



# MEDICARE OVERVIEW

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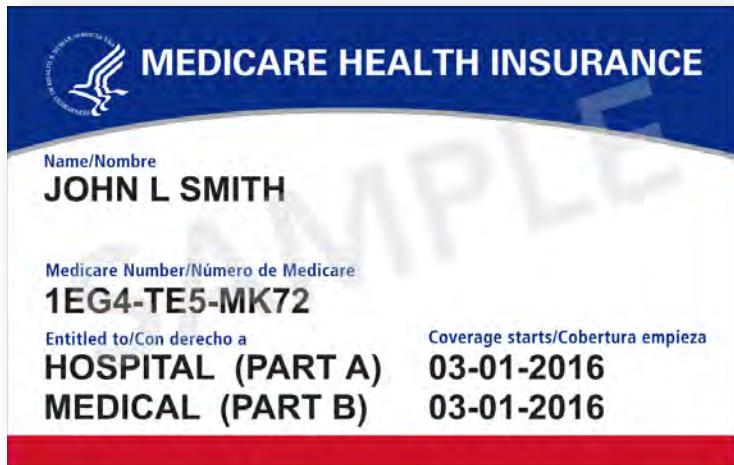
# Thank you for downloading the Medicare Overview

This guide is designed to give you a brief overview of Medicare and your options for coverage.

## **NEED A MORE PERSONALIZED OVERVIEW?**

We provide plan reviews so you know what is available to you!

Appointments available in-person and virtually!



# MEDICARE PART A MEDICARE PART B

## **Medicare Part A = Hospitalization**

This covers you should you be admitted to the hospital as an inpatient. It also covers home health, hospice, and skilled nursing care.

## **Medicare Part B = Medical**

This covers most of your expenses outside of an inpatient hospital setting.

Some people get Medicare Part A (Hospital Insurance) and Medicare Part B (Medical Insurance) automatically and other people have to sign up for it.

Both Medicare Part A and B will have out of pocket costs that can vary depending on the type of services performed.

# COVERAGE OPTIONS

When you first enroll in Medicare and during certain times of the year, you can choose how you get your Medicare coverage. There are 2 main ways to get Medicare:

## Original Medicare

- Original Medicare includes Medicare Part A (Hospital Insurance) and Part B (Medical Insurance).
- If you want drug coverage, you can join a separate Medicare drug plan (Part D).
- To help pay your out-of-pocket costs in Original Medicare (like your 20% **coinsurance**), you can also shop for and buy supplemental coverage.
- Can use any doctor or hospital that takes Medicare, anywhere in the U.S.

### Part A



### Part B



#### You can add:

### Part D



#### You can also add:

### Supplemental coverage



This includes Medicare Supplement Insurance (Medigap). Or, you can use coverage from a former employer or union, or Medicaid.

**See Section 3 (starting on page 53) to learn more about Original Medicare.**

## Medicare Advantage (also known as Part C)

- Medicare Advantage is an “all in one” alternative to Original Medicare. These “bundled” plans include Part A, Part B, and usually Part D.
- Plans may have lower out-of-pocket costs than Original Medicare.
- In many cases, you’ll need to use doctors who are in the plan’s network.
- Most plans offer extra benefits that Original Medicare doesn’t cover—like vision, hearing, dental, and more.

### Part A



### Part B



#### Most plans include:

### Part D



### Extra benefits

#### Some plans also include:

### Lower out-of-pocket costs

**See Section 4 (starting on page 57) to learn more about Medicare Advantage.**



# MEDICARE PART C

Medicare Advantage Plans, sometimes called “Part C” or “MA Plans,” are offered by Medicare-approved private companies that must follow rules set by Medicare. Most Medicare Advantage Plans include drug coverage (Part D).

In many cases, you’ll need to use health care providers who participate in the plan’s network and service area for the lowest costs. These plans set a limit on what you’ll have to pay out-of-pocket each year for covered services, to help protect you from unexpected costs. Some plans offer out-of-network coverage, but sometimes at a higher cost.

Most Medicare Advantage Plans offer coverage for things Original Medicare doesn’t cover, like some vision, hearing, dental, and fitness programs (like gym memberships or discounts). Plans can also choose to cover even more benefits.



# MEDICARE PART D

Medicare drug coverage helps pay for prescription drugs you need.

Even if you don't take prescription drugs now, you should consider getting Medicare drug coverage. Medicare drug coverage is optional and is offered to everyone with Medicare.

If you decide not to get it when you're first eligible, and you don't have other creditable prescription drug coverage (like drug coverage from an employer or union) or get Extra Help, you'll likely pay a late enrollment penalty if you join a plan later. Generally, you'll pay this penalty for as long as you have Medicare drug coverage. To get Medicare drug coverage, you must join a Medicare-approved plan that offers drug coverage.

Each plan can vary in cost and specific drugs covered.



# CHANGING YOUR MEDICARE C OR D COVERAGE

You can join, switch, or drop a Medicare health plan or a Medicare Advantage Plan (Part C) with or without drug coverage during these times:

- **Initial Enrollment Period.** When you first become eligible for Medicare, you can join a plan.
- **Annual/Open Enrollment Period. From October 15 – December 7** each year, you can join, switch, or drop a plan. Your coverage will begin on January 1 (as long as the plan gets your request by December 7).
- **Medicare Advantage Open Enrollment Period. From January 1 – March 31** each year, if you're enrolled in a Medicare Advantage Plan, you can switch to a different Medicare Advantage Plan or switch to Original Medicare (and join a separate Medicare drug plan) once during this time.



# MEDICARE SUPPLEMENTS

With Original Medicare, you generally pay some of the costs for approved services. Medicare Supplement Insurance (Medigap) is extra insurance you can buy from a private company that helps pay your share of costs.

If you want drug coverage, you can join a Drug Plan (Part D) in addition to buying a Medigap policy.

Medigap policies have different enrollment periods and requirements than Medicare Part C and D plans.



# WHAT PLAN IS RIGHT FOR YOU?

There is no "one size fits all" when it comes to Medicare coverage.

We can review your needs and concerns and help guide you to a plan that is appropriate for your needs.

Contact us for your personalized plan review!

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