If you became eligible for Medicare after January 31, 2020 but did not enroll due to the public health emergency (PHE) and Medicaid coverage, you may have missed a Medicare enrollment period. Medicaid renewals are starting and you may lose coverage.

You will need to enroll in Medicare. There are new federal rules that create a Special Enrollment Period to allow you to enroll in Medicare outside of your Open Enrollment Period and the General Enrollment Period without a late penalty.

You can enroll in Medicare through an Special Enrollment Period when you are notified that your Medicaid coverage is ending. To learn more about Medicare eligibility, you can visit Medicare.gov and click “Get Started with Medicare”.

Kentucky also has knowledgeable insurance counselors that can help you understand Medicare and how to sign up. Please call the Kentucky State Health Insurance Program (SHIP) Hotline at 1-877-293-7447 (option #2) or call The Department for Aging and Independent Living at (502) 564-6930 and ask for a SHIP counselor.