Medicare 101

Understanding Your Medicare Options

Costs shown are for the year 2025.



Who is eligible for Medicare?

Age: 65 and older

Disability:

Under 65 and receiving Social Security Disability Insurance (SSDI) payments for more than 24 months

Illness:

Any age with end stage renal disease or ALS

Residency:

U.S. Citizen or permanent resident for five consecutive years



If you have Social Security when you turn 65

You will be automatically enrolled into Medicare. You will receive your Medicare card three months prior to your birthday.

If you do not have Social Security when you turn 65

You will need to take the step to sign up for Medicare.

Three Ways to Join Medicare:

- You can apply online at: www.ssa.gov
- Call Social Security at: 1-800-772-12-13 (TTY 1-800-325-0778) to apply over the phone or to request an application



The Medicare Basics



Original Medicare: Part A - Hospital Insurance



Provides coverage for:

- Inpatient hospital care
- Skilled nursing facilities
- Hospice care
- Limited home health care

This is not a complete list of services available.



Part A Costs



Eligible and paid into Social Security for 40 quarters: Pay no cost for Part A.

Eligible and paid at least 30 quarters:

Reduced cost: \$285

Eligible and paid less than 30 quarters: Full cost: \$518

Don't qualify on your own?

May be eligible base on your spouse's work history when you turn 65.

Original Medicare: Part B - Medical Insurance



Provides coverage for:

- Doctor visits and preventative services
- Outpatient surgery
- Diagnostic screenings
- Emergency care
- Durable medical equipment



This is not a complete list of services available.

Part B Costs



Annual Deductible: \$257

Deductible must be paid before Medicare can pay for 80% of your bill.

Total Cost You Owe: 20%

After deductible is met, you typically pay 20% of the Medicare-approved amount for most doctor services.

You may incur additional costs if a doctor does not accept Medicare.

The standard Part B cost is \$185.00 each month (or higher depending on your income. See the IRMMA Income Bracket slide.)

Part B - Late Enrollment Penalty



- Did not sign up for Part B when first eligible and not covered by employer plan? You may have to pay a late enrollment penalty for as long as you have Part B.
- Monthly cost may go up 10% for each full 12-month period that you could have had Part B but did not enroll.
- Exception: You do not have to pay a late enrollment
 penalty if you meet certain conditions that allow you to sign up for Part B during a Special Enrollment Period.

Original Medicare generally covers 80% of your hospital and medical expenses.

Original Medicare does not cover:

- Deductibles
- **!** Copays/Coinsurance
- Outpatient Prescription Drugs
- **!** Healthcare outside the U.S.
- Hearing Aides, Exams,

Screenings

Routine Eye Exams and Most

Glasses



Can fill some of the gaps Original Medicare does not cover.

- Can cover deductibles, copays, and coinsurance
- Freedom to choose any Medicare-appointed doctor in the U.S.
- Standardized plan letter with associated services
- Has a monthly cost and will vary based on county/zip code

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Services Chart of Medicare Supplement Plans

2025

Plans Available to All Applicants

Medicare first eligible before 2020 only

Services	Α	В	D	G	K	L	М	Ν	С	F*
Medicare Part A Coinsurance and hospital costs (up to an additional 365 days after Medicare benefits are used)	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%
Medicare Part B Coinsurance or copayment	100%	100%	100%	100%	50%	75%	100%	100% ***	100%	100%
Blood (first 3 pints)	100%	100%	100%	100%	50%	75%	100%	100%	100%	100%
Part A hospice care Coinsurance or copayment	100%	100%	100%	100%	50%	75%	100%	100%	100%	100%
Skilled nursing facility care Coinsurance			100%	100%	50%	75%	100%	100%	100%	100%
Part A deductible		100%	100%	100%	50%	75%		100%	100%	100%
Part B deductible									100% ****	100% ****
Part B excess charges				100%						100%
Foreign travel emergency			80%	80%					80%	80%
Out-of-pocket limit**			\$7,220	\$3,610						

Medicare Supplements do not cover:

- Prescription Drugs
- Drug coverage will need to be separate through:
 - Prescription Drug Plan, or
 - Other creditable coverage



Part D: Prescription Drug Plan

Provides coverage for:

For some prescription drug costs

Two types of Part D Coverage

- Stand-alone OR with an integrated Medicare Advantage plan
- Must be enrolled in Part A and/or Part B



Live within the plan's service area



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Part D - Late Enrollment Penalty



- Did not sign up for Part D when first eligible and did not have creditable coverage for more than 63 days? You may have to pay a late enrollment penalty for as long as you have Part D.
- Monthly cost will have a penalty of 1% of the national base premium multiplied by the full, uncovered months you were eligible.



Changes happening to Part D with the Inflation Reduction Act (IRA)

IRA was created to provide meaningful financial relief for Medicare beneficiaries, including improvements to Medicare. Passed in 2022 to:

Increase access to treatments and expand services

Provide affordability by lowering Medicare costs and limiting price increases

Make the Medicare program more sustainable now and in the long-run



Part D Improvements Timeline



2025 Part D Improvements



Your out-of-pocket prescription drug costs is capped at **\$2,000** for the year.



You can enroll into the Medicare Prescription Payment Plan to help spread your out-of-pocket prescription costs over the year.

2024 Part D Design:

Your prescription drug plan costs may change annually depending on the coverage stage you are in.

Stage 1 Deductible	Stage 2 Initial Coverage	Stage 3 Coverage Gap	Stage 4 Catastrophic Coverage
The amount you pay before a plan covers your prescription drug costs.	The plan pays its share of the cost and you pay your share (copays and coinsurance).	Known as the "Donut Hole", the plan is limited in how much it can pay for your drugs. You will pay 25% of the costs for covered drugs.	After you reach the MOOP, the plan will pay your drug costs for the rest of the year.
Deductible Range: \$0 - \$545	Total maximum of your payments and plan's payments: \$5,030	Maximum Out-of-Pocket (MOOP) Cost for covered drugs: \$8,000	No copay or coinsurance.

2025 Part D Improvements

Part D Redesign Program will consist of three phases:



The Coverage Gap Phase will be end on December 31, 2024, and be replaced with the **Manufacturer Discount Program**.

Manufacturer Discount Program

How is it applied to the Part D program?



Participating manufacturers must enter into an agreement with CMS (Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services) for Part D coverage eligibility and offer a discount on applicable brandname drugs.

The IRA Impact on Your Medicare Coverage

What can be expected with the upcoming 2025 changes to Part D

Your max out-of-pocket prescription drug cost is lower and capped at \$2,000.

Monthly payment plans allow you to reduce the stress of financial insecurity.

You can access brand-name drugs that may have been too costly for you to pay out-of-pocket.

The discount and rebate programs go into effect on manufacturers that plan to increase prices, beating inflation.

What to be aware of with the upcoming 2025 changes to Part D



Medicare Prescription Payment Plan is more beneficial in the beginning of the year to spread out costs.

Drugs that are excluded from Medicare Prescription Payment Plan:

- Non-covered drugs
- Part B drugs

The \$2,000 cap does not apply to out-of-pocket spending on Part B drugs.

Once you incur a Part D out-of-pocket cost, the payment plan will apply to all of your covered Part D drugs and billed monthly.

• You will not be able to pick and choose which covered prescriptions to include.

What to be aware of with the upcoming 2025 changes to Part D

Part D plans will continue to bill any amounts owed (not to exceed the max monthly cap) for those who switch Part D plans or cancel participation.

Part D plans may choose to not cover certain drugs.

• Notice any applicable changes and get assistance from your doctor about alternatives.

Plan sponsor liability will increase in the catastrophic phase.

- May see an increase in plan cost while you have lower out-of-pocket drug costs.
- May see a reduction in plan services.

The definition of "creditable coverage" for prescription drug plans has been redefined.

• Plan sponsors or plans may exit the Medicare market if they are unable to meet the new standards of creditable coverage.

Be aware of the upcoming changes on your current coverage. Your healthcare needs are your priority for 2025. You deserve the right care with the

right Medicare plan that suits your needs.



Review your current plan and keep a list of your current medications.



When your plan provides your yearly notice in September, pay close attention to any changes that may have been applied.

You Can Save on Drug Costs

If you meet certain income and resource limits, you may qualify for **Extra Help** from Medicare to pay the costs of Medicare prescription drug coverage (Part D).

You can apply at: www.ssa.gov/benefits/medicare/prescriptionhelp/





Noncountable Assets

- Your home
- One car
- Burial plot
- Up to \$1,500 for burial expenses if you have put that money aside
- Furniture
- Other household and personal items

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Part C: Medicare Advantage Plan

Medicare Advantage plans are offered by private insurance companies approved by Medicare and is an alternative option to Original Medicare.

Includes:





IRMAA Income Brackets

Depending on your ye B and D cost will vary	early income from two	Part B	Part D		
SINGLE	JOINT	JOINT - SEPARATE RETURN	Costs	Costs	
\$106,000 or less	\$212,000 or less	\$106,000 or less	\$185.00	Plan Cost	
\$106,000 - \$133,000	\$212,000 - \$266,000	N/A	\$259.00	Plan Cost + \$13.70	
\$133,000 - \$167,000	\$266,000 - \$334,000	N/A	\$370.00	Plan Cost + \$35.30	
\$167,000 - \$200,000	\$334,000 - \$400,000	N/A	\$480.90	Plan Cost + \$57.00	
\$200,000 - \$500,000	\$400,000 - \$750,000	\$106,000 - \$394,000	\$591.90	Plan Cost + \$78.60	
\$500,000+	\$750,000+	\$394,000+	\$628.90	Plan Cost + \$85.80	

Enrollment Periods



Enrollment Periods





Initial Enrollment Period (IEP) 7-month "Turning 65" Election Period



- Annual Enrollment Period (AEP) October 15 to December 7
- **Open Enrollment Period (OEP)** January 1 to March 31



- Lock-in Period
- April 1 to December 31



Special Enrollment Period (SEP) Special circumstances within the year



Medicare Supplement Enrollment Period



A six-month window that begins on your Part B effective date or 65th birthday, whichever is later.



No medical underwriting.



Can choose from any Medicare Supplement Plan options.

Medicare Supplement **T** Guaranteed Issue (GI) Situations

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- There are several other GI situations to enroll into a Medicare Supplement plan with no underwriting. For example:
- Loss of coverage
- Moving to a new area, and many more



All plan options may not be available.

If you do not qualify for a GI situation, you may need to undergo medical underwriting.

Star Ratings

Each plan is assigned a star rating from one to five stars.



Member satisfaction surveys, plans, and providers



Performance measurements based on more than 50 key factors



Additional information is available on Medicare.gov





My Service to You

You have options! I'm here to help!

- Continue with your employer plan if you're still working
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Continue with your retiree/military plan if applicable

Enroll in a Part C, Medicare Advantage Plan, which can include your Part D, Prescription Drug coverage

Enroll in a Medicare Supplement plan and a stand-alone Part D, Prescription Drug plan



During your appointment, *we'll review your needs* to help find the right plans for you to choose from!

Analysis questions include:

- When does/did your Medicare start?
- What zip code do you live in?
- Do you have a primary doctor?
- Do you have a specialist?
 - Do you take any medications?
 - Are you looking for a certain service?

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Ready to find the plan that fits your needs or have more questions?

I am here to help you at *no cost or obligation to you!* My contact information:

By calling the number above, you will be directed to a licensed insurance agent.