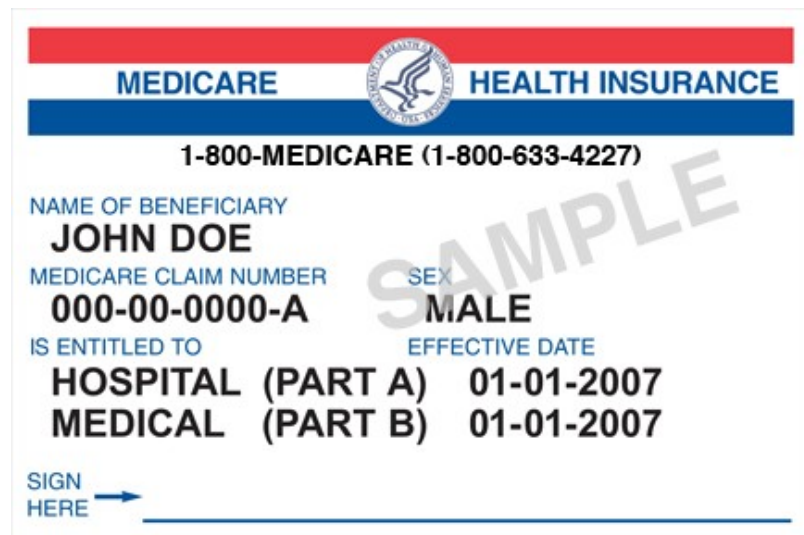
A new Medicare Beneficiary Identifier (MBI) will replace the SSN-based Health Insurance Claim Number (HICN) on the Medicare cards for Medicare transactions.

This change is designed to fight medical identity theft for people with Medicare. CMS will begin mailing out new Medicare cards starting April 2018 in anticipation of this change.

Consumers, Patient Benefits Counselors, and Health Educators, be aware of this change and the potential for scams and fraud targeting our Native Elders. Learn about the possible changes and details to ensure that your community members do not fall victim to health scams or fraud.

Remember, scammers and frauds rely on confusion and misinformation with their targets. Some scammers may attempt to contact consumers and claim to be representatives of Medicare and collect personal information or payment.

Learn more [HERE](#)



Old generic Medicare card pictured above

Medicare Equitable Relief Assistance Available Now!

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The Centers for Medicare and Medicaid (CMS) offers equitable relief to certain individuals enrolled in both Medicare Part A and coverage through the marketplace, for individuals and families to enroll in Medicare Part B without penalty!

CMS is also offering equitable relief to certain individuals who dropped or lost their coverage through the Marketplace and are paying a late enrollment penalty from the subsequent late enrollment into Medicare Part B.

Equitable relief is limited to individuals who are currently are or were enrolled in coverage through the Marketplace for individuals and families and are entitled to Medicare premium-free Part A. In addition, to be eligible for the equitable relief, the individual must have:

- Have an Initial Enrollment Period (IEP) that began April 1, 2013 or later; or
- Have been notified of a retroactive premium-free Medicaid Part A award on October 1, 2013 or later.

Through this program Individuals may have their penalty reduced.

Individuals can apply for Medicare Part B enrollment opportunity and reduction in late enrollment penalties during a limited time. It is available now and ends September 30, 2017!

To see if you qualify or claim equitable relief individuals should contact Social Security at 1-800-772-1213 (TTY users should call 1-800-325-0778) or visit their local Social Security office for more questions. Individuals can also mention they are interested in applying for "equitable relief" when submitting their Medicare part B enrollment documents.

Marketplace Learning Management System (MLMS) Offline For New Training, Updates coming for 2018

Some of you may be familiar with the Marketplace Learning Management System (MLMS) used to educate Navigators and Certified Application Counselors (CACs) on health care reform and interacting with consumers. The MLMS system is a vital resource for health educators to understand and interact with CMS programs.

Updated yearly, the MLMS houses a training for Navigators and Certified Application Counselors on the changes in the health insurance Marketplace. Currently, the training for 2017 has closed from the previous year and CMS is in the process of uploading the 2018 training content. Stay tuned for the release of this material so that you may begin your training for the 2018 year!

Some of the changes to the MLMS system for calendar year will include:

- Updates to the "Find Local Help" tool that allow the user to display contact information for all states in which they are licensed.
- Improvements to how the curriculum is displayed to make it easier for you to find the appropriate courses
- Ability to customize the MLMS profile fields by selecting an appropriate role

Learn more [HERE!](#)



The Indian Health Service (IHS) Office of Resource Access and Partnership is pleased to host the 2017 Partnership Conference on August 22-24, 2017, in Denver, Colorado.

This three-day conference will feature diverse speakers and current topics relevant to the Indian health system. The Partnership Conference will feature diverse speakers and current topics relevant to the Indian Health System. Topics covered will include: Revenue Generation, Purchased Referred Care (PRC), Health Information Management, Program Best Practices, and much more.

The Partnership Conference is designed for healthcare administrators, managers, and front-line staff in Business Office, Purchased Referred Care (PRC) and Health Information Management (HIM) Programs. Federal, Tribal, and Urban program attendees will benefit from this important event.

There is no registration fee for the conference and limited HIM continuing education credits will be offered!
Learn more and register here today!

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Upcoming CMS I/T/U Training-Denver, CO

The Centers for Medicare and Medicaid is hosting a one day I/T/U training for Business Office staff, Benefits Coordinators, Patients Registration staff, Medical Records staff, and Purchase and Referral staff.

When: Monday, August 21, 2017

Where: Marriot Denver Tech Center
4900 S. Syracuse Street
Denver, CO 80237

Please register to attend this one day pre-training to the Direct Service Tribes meeting at: <http://www.cmsitustrainings.net/>

NIHB and IHS to host a new call series: Best Practices in Indian Health!

Purpose: The webinar provides an opportunity for participants to learn about various benefits programs and for staff from the Indian Health Service, Tribes, Tribal Health Programs, Tribal Organizations, and Urban Indian Health Programs to share best practices related to benefits education, assistance and outreach to AI/ANs.

Intended Audience: Patient registration staff, patient benefits coordinators, application counselors, third party billers, health information management consultants, purchased/referred care staff and other individuals that assist patients with health benefits coverage.

When: Occurs third Tuesday of every month, 1pm ET unless stated otherwise.

Sign up for the IHS ACA Listserve [HERE](#) to be updated about the next call.

If you have any questions or comments, feel free to contact Chawin 'Win' Reilly at wreilly@nihb.org.

Sincerely,

Chawin 'Win' Reilly
National Indian Health Board