

Medicare enrollment: know the steps to get coverage

7-MONTH INITIAL ENROLLMENT PERIOD



 Do not miss the Initial Enrollment Period. There may be a lifelong 10% penalty on your Part B premium for each full year of delayed enrollment.

ENROLLING IN ORIGINAL MEDICARE

Are you already collecting Social Security?

YES → Enrollment in Parts A and B is automatic and starts the first day of the month you turn 65 (unless your birthday is the first day of the month, in which case it will occur the month before).

NO → Enroll in Parts A and B during your 7-month Initial Enrollment Period.

ENROLLING IN A MEDICARE ADVANTAGE PLAN

What if I want a Medicare Advantage plan instead of Original Medicare?

- > First enroll in Part A and/or Part B to obtain a Medicare number, then initiate a switch to Medicare Advantage
- > You will still be responsible for the Part B monthly premium

WHAT IF I'M STILL WORKING AND HAVE HEALTH INSURANCE THROUGH MY EMPLOYER?

Can I keep using my current coverage?

- > Yes, and later you'll be eligible for a penalty-free Special Enrollment Period after employer coverage ends
 - 8-month period to enroll in Original Medicare
 - 2-month period if you choose a Medicare Advantage plan
- > Take the time to compare your current employer plan to Medicare
- > Consider enrolling in Part A for premium-free hospitalization coverage



Ask your financial professional for a link to the My Medicare Matters® tool, which provides a helpful comparison of plans and options.



#DecodingMedicare

GETTING HELP WITH EXPLORING OPTIONS

Your financial professional can email you a customized link to the National Council on Aging's My Medicare Matters® tool brought to you by Nationwide®. It helps determine and explain the options available to you. You will be directed to work with a highly qualified Medicare broker from Aon Retiree Health Exchange™ and Via Benefits™ for additional guidance. The broker can help you initiate enrollment.

After you're enrolled, let your financial professional know what your costs will be. You can work together to include those costs in your retirement income plan.

OTHER NOTABLE ENROLLMENT PERIODS			
Enrollment period and dates	Who it's for	What you can do	When coverage begins
Annual Medicare Advantage (MA) Open Enrollment Period January 1 – March 31	People enrolled in a Medicare Advantage plan as of January 1 who wish to switch plans or leave to get Original Medicare (Parts A & B)	Switch Medicare Advantage plans Disenroll from Medicare Advantage to go to Original Medicare (and enroll in a Part D plan)	First day of the month following the month of enrollment (e.g., if applying in January, coverage starts Feb. 1)
General Enrollment Period January 1 – March 31	People who did not sign up for Medicare Parts A and/or B when first eligible and who do not have a SEP	Sign up for Medicare Parts A and B	July 1
Parts C and D Annual Open Enrollment Period October 15 – December 7	Anyone who is enrolled in Medicare Parts A and/or B, including those who may already be enrolled in a Medicare Advantage or Part D plan	Go from Original Medicare to a Medicare Advantage plan, or the other way around Join, drop or switch Part D drug plans Switch MA plans	January 1
Medigap Guaranteed Issue Right (6-month window after a person enrolls in Part B, 12-month window after trying Medicare Advantage, or certain SEPs)	People turning 65, newly eligible for Medicare, and enrolled in Parts A and B	Purchase a Medigap policy, without medical underwriting	First day of the following month



The information in this document is sourced from [medicare.gov](https://www.medicare.gov), [cms.gov](https://www.cms.gov), [hhs.gov](https://www.hhs.gov) and some state-level sources.

This material is not a recommendation to buy, sell, hold or roll over any asset, adopt an investment strategy, retain a specific investment manager or use a particular account type. It does not take into account the specific investment objectives, tax and financial condition, or particular needs of any specific person. Investors should discuss their specific situation with their financial professional.

My Medicare Matters® is a registered trademark of the National Council on Aging.

Nationwide, the National Council on Aging (NCOA) and your financial professional are not affiliated.

Nationwide is not affiliated and does not endorse any of the Medicare Broker Partners that are used in this program. Nationwide has a paid sponsorship agreement in place with the National Council on Aging (NCOA) to help promote financial wellness concepts for older consumers.

The content of this document is provided for informational purposes only and should not be construed as investment, tax or legal advice or a solicitation to buy or sell any specific product. The information provided is based on current laws, which are subject to change at any time, and has not been endorsed by any government agency.

Nationwide Investment Services Corporation (NISC), member FINRA, Columbus, Ohio. The Nationwide Retirement Institute is a division of NISC.

Nationwide, the Nationwide N and Eagle, Nationwide is on your side and Nationwide Retirement Institute are service marks of Nationwide Mutual Insurance Company. © 2020 Nationwide

NFM-19469AO.1 (10/20)