Counselors are eligible Medicare providers as of January 1, 2024! This momentous development raises awareness of LMHCs and increases national recognition for LMHCs and mental health access overall.

Now, all Counselors must either OPT-IN or OPT-OUT of Medicare!! If you do not want to accept Medicare, but you do not submit Opt-Out paperwork, YOU COULD BE FINED if you work with potential Medicare recipients. So, as an LMHC you need to decide!

If you want to Opt Out of Medicare, Medicare Administrative Contractors (MACs) are now accepting opt-out affidavits. Be aware, each MAC has its own opt-out affidavit form. The forms cannot be faxed or emailed. They must be physically mailed to the appropriate MAC via CERTIFIED mail.

If you are seeing any Medicare beneficiaries, and you decide to Opt-Out of becoming a Medicare provider, you are also required to enter into a private contract with your Medicare-eligible patient(s).

For resources and more information go to https://www.amhca.org/advocacy/medicare