4-6 Months before your month of eligibility:

- Confirm your eligibility for Medicare benefits.
  - Contact the Social Security Administration
    (Railroad retirees contact the Railroad Retirement Board)

- Review your current health insurance to see what happens after you become eligible for Medicare
  - Contact your HR Department or current insurer

- Find out what Medicare covers and the different options for coverage
  - Contact SHICK or attend a local New to Medicare or Medicare Basics program

3 months before your month of eligibility:  
*The following steps MAY not be necessary for everyone*

- Decide which Medicare option is best for you
  - Contact SHICK or attend a local New to Medicare or Medicare Basics program

- Check with your doctor(s) to see if they accept the different types of Medicare coverage
  - Contact your providers and local hospitals

1-3 months before your month of eligibility:  
*The following steps MAY not be necessary for everyone*

- Enroll in Medicare A and B
  - Contact your local Social Security office or enroll online
    - If you are continuing work, enrolling in Part B may not be your best option

- Enroll in a Medicare Supplement Plan OR a Medicare Advantage (MA) Plan
  - You only need one of these options. Do NOT enroll in both a Supplement and MA plan
    - Medigap (supplement) enrollment with insurance agent
    - Medicare Advantage plan enroll online, insurance agent, or contact SHICK for assistance

- Enroll in a Part D Prescription Drug Plan
  - Enroll online or contact SHICK for assistance
    - If you are enrolled in a MA plan that includes drug coverage, do not enroll in a Part D plan

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Medicare Resources Online

Social Security
https://www.ssa.gov/benefits/medicare/

Kansas Department of Insurance Shopper Guide
http://www.ksinsurance.org/consumers/medicare.htm

Medicare and You Handbook
www.medicare.gov under resources
https://www.cms.gov/Medicare/Medicare-General-Information/MedicareGenInfo/index

Medicare Resources In-Person/ Phone

Senior Health Insurance Counseling for Kansans
Southwind Extension District - Allen, Bourbon, Neosho, and Woodson Counties
Joy Miller
joymiller@ksu.edu or 620-223-3720

Southeast Kansas Area Agency on Aging
1 W. Ash, PO Box J
Chanute, KS 66720
Phone: 620-431-2980
Ask for SHICK counseling

Social Security Administration
National Phone Number 1-800-772-1213
120 S. Commerce Dr
Nevada, MO 64772
Call 1-888-808-5441 for an appointment.

2125 N Pennsylvania Ave., Suite A
Independence, KS 67301
Call 1-877-512-3855 for an appointment

Other Resources

Kansas Commission of Veterans Affairs Office
Ryan Knop
201 N. Pennsylvania Ave.
Independence, KS 67301
620-331-0540
ryan.knop@ks.gov

KanCare (Medicaid)
kancare.ks.gov
1-800-792-4884