

NEW TO MEDICARE?

MEDICARE CHECKLIST



The 6-minute guide to preparing for enrollment

MEDICARE CAN BE CONFUSING.

WE'RE HERE TO MAKE IT SIMPLE

What to do when you turn 65

Turning 65 is an exciting time. Retirement is finally here (or at least close)! But it also is a time of much change - Medicare is certainly one that we all need to prepare for.

In this guide, we are going to help you understand six simple ways you can be ready for Medicare. We've organized it in an easy-to-use checklist, so grab a pencil and follow along!

Check when completed:



1: PLAN AHEAD

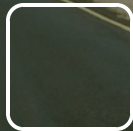
ABOUT 3 MONTHS BEFORE TURNING 65

This is your time to read up on Medicare Parts A, B, C and D to familiarize yourself with the basics. You first need to know what Medicare itself does and doesn't cover before you can decide whether a Medicare supplement plan or Medicare Advantage plan make sense for you. **Medicare Part A** is your Hospital Insurance. **Medicare Part B** is your Outpatient Insurance. These 2 parts are called your “Original Medicare” benefits. The Medicare.gov website has great pages that explain these two parts of Medicare and what benefits they provide to you.

2: PART A&B COSTS

DETERMINE YOUR COST FOR PART A&B

At age 65, you are eligible for Medicare, but what you pay for parts B and D will vary based on your income and specific needs. Medicare Part A will cost nothing for most people. It is considered “paid up” if you or a spouse has worked at least 10 years in the U.S. and paid taxes during these years toward this future benefit. Medicare Part B has a monthly premium that you will pay to Social Security. Your premium is based on your annual household income. Our Medicare supplement worksheet will help you lay out your potential costs for Medicare.



3: ENROLLMENT

ENROLL AT SOCIAL SECURITY OFFICE

Most people enroll in Medicare Part B at age 65, but if you still have employer-insurance you can opt to delay Part B until you retire. Both parts of Medicare can coordinate with your employer insurance to reduce costs for you. Your employer's HR department can help with details. If Medicare will be your primary insurance, you can enroll in Medicare up to 3 months before your 65th birthday. Your benefits will usually begin on the 1st of the month you turn 65. You can enroll in Medicare at the Social Security website (www.ssa.gov) or by phone at 1-800-772-1213 . You may also enroll at your local Social Security office.

4: YOU DR'S PLANS

FIND YOUR DR'S INSURANCE PLANS

There are 2 primary insurance options to help you pay for things that Medicare doesn't. Finding out which plans your doctor accepts will help you decide which option is a better fit. **Medigap plans** let you see any doctor/hospital that participates in Medicare (over 800,000 physicians), regardless of which Medigap insurance company you choose. **Medicare Advantage plans**, on the other hand, have smaller private networks. If you are considering one of these plans, you'll want to find out which plans, if any, your current doctors participate in. It will help you narrow your choices.





5: MEDICATIONS

LIST OUT YOUR REGULAR MEDICATION

Write down your list of regular medications. You will need these to select the right Part D drug coverage. Most states have dozens of Part D plans. It is critical that you choose one that offers your medications at good prices. Choosing the right drug plan can save you hundreds each year. Medicare's website has a Plan Finder Tool ([CLICK HERE](#)) to help you compare the plans in your state. Enter your medications and let it search out which drug plans will be most cost effective for you. If you find this tool overwhelming, we can help you run the analysis.

6: SUPPLEMENTALS

CHOOSE SUPPLEMENTAL INSURANCE

Medicare Part B covers only 80% of your outpatient costs. You pay the other 20%, and paying 20% of something like knee surgery would cost you many thousands of dollars. So this is why supplemental insurance exists - to help you pay for hospital and outpatient deductibles AND that other 20%. Medigap (Medicare Supplement) plans offer the fullest coverage that helps to pay the 20% and some or all of your deductibles. These plans also let you choose your own doctors - no networks or referrals needed. Read about popular plans like Plan F, G and N on our website. We can provide you with specific quotes for these plans in your area.

YOUR MEDICARE WORKSHEET

Fill out the following worksheet, and you'll have all the information you need at your fingertips!

1 ORIGINAL MEDICARE

Visit www.medicare.gov/your-medicare-costs/part-b-costs/part-b-costs.html

Part A monthly premium - (no premium for most people) _____

Part B monthly premium - (based on income) _____

2 MEDIGAP PLANS

Call an independent brokerage for rates. Compare prices, financial ratings and rate history for each

	Company A	Company B	Company C
Insurance Company	_____	_____	_____
Plan Name (F, G, N)	_____	_____	_____
Monthly Premium	_____	_____	_____
Financial Rating	_____	_____	_____

3 PART D PLANS

	Company A	Company B	Company C
Insurance Company	_____	_____	_____
Monthly Premium	_____	_____	_____

4 PART B COST + MEDIGAP COST + PART D COST = _____

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