

# Your Guide to Medicare Open Enrollment for 2022

What you need to know about your options, deadlines, costs and opportunities to change or upgrade your Medicare coverage during this year's open enrollment period.





# Table of Contents

3	Introduction to Medicare Open Enrollment
4	How to Prepare for Open Enrollment
5	Plans
5	Medicare Part A
5	Medicare Part B
6	Medicare Advantage (Part C)
6	Medicare Part D
6	Medicare Supplement Plans
7	Medicare Out-of-Pocket Costs
9	Medicare Open Enrollment FAQs
10	Get Medicare Help for Free
11	Sources and Authors

## This guide will help you:

- **Plan for Medicare Open Enrollment** by gathering the information you'll need to make your choices.
- **Save money** on your health care costs based on your current needs.
- **Make informed decisions** on choosing the best Medicare coverage for your specific financial and medical situation.



# Introduction to Medicare Open Enrollment

Medicare Open Enrollment for 2022 takes place from Oct. 15 through Dec. 7, 2021.

Open enrollment allows you to compare Medicare plans and shop for the combination of coverage that provides the best value for you.

You have the opportunity to switch plans, drop plans or add Medicare supplement insurance (Medigap) to cover gaps in your Original Medicare out-of-pocket costs.

## What You Can Do During Open Enrollment

- Switch from Original Medicare – Medicare Part A and Part B – to a Medicare Advantage plan
- Switch from Medicare Advantage to Original Medicare – with the option of adding a Medicare Part D prescription drug plan and/or a Medigap policy
- Enroll in a Medicare Part D prescription drug plan if you didn't sign up for one when you were first eligible (a late enrollment penalty may apply)
- Change Medicare Advantage plans
- Change from one Medicare Part D prescription drug plan to another

Source: U.S. Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services

It's important to know the difference between Medicare Open Enrollment and Medicare Advantage Open Enrollment.

Medicare Open Enrollment	Medicare Advantage Open Enrollment
Enrollment is Oct. 15 – Dec. 7 each year.	Enrollment is Jan. 1 – March 31 each year.
Anyone who already has Medicare coverage of any kind can make changes to their coverage for the upcoming year.	Only people who have Medicare Advantage plans can change plans.

# How To Prepare for Open Enrollment

## 5 Steps To Prepare for Medicare Open Enrollment

- Check your mail.
- Bookmark or print out this guide for reference.
- Gauge your Medicare needs for 2022.
- Review your 2022 Medicare health and prescription drug plans.
- Get local help for free.



# Medicare Plans

The Medicare Open Enrollment period gives you a chance each year to decide whether you should change your Medicare coverage based on your health care needs, future treatment expectations or if you need to add or reduce coverage.

Taking time before the annual open enrollment period to weigh what each Medicare plan offers can help you prepare for your needs in the coming year.

## Plans To Compare and Consider During Medicare Open Enrollment



### Medicare Part A

Part of Original Medicare and administered by the federal government, Part A is hospital insurance that covers most of your costs if you are admitted as a hospital inpatient. You may still have to pay a deductible, coinsurance or other out-of-pocket costs.

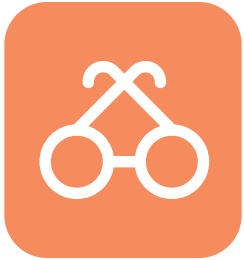


### Medicare Part B

Part of Original Medicare and administered by the federal government, Part B is medical insurance that covers part of your costs for doctor visits, durable medical equipment (DME) and other medical services. You still have a deductible, coinsurance and other out-of-pocket costs.



# Medicare Plans Continued



## Medicare Advantage (Part C) plans

Medicare Advantage plans are sold and administered by private insurers. Plans replace Original Medicare but must cover everything under Medicare Part A and Part B. Plans may also cover other costs such as dental, vision and hearing care. Premiums and out-of-pocket costs vary between plans.



## Medicare Part D prescription drug plans

Part D plans cover prescription costs if you have Original Medicare. Medicare Advantage plans typically include Part D coverage. Medicare Part D plans are sold and administered by private insurers and the amount of premiums, out-of-pocket costs and specific drugs covered vary between plans.



## Medigap (Medicare Supplement) plans

Medigap plans are sold by private insurers to cover gaps in Original Medicare coverage. Medigap covers out-of-pocket costs but does not cover prescription drugs or anything Medicare Part A and Part B does not cover. Costs vary depending on the plan.



# Out-of-Pocket Medicare Costs

Medicare plans do not cover all the costs associated with your health care.

It's important to consider your out-of-pocket costs and compare those while shopping for the best value during Medicare Open Enrollment.

## Medicare Out-of-Pocket Costs at a Glance (2022)

<b>Medicare Part A premium</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Most pay no premium (if you have paid Medicare taxes for 40 quarters)</li><li>• \$274 per month if you've paid Medicare taxes for 30 to 39 quarters over your lifetime</li><li>• \$499 per month if you've paid Medicare taxes fewer than 30 quarters</li></ul>
<b>Medicare Part A hospital inpatient costs</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• \$1,556 deductible for each benefit period</li><li>• \$0 coinsurance for days one through 60 of inpatient hospital care</li><li>• \$389 coinsurance per day for days 61 through 90</li><li>• \$778 coinsurance per day for each "lifetime reserve day" after day 90 in each benefit period (you have a total of 60 of these days over your lifetime)</li><li>• All costs for hospital inpatient care beyond lifetime reserve days</li></ul>
<b>Medicare Part B premium</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• \$170.10 per month or higher based on your income</li></ul>

<p><b>Medicare Part B deductible and coinsurance</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• \$233 for the year</li> <li>• Typically 20 percent of the Medicare-approved amount for medical services, doctor visits, outpatient treatments and DME after you have paid your deductible</li> </ul>
<p><b>Medicare Advantage (Medicare Part C) plans</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Average monthly premium in 2022 is \$19</li> <li>• Coinsurance and copays can vary by plan and based on whether you use in-network or out-of-network doctors, hospitals or other health care providers</li> </ul>
<p><b>Medicare Part D prescription drug plans</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Average monthly premium in 2022 is \$33 (premiums may be higher or lower depending on your plan)</li> <li>• Maximum deductible in 2022 was \$480 (your plan may be lower)</li> <li>• Copayments for prescription drugs vary from plan to plan and the type of prescription drug based on your plan's formulary</li> </ul>
<p><b>Medigap (Medicare Supplement insurance) plans</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Monthly premiums vary based on the plan and insurance provider</li> <li>• Out-of-pocket costs depend on coverage of your plan</li> <li>• Most Medigap plans cover 100 percent of select Medicare Part A and B out-of-pocket costs with the exception of Medigap Plans K and L <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• \$6,620 – Medigap Plan K maximum out-of-pocket (2022)</li> <li>• \$3,310 – Medigap Plan L maximum out-of-pocket (2022)</li> </ul> </li> </ul>

Source: U.S. Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services



# Frequently Asked Questions

## **What is the Medicare Annual Enrollment period?**

The Medicare Annual Enrollment period is another name for the Medicare Open Enrollment period. It happens from Oct. 15 through Dec. 7 every year.

## **Does Medicare require an annual enrollment?**

No. Once you enroll in Medicare, you do not have to reenroll every year. But you have the opportunity during Medicare Open Enrollment each year to change your Medicare coverage.

## **What if I miss Medicare Open Enrollment?**

If you miss open enrollment in the fall, you can still take advantage of Medicare Advantage Open Enrollment Jan. 1 through March 31 each year to switch your Medicare Advantage plan or switch back to Original Medicare.

## **How do I get a Medicare card?**

You can get a Medicare card by calling Social Security at 1-800-772-1213 (TTY: 1-800-325-0778) or the Railroad Retirement Board at 1-877-772-5772.

## **Does Medicare cover dental and vision?**

Original Medicare currently does not cover dental, vision or hearing care, but most Medicare Advantage plans include this coverage. Congress is considering to add dental, vision and hearing coverage to Original Medicare.

## **What is the difference between Medicare and Medicaid?**

Medicare is a federal health care program for people 65 and older or people who have certain disabilities or medical conditions. Medicaid is a state and federal program that helps pay for health care for people with limited income and resources.

# Get Free Expert Medicare Help During Open Enrollment

Comparing your Medicare options during the annual open enrollment period can be confusing. Our Medicare experts are here to help, free of charge. Speak with a specialist to compare plans and build the best combination of plans that meet both your health care and financial needs.

## How the Process Works

1

### Schedule or Call Now

Click below to fill out a form to schedule an appointment. Or call toll-free 888-986-1869 to speak with a Medicare specialist today.

2

### Compare Cost and Coverage

Our Medicare specialists will help you compare your plan options to find the best coverage for your health care and budget.

3

### Get Free Help Building or Changing Coverage

Once you decide on the best Medicare options for your needs, our specialists will help you enroll in coverage for 2022.

## Speak With a Medicare Expert

Our Medicare experts can help you compare and build Medicare coverage from top plan providers that best suit your health care needs and your budget.

[Get Free Help Now](#)

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