



**SHINE**

# Applying for Financial Assistance

## Counselor Resource

It is the best practice of SHINE counselors to always screen clients for cost savings programs, such as the Medicare Savings Programs (MSP) and the Low-Income Subsidy (LIS) program, and to report such screenings when filling out the Beneficiary Contact forms.

SHINE counselors should encourage clients to apply for these programs if their income and assets indicate that they may be eligible. “When in doubt, fill it out.”

### MEDICARE SAVINGS PROGRAM (MSP)

There are two ways that a beneficiary may apply:

1. Apply online at the Department of Children and Families' ACCESS website:

<https://myaccess.myflfamilies.com/>

DCF requires that the applicant must be physically present while completing the online application and must submit their electronic signature on their own.



- Select "Apply for Benefits." This will open the ACCESS Florida application page. Then select "Apply for Benefits" again.
- Click on “Start a new application for Food Assistance (SNAP), Medical Assistance, and/or Cash Assistance.”

- Log in to an existing Medicaid account or create a new one.
- Read and follow the instructions, answering all the questions.
- When complete, the beneficiary must submit the application.

2. Submit a completed paper “Medicaid/Medicare Buy-In Application” to:

ACCESS Central Mail Center  
P.O. Box 1770  
Ocala, FL 34478-1770



### LOW-INCOME SUBSIDY (LIS)/EXTRA HELP

There are two ways that a beneficiary may apply for LIS/Extra Help:

1. Apply online at the Social Security Administration (SSA) website:

<https://www.ssa.gov/medicare/part-d-extra-help>

2. Obtain and complete a paper application from the local Social Security Administration office. To find your local SSA office, call 1-800-772-1213.