

# Join Connecticut's Official SHIP/CHOICES PROGRAM

*Help your community navigate Medicare, with confidence, because the need is real and it's growing!*

This past enrollment season made **one** thing clear: *We don't have enough CHOICES certified counselors in CT to meet the demand.*

Many towns still have zero certified counselors, and residents are waiting longer to get assistance. Beneficiaries are left to navigate Medicare on their own or are often left to rely on biased sources.

To provide timely, **year-round** Medicare support, each town needs certified CHOICES counselors.

*Communities that invested in building local CHOICES capacity, now experience...*

**Better-informed residents | Shorter wait times | Less seasonal stress | On-Demand support from the program...& much more!**

*...and your community can experience the same benefits!*

**Join Us and Make a Difference in their Lives!**

**Contact our program  
at 203-757-5449 x 4 or  
1800-994-9422 to get  
started!**

## 2026 Fall Training Session

\*Application Deadline: Friday,  
July 14th

\*Orientation (VIRTUAL): Tuesday  
August 4th

\*Self-paced Modules (VIRTUAL):  
Tuesday August 4th – Tuesday,  
September 1st

\*Live Training (IN PERSON):  
September 8th, 9th & 10th



# SHIP

State Health Insurance  
Assistance Program

## WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW:

- ✓ CHOICES trainings are free for volunteers and \$125 for in-kind (paid professionals).
- ✓ Training participants must complete an orientation session, self-paced training modules, three training days, sign an MOU and take an online certification exam.
- ✓ Training topics include: The parts of Medicare, Medigap, eligibility, coverage, costs, coordination of benefits, cost assistance programs and much more.
- ✓ Counselor expectations include a commitment to learning, helping beneficiaries navigate Medicare using Plan Finder and other trusted tools, assisting with applications for cost-saving programs, accurately reporting counseling sessions, and participating in required annual trainings.

*Note: individuals who may have a conflict of interest such as insurance agents are unable to participate.*



## Benefits of Becoming a CHOICES Counselor?



- ✓ **Empowerment Through Knowledge:** Gain in-depth knowledge of Medicare and Medicaid, to guide clients with confidence.
- ✓ **Be the Trusted Expert:** Offer seamless support and become a go-to resource.
- ✓ **Simplify the Process:** Cut through the red tape and save clients time and frustration.
- ✓ **Promote Healthy Living:** Help seniors make choices that enhance their well-being.
- ✓ **Elevate Your Role:** Position yourself as the trusted point of contact in your community, enhancing your services and solidifying your reputation as a valuable asset.
- ✓ **Boost Your Career:** Enhance your skills and credentials for professional growth.

**Just to mention a few...**