Help available for Medicare enrollees

The El Dorado County Health Insurance Counseling and Advocacy Program (HICAP) is offering free assistance to all Medicare beneficiaries in El Dorado County from Oct. 15-Dec. 7.

During open enrollment, people with Medicare can join, unenroll from, or change a Part D drug plan or Medicare Advantage plan, with changes taking effect Jan. 1.

HICAP is a nonprofit organization that provides free, unbiased, one-on-one counseling to Medicare beneficiaries. Anyone who would like advice or help changing or joining a Part D or Medicare Advantage plan should call to schedule an appointment. Beneficiaries are encouraged to bring with them one bottle of each of their prescription drugs, or a detailed list of each drug including dosage and frequency of use.

For a free HICAP appointment, call (530) 621.6369. People who are turning 65 or are new to Medicare, or those needing assistance with other Medicare issues are welcome to make an appointment any time during the year.