

The Basics of Medicare

When to Enroll

- Initial enrollment spans three months before and after your birthday month.
- You can delay enrollment without penalty if you have coverage through an employer. A special enrollment period is available for eight months after your employer coverage ends.
- **General enrollment period: January 1- March 31 each year.** Coverage is effective the month after you sign up.

Parts of Medicare



Part A: Hospital Insurance

- Part A is free if you or your spouse worked 40 or more Medicare-covered employment quarters.
- Includes but is not limited to: Inpatient and skilled nursing, home health care and hospice care.

Part A Deductible: \$1,736 for each hospital benefit period*



Part B: Medical

- You must elect to receive and pay a monthly premium for Part B.
- Includes but is not limited to: Physician services, diagnostic testing, preventive services, durable medical equipment and home health care services.

Part B Premium: \$202.90 (or higher depending on income)

Part B Deductible (calendar year): \$283



Part C: Medicare Advantage

- A Medicare Advantage Plan (like an HMO or PPO) is another Medicare Health plan choice you may have that will provide Part A and Part B coverage. Medicare Advantage Plans are offered by private companies approved by Medicare and may offer extra coverage, such as vision, hearing, dental, and/or health and wellness programs. Most Medicare Advantage Plans also include Medicare prescription drug coverage (Part D).



Part D: Prescription Drugs

Enrollment dates: October 15 - December 7

- Part D is an optional benefit. You must elect to enroll in and pay a monthly premium for Part D, and you can only be enrolled in a single Part D plan. If you decide not to enroll in Medicare drug coverage when you're first eligible and join later instead, your monthly premium will likely be increased to include a late enrollment penalty — unless you can show proof that you had coverage.



Optional Coverage

- Supplemental insurance (Medigap) may be purchased to help pay for gaps in coverage of Original Medicare Parts A and B.
- Medigap policies are standardized. This means, they offer the same basic benefits no matter where you live or which insurance company you buy the policy from.

Questions?

Call GuideStone
 Monday - Friday
 7 a.m. - 6 p.m. CT
1-844-INS-GUIDE
 (1-844-467-4843)

[Medicare.gov](https://www.medicare.gov)

*A benefit period begins the day you're admitted as an inpatient in a hospital or skilled nursing facility. The benefit period ends when you haven't gotten any inpatient hospital care (or skilled nursing care in a skilled nursing facility) for 60 days in a row.