

OLLI 2025 Medicare Update Pima County

John and Connie Lowy

- Volunteer SHIP/Medicare Counselors
 - At PCOA (Pima Council on Aging)
 - 10+ years
- Retired IBM / Merck employee
- Volunteers at Saguaro National Park
- Members of OLLI

- SHIP is a federal government program to provide free local health coverage counseling to people with Medicare.
- SHIPs 12,500 counselors provide over **2.5 million** one-on-one health insurance counseling sessions annually
- Roughly 40% of those contacts occurring during Open Enrollment Period (Oct 15th through Dec 7th)
- PCOA is responsible for Pima County
 - Pima Council on Aging
 - 8467 E Broadway
 - (520) 546-2011

SHIP

Local Medicare Help

Trusted, unbiased, one-on-one counseling and assistance.

Medicare

Health insurance for:

- People 65 or older
- Certain people who are under 65 with disabilities (including ALS)
- People of any age with End-Stage Renal Disease (ESRD) (permanent kidney failure requiring dialysis or a kidney transplant)
 - Complicated ESRD rules for those with work insurance



Medicare & You 2025

The official U.S. government Medicare henchook



Medicare

NOTE: To get Medicare you must be a U.S. citizen or lawfully present in the U.S. Must reside in the U.S. for 5 continuous years.

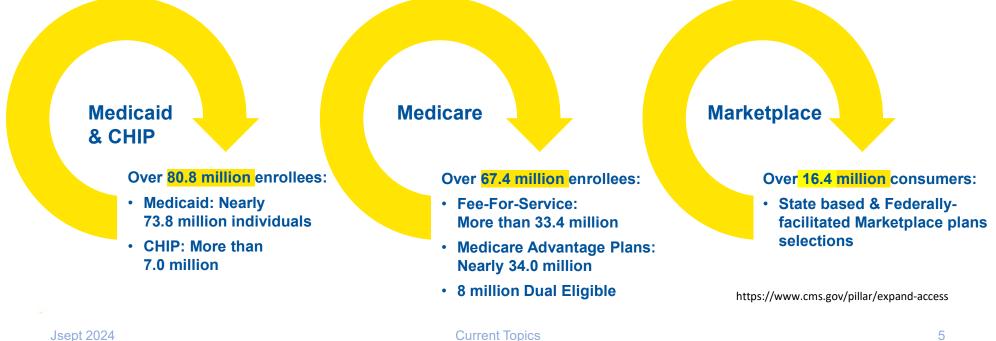
CMS Product No. 10050

August 2024

Understanding Medicare

Access to Health Coverage

Everyday, CMS ensures that 156.6 million* people in the U.S. have health coverage that works.

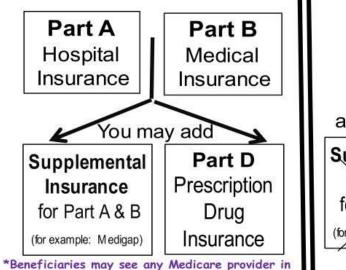


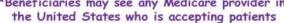




Your Medicare Choices

* Original Medicare





Advantage Part C combines Part A & Part B **Most** plans Not Include available 🖌 Part D Supplemental Prescription Insurance for Part A & B Drug Insurance (for example: Medigap)

Medicare

-	Medicare Advantage HMO / HMO-POS / PPO	Original Medicare	The BIG CHOICE
	Usually \$0	Usually \$0	Part A Premium
	**\$174.70	**\$174.70	Part B Premium
plans)	**Included (except for 7 plans)	**\$0 - \$158.60 - 21 plans	Part D Premium
	\$0 - \$125 monthly	Medigap: G \$112.00↑; G(HD) \$39.52↑	Plan Premium
	You pay copays & coinsurance up to \$2,300-\$11,300 O Pocket limit. After Out-of-Pocket Limit is reach, plan pa costs thru Dec. 31	No Out-of- Pocket Limit Medigap/Supplement (if you have one), pays all or some of your copays, coinsurance, and deductibles	Part A & Part B share of cost
	HMO: must use in-network providers; your PCP is "gatekee PPO: use of Out-of-Network providers usually costs me Exception: Emergency Care	Any Medicare provider anywhere in the USA who accepts Medicare and is accepting new patients	Part A & Part B access to care
	D payment schedule	Separate Part	Part D share of cost
)	Most plans (ask plan)	Medigaps/Supplements D G M N	Foreign Travel Emergencies
sk plan)	Dental, vision, gym, etc. (ask plan)	Some Medigaps/Supplements (ask plan)	Extra Benefits
P(ISU	Pocket limit. After Out-of-Pocket Limit is recosts thru Dec. 31 <u>HMO:</u> must use in-network providers; your POPO: use of Out-of-Network providers usu Exception: Emergency Care D payment schedule Most plans (ask plan)	Medigap/Supplement (if you have one), pays all or some of your copays, coinsurance, and deductibles Any Medicare provider anywhere in the USA who accepts Medicare and is accepting new patients Separate Part Medigaps/Supplements D G M N	share of cost Part A & Part B access to care Part D share of cost Foreign Travel Emergencies

- -

** Part B and Part D: higher premiums for incomes >\$103K individual/\$206K married and late enrollment penalties apply to both Original Medicare & Medicare Advantage

Non-participating providers do not have to accept Medicare Advantage members – even if the member wants to pay out-of-pocket

"This project was supported, in part by grant number 90SAPG0083, from the U.S. Administration for Community Living, Department of Health and Human Services, Washington, D.C. 20201. Grantees undertaking projects with government sponsorship are encouraged to express freely their findings and conclusions. Points of view or opinions do not, therefore, necessarily represent official ACL policy." 10/12/23 CK

How do you receive your Medicare Coverage?

- Not yet enrolled in Medicare?
- Do you have?...
 - Original Medicare
 - Medicare Advantage Plan (HMO, PPO, MSA)
 - State or Federal Plan
 - VA or TriCare
 - Other (eg Employer)

Getting Started with Medicare



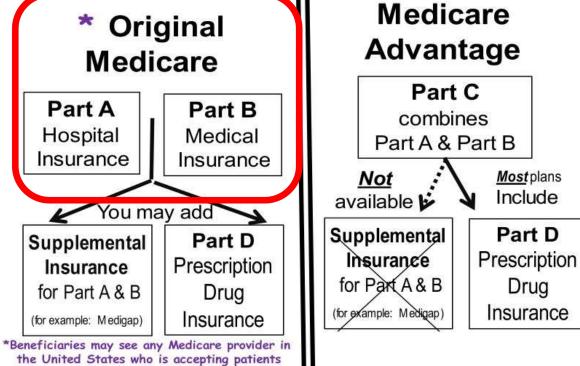
Original Medicare Part A (Hospital Insurance) & Part B (Medical Insurance)







Your Medicare Choices





Part A (Hospital Insurance) Covers

Inpatient care in a hospital, including:

Semi-private room

Meals

- General nursing
- Drugs (including methadone to treat an opioid use disorder)



Part A Hospital Insurance

- Other hospital services and supplies
- Inpatient care in a skilled nursing facility (SNF) after a related 3-day inpatient hospital stay

Part A (Hospital Insurance) Covers (continued)

Part A also helps cover:

Blood (inpatient)

Hospice care

Home health services

Inpatient care in a religious nonmedical health care institution (RNHCI)



Part A Hospital Insurance

August 2024

Understanding Medicare

What You Pay in Original Medicare in 2024: Part A

Hospital	 \$1,632 deductible for each benefit period.
Inpatient	 Days 1–60: \$0 copayment for each day.
Stay	 Days 61–90: \$408 copayment each day.
	Days 91-150: \$816 copayment each day while using your 60 "lifetime reserve days."
	 After day 150: You pay all costs.
	NOTE: You pay for private-duty nursing, a television, or a phone in your room. You pay for a private room unless it's medically necessary.
Mental	 \$1,632 deductible for each benefit period.
lealth	 Days 1–60: \$0 each day.
npatient	 Days 61–90: \$408 copayment each day.
Stay	 Days 91 and beyond: An \$816 copayment each day while using your 60 "lifetime reserve days."
	 Each day after the lifetime reserve days: All costs.
	 20% of the Medicare-approved amount for mental health services you get from doctors and other health care providers while you're a hospital inpatient.
	NOTE: There's no limit to the number of benefit periods you can have, whether you're getting mental health care in a general or psychiatric hospital. However, if you're in a psychiatric hospital (instead of a general hospital), Part A only pays for up to 190 days of inpatient psychiatric hospital services during your lifetime.

August 2024

Part A (Hospital Insurance) Costs in 2024 (continued)

Skilled Nursing Facility (SNF) Stay	 Days 1–20: \$0 for each benefit period.
(SIVI) Stay	 Days 21–100: \$204 copayment each day.
	 Days 101 and beyond: You pay all costs.
Home Health Services	 \$0 for home health services.
	 20% of the Medicare-approved amount for durable medical equipment (DME) like wheelchairs, walkers, hospital beds, and other equipment.
Hospice Care	 \$0 for hospice care services.
	 You may need to pay a copayment of no more than \$5 for each prescription drug and other similar products for pain relief and symptom control while you're at home. In the rare case your drug isn't covered by the hospice benefit, your hospice provider should contact your Medicare drug plan to see if it's covered under Medicare drug coverage (Part D).
	 You may need to pay 5% of the Medicare-approved amount for inpatient respite care.
	 Medicare won't pay room and board for your care in a facility, unless the hospice medical team decides you need short-term inpatient care to manage pain and other symptoms. This care must be in a Medicare-approved facility, like a hospice facility, hospital, or skilled nursing facility that contracts with the hospice.
Blood	 If hospital gets it from a blood bank at no charge, you have no charge.
	 If the hospital has to buy blood for you, you must either pay the hospital costs for the first 3 units of blood you get in a calendar year or have the blood donated by you or someone else.
-	

August 2024

Medicare Part B (Medical Insurance) Covers

- Doctors' services
- Outpatient medical and surgical services and supplies
 - Covers "Observation" in hospital when not "admitted"
- Clinical lab tests
- Durable medical equipment (DME) (like walkers and wheelchairs)
- Diabetic testing equipment and supplies
 - · Insulin if you have a pump
- Preventive services (like flu shots and a yearly wellness visit)
- Home health services
- Medically necessary outpatient physical and occupational therapy, and speech-language pathology services Medical Insurance
- Outpatient mental health care services
- Limited number of outpatient prescription drugs under certain conditions
- ✓ Lymphedema Compression treatment items (e.g. compression socks) New for 2024
 - Must have Lymphedema diagnosis

Understanding Medicare

Part B

Part B: Preventive Services

- Abdominal aortic aneurysm screening
- Alcohol misuse screenings & counseling
- Bone mass measurements
- Cardiovascular behavioral therapy
- Cardiovascular disease screenings
- Cervical & vaginal cancer screenings
- Colorectal cancer screenings *
- Counseling to prevent tobacco use &

tobacco-caused disease

- Covid-19 vaccines
- Depression screening
- Diabetes screenings
- Diabetes self-management training
- Flu shots
- Glaucoma screenings

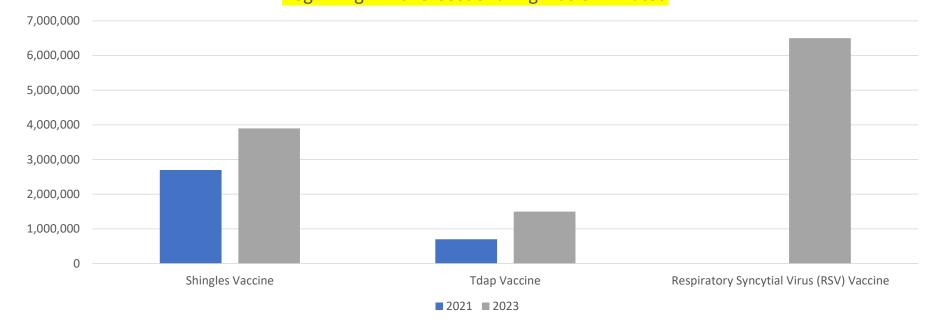
August 2024

- Hepatitis B shots
- Hepatitis B Virus infection screenings
- Hepatitis C screenings
- HIV (Human Immunodeficiency Virus) screenings
- Lung cancer screenings
- Mammograms
- Medical nutrition therapy services
- Medicare Diabetes Prevention Program
- Obesity behavioral therapy
- Pneumococcal shots
- Prostate cancer screenings
- Sexually transmitted infection (STI) screenings & counseling
- "Welcome to Medicare" preventive visit
- Yearly "Wellness" visit

Understanding Medicare

Increased Immunization Use

ACIP-Recommended Adult Vaccine Rates Covered Under Medicare Part D Increased Beginning in 2023 Cost Sharing was eliminated





Changes in Cost Sharing for Colon Cancer Screenings

- Medicare covers colon cancer screenings with \$0 out-of-pocket cost
- The minimum age for many of these screenings is now 45 (reduced from 50)
- Prior to 2023, if a polyp or tissue was found during a colonoscopy, 20% Medicare coinsurance for the removal generally applied
 - 2023 2026 coinsurance is 15%
 - 2027 2029 coinsurance is 10%
 - By 2030, no coinsurance

What's Not Covered by Part A & Part B?

Some of the items and services that Part A and Part B don't cover include:

- Eye exams (for prescription eyeglasses)
- Long-term care
- Cosmetic surgery
- Massage therapy
- Routine physical exams

- Hearing aids and exams for fitting them
- Concierge fees
- Covered items or services you get from an opt-out doctor or other provider
- Most dental care

They may be covered if you have other coverage, like Medicaid or a Medicare Advantage Plan that covers these services.

August 2024

What You Pay in 2024: Part B Monthly Premiums

2024 Standard premium has been \$174.70



Social Security benefits statutory hold harmless provision



Your premium may be higher if you didn't choose Part B when you first became eligible or if your income exceeds a certain threshold

August 2024

Understanding Medicare

Income Related Monthly Adjustment Amount (IRMAA) 2025 IRMAA not Available

2022 individual tax return	2022 joint tax return	Part B adjusted amount 2024 IRMAA	Part D adjusted amount 2024 IRMAA
\$103,000 or less	\$206,000 or less	\$0	\$0
greater than \$103,000 and up to \$129,000	greater than \$206,000 and less than or equal to \$258,000	\$69.90	\$12.90
greater than \$129,000 and up to \$161,000	greater than \$258,000 and less than or equal to \$322,000	\$174.70	\$33.00
greater than \$161,000 and up to \$193,000	greater than \$322,000 and less than or equal to \$386,000	\$270.50	\$53.80
greater than \$193,000 and less than \$500,000	greater than \$386,000 and less than \$750,000	\$384.30	\$74.20
\$500,000 or above	\$750,000 or above	\$419.30	\$81.00



Medicare Supplement Insurance (Medigap) Policies

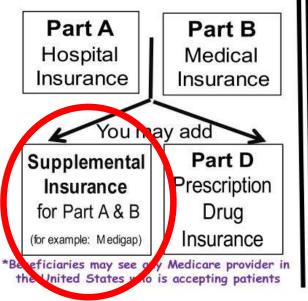


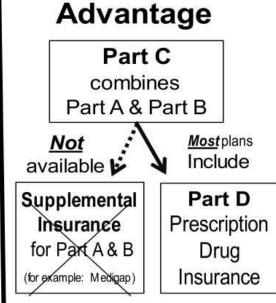




Your Medicare Choices

* Original Medicare





Medicare

Medigap Policies

- Are sold by private insurance companies
- Fill gaps in Original Medicare coverage, like copayments, coinsurance, and deductibles
- Each standardized Medigap policy under the same plan letter:
 - Must offer the same basic benefits, no matter who sells it
 - May vary in costs
 - Plan G is now the most Comprehensive
- Another type of Medigap policy called Medicare SELECT (Will have "Select" in name, be careful)
- Plans are different in Minnesota, Massachusetts, and Wisconsin



Medicare Supplement Insurance (Medigap)

Medigap Plan Coverage in 2024

Medicare Supplement Insurance (Medigap) plans											
Medigap Benefits	А	В	С	D	F*	G*	К	L	М	N	
Part A coinsurance and hospital costs up to an additional 365 days after Medicare benefits are used up	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	
Part B coinsurance or copayment	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	50%	75%	100%	100%***	
Blood (first 3 pints)	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	50%	75%	100%	100%	
Part A hospice care coinsurance or copayment	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	50%	75%	100%	100%	
Skilled nursing facility care coinsurance			100%	100%	100%	100%	50%	75%	100%	100%	
Part A deductible		100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	50%	75%	50%	100%	
Part B deductible			100%		100%						
Part B excess charge					100%	100%					
Foreign travel exchange (up to plan limits)			80%	80%	80%	80%			80%	80%	
							Out-of- pocket limit in 2024**	Out-of- pocket limit in 2024**			
							\$7,060	\$3,530			

* Plans F and G also offer a high-deductible plan in some states. With this option, you must pay for Medicare-covered costs (coinsurance, copayments, and deductibles) up to the deductible amount of \$2,800 in 2024 before your policy pays anything. (Plans C and F aren't available to people who were newly eligible for Medicare on or after January 1, 2020.)

** For Plans K and L, after you meet your out-of-pocket yearly limit and your yearly Part B deductible, the Medigap plan pays 100% of covered services for the rest of the calendar year.

*** Plan N pays 100% of the Part B coinsurance, except for a copayment of up to \$20 for some office visits and up to a \$50 copayment for emergency room visits that don't result in inpatient admission.

August 2024

Understanding Medicare

Part B Excess Charges

	Participating	Non-partic	Opt-out					
If Medicare	agrees to accept	accepts Medica	formally					
assigned amount is	Medicare's assigned	charge more than Medicare's		opted out of				
\$100	amount	assigned a	assigned amount					
Doctor amount	\$100	\$115 You may be asked to pay <i>more</i> than Medicare's assigned amount at the time of service. Medicare and Medigap will reimburse		Not monitored by Medicare				
Medicare pays 80%	\$80	\$80	not applicable					
Medigap Plan	A, B, C, D, F, G, & M	A, B, C, D, & M	F&G	not applicable				
Plan pays 20%	\$20	\$20 \$35 (\$20+excess charges)		not applicable				
You pay	\$0	\$15 (excess charges)	\$0	100%				

Plans K, L, N -see chart for payment schedule

Provider Opt-outs

- 155 Providers in Tucson do not accept Medicare
 - 46 are Psychiatrists or Clinical Psychologists
 - 26 Mental Health Counselors
 - 9 Marriage and Family Therapists
 - 17 are Oral Surgeons
 - 13 Social Workers
 - 4 Concierge Physicians
- Overall Nationwide Physician opt-out rate is 1.1 % (AZ 1.4%)
 - In 2023, 7.7% of psychiatrists opted out of Medicare
 - 4.2% of physicians specializing in plastic and reconstructive surgery
 - 2.8% of physicians specializing in neurology

Ref: Aug 2024 <u>data.cms.gov</u> <u>kkf.org</u>²⁷

Additional Behavioral Health in 2024/25

- CMS is adding a range of behavioral health providers
- Specialists under this category will include:
 - Marriage and family therapists,
 - Mental health counselors,
 - Opioid Treatment Program providers,
 - Community Mental Health Centers,
 - · Addiction medicine physicians, and
 - Other providers who furnish addiction medicine and behavioral health counseling or therapy services in Medicare.
- Permits Telehealth and Psychotherapy for Crisis Services outside a facility

Concierge Doctors

Small but growing number of doctors in Tucson

Fee is approximately \$1000 to \$2500 per year

"Doctors see fewer patients — fewer than 600 — and can dedicate more one-on-one time to addressing and anticipating your health needs and concerns. They also offer services like same-day or next-day appointments, convenient 24/7 reachability, in-depth wellness evaluations and more."*

In fiscal 2024, Costco's membership fee revenue reached \$4.8 billion, accounting for about 65% of the company's net income in the year.

* https://www.mdvip.com/physicians-directory/az/tucson

When's the Best Time to Buy a Medigap Policy?

Medigap Open Enrollment Period (OEP):

- Begins the month you're 65 or older and enrolled in Part B (must also have Part A)
- Lasts 6 months

During your Medigap OEP, companies can't:

- Refuse to sell you any Medigap policy they offer
- Make you wait for coverage
- Charge more because of a past/present health problem



NOTE: You may also buy a Medigap policy whenever a company agrees to sell you one

August 2024

Understanding Medicare



Medicare Supplement (Medigap) Plans 65 years old - Guaranteed Issue - Non-Tobacco Pima County



							D	G (HD)		G	1	κ 🗌		L	1	M	1	N
Company Name	Website Address	Phone #	Rate		M Best		Approximate Monthly Rates as of April 2						2024						
Company Name	Website Abdress	Filone .	Туре	Rating	Outlook	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female
AARP Medicare Supplement (United Health Care)	www.aarphealthcare.com	800-523-5800	Community	A+	Stable					\$148.36	\$131.28	\$47.56	\$42.07	\$98.34	\$87.06			\$119.54	\$105.81
Ace Property & Casualty Insurance Co.	www.chubb.com	215-640-1000	Issue Age	A++	Stable			\$50.58	\$45.00	\$128.83	\$114.50							\$94.33	\$83.83
Aetna Health & Life Ins Co	www.aetnaseniorproducts.com	844-795-3428	Issue Age	A	Stable			\$55.06	\$47.81	\$166.68	\$145.03							\$120.70	\$104.87
Allstate Health Solutions	www.alistateheaith.com	888-966-2345	Issue Age	A+	Stable					\$135.55	\$120.00							\$103.48	\$91.56
American Benefit Life Insurance Company	www.lbig.com	833-504-0331	Issue Age	A-	Stable					\$150.19	\$130.60							\$109.36	\$95.09
American Family Life Assurance Co. (AFLAC)	www.aflac.com	855-207-2078	Issue Age	A+	Stable					\$159.77	\$139.48							\$113.51	\$99.09
American Financial Security Life Insurance Co.	www.afslic.com	866-951-0686	Issue Age	n/a	n/a					\$146.97	\$127.80							\$111.39	\$96.86
Bankers Fidelity Assurance Co.	www.bankersfidelity.com	866-458-7504	Issue Age	n/a	n/a			\$43.94	\$37.18	\$124.10	\$108.17	\$74.49	\$62.81					\$96.63	\$84.26
Blue Cross Blue Shield Of Arizona, Inc.	www.azblue.com	888-288-4398	Community	n/a	n/a	\$171.32	\$171.32			\$147.52	\$147.52							\$125.26	\$125.26
Cigna National Health Insurance Co	www.cigna.com	877-229-0293	Issue Age	A	Stable			\$50.51	\$45.10	\$139.68	\$124.71							\$100.00	\$89.29
Elips Life Ins Co - Lumico Medigap Solutions	www.lumico.com	866-440-4047	Issue Age	A	Stable			\$57.58	\$51.42	\$146.75	\$131.08							\$109.50	\$97.75
Everence Association, Inc.	www.everence.com	800-348-7468	Community	n/a	n/a					\$254.66	\$221.34							\$216.32	\$187.99
Federal Life Insurance Company	www.federallife.com	800-233-3750	Issue Age	n/a	n/a			\$44.27	\$39.52	\$128.32	\$114.58							\$98.65	\$88.09
Globe Life And Accident Insurance Co	www.globecaremedsupp.com	800-801-6831	Issue Age	A	Stable			\$58.00	\$58.00	\$227.00	\$227.00							\$158.50	\$158.50
Gpm Health And Life Insurance Company	www.gpmlife.com	800-929-4765	Issue Age	A-	Stable					\$254.82	\$221.59							\$120.20	\$104.52
Guarantee Trust Life Insurance Company	www.gtic.com	800-338-7452	Issue Age	A-	Stable					\$277.56	\$247.82							\$219.49	\$195.97
Humana Insurance Company (Direct)	www.humana-medicare.com	888-310-8482	Issue Age	Α-	Stable			\$51.41	\$49.40	\$286.26	\$275.22	\$112.02	\$107.67	\$160.11	\$153.93			\$216.22	\$207.86
Humana Insurance Company (Achieve)	www.humana-medicare.com	888-602-7443	Community	A-	Stable			\$51.12	\$44.36	\$162.89	\$141.57							\$124.52	\$108.19
Humana Insurance Company (Value)	www.humana-medicare.com	800-457-4708	Issue Age	٨.	Stable			\$52.27	\$45.35	\$182.13	\$158.28	\$80.22	\$69.65					\$144.42	\$125.48
Lifeshield National Insurance	www.ifeshieldnational.com	800-851-5041	Issue Age	B++	Stable					\$140.48	\$122.16							\$103.56	\$90.05
Manhattan Life Assurance Company of America	www.manhattanlife.com	866-669-9030	Issue Age	B+	Stable					\$173.25	\$125.64							\$120.25	\$104.67
Medico Corp Life Insurance Co.	www.completeplus.com	866-891-9365	Issue Age	A	Stable			\$50.73	\$45.09	\$147.70	\$131.29							\$108.90	\$96.80
MedMutual Protect	www.medmutual.com	800-382-5729	Issue Age	A-	Stable	\$155.00	\$140.83	\$48.42	\$44.00	\$152.25	\$138.33							\$96.33	\$87.58
Mutual of Ornaha Insurance Company	www.mutualofomaha.com	1-800-667-2937	Issue Age	A+	Stable			\$55.20	\$48.00	\$178.97	\$155.63							\$125.80	\$109.39
New Era Life Insurance Company	www.neweralife.com	800-552-7879	Issue Age	A.	Stable			\$44.41	\$40.37	\$150.21	\$136.56					\$101.50	\$89.82	\$111.00	\$98.23
Pekin Life Insurance Co.	www.pekininsurance.com	888-353-3359	Issue Age	A-	Stable					\$159.04	\$144.52							\$128.35	\$111.63

Medigaps / Medicare Supplements

Medigap Plan Finder at Medicare.gov https://www.medicare.gov/medigap-supplemental-insurance-plans

Rate Type "Issue Age" policy rate determined by the age when you buy the policy. Arizona is an "Issue Age" state now but companies are Grandfathered to allow Community Rated

Rate Type "Community Rated" policy rates are technically independent of age, HOWEVER... Most "Community Rated" and Policies sold with "early enrollment discount" will have guaranteed yearly increases until the discount is gone

All plan rates may increase due to medical inflation

Ask about extra benefits or discounts

- Household, auto-pay discount
- Health club, etc
- Extra benefits are not guaranteed and may be discontinued

If you didn't have Medical Insurance prior to buying your Medigap, there may be up to 6 month waiting period

Medigap questions to ask

		Rating	Date contacted
Premium \$	for age (i	may be affected	d by gender, age, and if applicant smokes)
Does the premium i	nclude an enrollment di	scount? YES	NO
	ment discount for my first		
	he enrollment discount de		ear?
When does the er	nrollment discount end? _		
What is your house	hold discount (if any)? _		
			your company? YES NO
Does nousenoid i		a meaigap mar	
Other discounts (de	scribe)		
Premiur	n History	¢	3 years ago
		\$ \$	4 years ago
C	idst year		
5	2 40200 200	c	E vears age
5	last year 2 years ago	\$	5 years ago
		s	
		<u>s</u> utomatically s	5 years ago ends the claim to your company) YES NO
Do you have crosso	ver billing? (Medicare a	-	
Do you have crosso	ver billing? (Medicare a	have a pre-exi	ends the claim to your company) YES NO
Do you have crosso If you do NOT have	ver billing? (Medicare a	have a pre-exi	ends the claim to your company) YES NO sting condition, see if the plan will accept you.
Do you have crosso If you do NOT have <u>My condition</u>	ver billing? (Medicare a a guaranteed issue and	have a pre-exi Lookb	ends the claim to your company) YES NO sting condition, see if the plan will accept you.
Do you have crosso If you do NOT have <u>My condition</u> Even if you are in yo	ver billing? (Medicare a a guaranteed issue and	have a pre-exi Lookb riod, if you are	ends the claim to your company) YES NO sting condition, see if the plan will accept you. ack period NOT currently covered by an insurance plan,

2023 to 2024 Medigap Rate Chgs 65 y/o Guar Issue

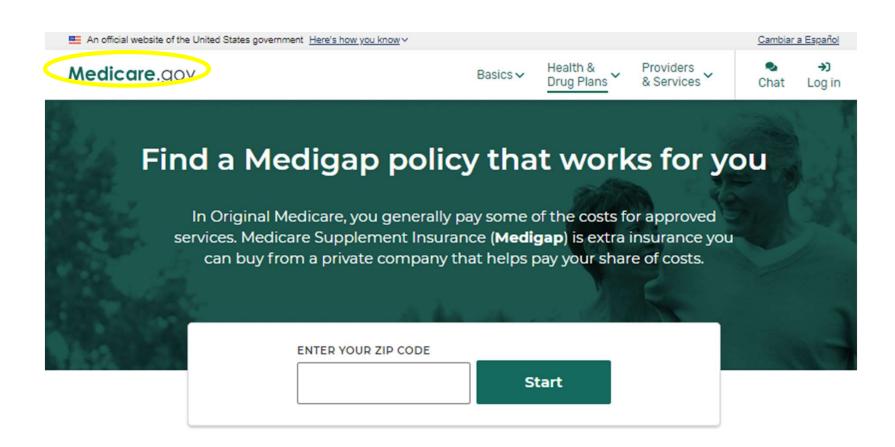
	G (HD)		(3	1	N
	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female
AARP Medicare Supplement (United Health Care)			12.9%	12.9%	-3.3%	-3.6%
Ace Property & Casualty Insurance Co.	7.9%	8.0%	12.0%	12.0%	8.0%	8.0%
Aetna Health & Life Ins Co	0.0%	0.0%	9.0%	9.0%	9.0%	9.0%
Allstate Health Solutions			8.2%	8.2%	4.4%	4.4%
American Benefit Life Insurance Company			8.0%	8.0%	8.0%	8.0%
American Family Life Assurance Co. (AFLAC)			11.0%	11.0%	6.5%	6.5%
American Financial Security Life Insurance Co.			8.0%	8.0%	6.0%	6.0%
Blue Cross Blue Shield Of Arizona, Inc.			6.0%	6.0%	0.6%	0.6%
Cigna National Health Insurance Co	3.0%	3.0%	3.0%	3.0%	3.0%	3.0%
Elips Life Ins Co - Lumico Medigap Solutions	8.0%	7.9%	9.0%	9.0%	8.0%	7.8%
Everence Association, Inc.			6.0%	6.0%	6.0%	6.0%
Federal Life Insurance Company	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
Globe Life And Accident Insurance Co	0.0%	0.0%	9.0%	9.0%	7.3%	7.3%
Gpm Health And Life Insurance Company			25.0%	25.0%	25.0%	25.0%
Guarantee Trust Life Insurance Company			19.9%	19.9%	19.9%	19.9%
Humana Insurance Company (Direct)	0.0%	0.0%	12.0%	12.0%	10.0%	10.0%
Humana Insurance Company (Achieve)	0.0%	0.0%	9.5%	9.5%	3.0%	3.0%

August 2024

Understanding Medicare

2023 to 2024 Medigap Rate Chgs 65 y/o Continued

	G (G (HD) G			١	N
	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female
Lifeshield National Insurance			9.0%	9.0%	9.0%	9.0%
Manhattan Life Assurance Company of America			12.0%	-6.6%	4.9%	5.0%
Medico Corp Life Insurance Co.	32.9%	30.0%	32.9%	30.0%	31.4%	28.6%
MedMutual Protect	9.8%	9.8%	9.9%	9.9%	9.9%	9.9%
Mutual of Omaha Insurance Company	0.0%	0.0%	12.0%	12.0%	12.0%	12.0%
New Era Life Insurance Company	0.0%	0.0%	9.7%	9.7%	7.5%	7.5%
Pekin Life Insurance Co.			9.5%	9.5%	6.0%	6.0%
Physicians Life Insurance Company	-23.9%	-11.1%	-11.1%	-11.1%		
Royal Arcanum			15.0%	15.0%	15.0%	15.0%
State Farm Mutual Automobile Ins. Company			10.0%	10.0%	10.0%	10.0%
The American Home Life Ins. Co.			9.0%	9.0%	9.0%	9.0%
Transamerica Life Insurance Company			9.5%	9.5%	9.5%	9.5%
United American Insurance Company	16.1%	14.3%	10.0%	9.5%	5.1%	4.9%
Universal Fidelity Life Insurance Co.			0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
USAA Life Insurance Company			8.0%	8.0%	10.0%	10.0%
Washington National Insurance Co.	0.0%	0.0%	4.5%	4.5%	0.0%	0.0%
WMI Mutual Insurance Company			0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
Wellcare (Centene)			9.0%	4.6%	4.6%	4.6%



How to buy a Medigap policy

Decide which plan you want

Step 1

Medigap policies are standardized, and in most states are named by letters, Plans A-N. Compare the benefits each plan helps pay for and choose a plan that covers what you https://www.medicare.gov/medigap-supplementalinsurance-plans/#/m/?year=2024&lang=en

When Can You Buy or Switch Medigap Policies?

- When you start taking Part B you have a 6-month "Guaranteed Issue" period
- can buy any policy from any company
 - can't be denied or charged a higher premium based on pre-existing or current health
- You may purchase certain Medigap Plans within 63 days of these events:
 - o You leave your Advantage plan's coverage area
 - o Your Medicare Advantage or Medigap plan is discontinued
- You can always be asked if you're a smoker, your age, gender, zip code

If you don't have a "Guaranteed Issue"...Anytime an insurance company will sell one to you

- You will be subject to underwriting, health questions
- You may have to pay more because of your age and health
- It is illegal for the insurance company to sell you a policy if you are on

AHCCCS/Medicaid

More Medigap Rights: MA Trial Periods

"1st Time on Medicare Advantage" Trial Periods

• You joined a Medicare Advantage plan when you were first eligible for Medicare at 65:

➤ You have 1 year to "try out" the Medicare Advantage plan. During this first year, you may switch to Original Medicare. You are guaranteed the right to buy any Medigap policy sold in your area. (Note: You will not have this Trial Right if you delay taking Part B past your first Medicare Eligibility at Age 65)

You have Original Medicare and a Medigap policy, then decide to switch to a Medicare Advantage Plan for the first time:

➤ You have 1 year to "try out" the Medicare Advantage plan. During this 1st year, you may switch back to Original Medicare. You are only guaranteed the right to get your former Medigap plan back.

Medigap Rights Vary by State

Arizona follows only the Federal Minimum Standards along with 14 other states

- Wisconsin, Minnesota and Massachusetts have their own Medigap Standard Plans
- 4 States have continuous Guaranteed Issue protections
 - CT, MA, ME (one month/year) and NY
- Some states provide rights to Current Medigap Policyholders
 - 5 States have some Medigap "Birthday Rule"
 - Allows change to a plan of equal or lesser benefit
 - Residents of California, Oregon, Illinois, Nevada and Idaho
- Some states give special enrollment rights to those losing Medicaid Coverage
- 8 States require all premiums to be Community Rated
- 35 States require companies to make one type of Medigap available to those under 65
 - Not all covered; Rules vary by state and disability (ESRD)
- 8 States do not allow (or limit) excess charges.
 - Connecticut, Massachusetts, Minnesota, New York, Ohio, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, and Vermont

https://www.aarp.org/health/medicare-ga-tool/medigap-insurance-under-65/ https://www.kff.org/medicare/issue-brief/medigap-enrollment-and-consumer-protections-varyarross-states/

Medigap Rights Vary by State

Arizona follows only the Federal Minimum Standards along with 14 other states

• Wisconsin, Minnesota and Massachusetts have their own Medigap Standard Plans



https://www.kff.org/medicare/issue-brief/medigap-enrollment-and-consumer-prot

across-states/



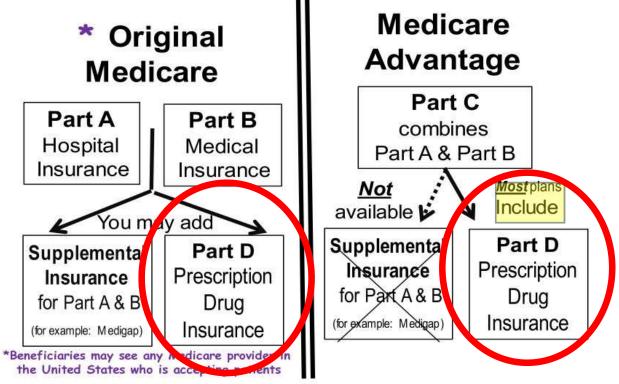
Medicare Drug Coverage (Part D)







Your Medicare Choices



Changes for 2025 – Part D Cap

- The new cap of \$2000 on enrollees' annual out-of-pocket spending on prescription drugs starts in 2025.
 - More than 3 million (8.4%) of Part D enrollees are expected to benefit
 56,000 in AZ
- \$2000 cap does not include monthly premiums
- Very few Medicare beneficiaries (11%) report awareness of the upcoming Medicare Part D cap

https://www.aarp.org/content/dam/aarp/ppi/topics/health/prescription-drugs/new-medicare-part-d-out-of-pocket-spending-cap-important-improvement-for-enrollees-facing-high-prescription-drug-costs.doi.10.26419-2fppi.00335.001.pdf

Understanding Medicare

Medicare Prescription Payment Plan in 2025

The Inflation Reduction Act (IRA) requires all Medicare drug plans to offer the option to pay out-of-pocket drug costs in monthly payments instead of all at once to the pharmacy.

- A Voluntary Program.
- Does not save money
- Start January 1, 2025
- Program participants will pay \$0 to the pharmacy for covered Part D drugs.
- Part D plan sponsors will then bill participants monthly for any cost sharing they incur while in the program.
- Pharmacies will be paid in full by the Part D sponsor in accordance with Part D prompt payment requirements.
- Enrollees with high cost sharing earlier in the calendar year are more likely to benefit from the program.
- For people with Medicare drug coverage eligible for Extra Help (also known as LIS), enrollment in Extra Help is more advantageous than the Medicare Prescription Payment Plan.

July 2024

Medicare Prescription Payment Plan: Example 1

Juan starts the payment plan in January. He fills a \$500 prescription each month:

Month	Juan's drug costs	Juan's monthly payment	Notes
January	\$500	\$166.67	Juan's first month's bill is based on the "maximum possible payment" calculation.
February	\$500	\$75.76	After the first month, a different calculation is used
March	\$500	\$125.76	
April	\$500	\$181.31	Juan has reached the annual out-of-pocket maximum (\$2,000 in 2025).
May	\$0	\$181.31	
June	\$0	\$181.31	
July	\$0	\$181.31	Juan continues to get his \$500 drug each month
August	\$0	\$181.31	but won't add any new costs since he's reached the
September	\$0	\$181.31	annual out-of-pocket maximum.
October	\$0	\$181.31	
November	\$0	\$181.31	
December	\$0	\$181.31	
TOTAL	\$2,000	\$2,000	

July 2024

Current Topics

Medicare Prescription Payment Plan: Example 2

Carmen takes several drugs totaling \$80 out-of-pocket each month. She started participating in January. Her first fill at the pharmacy is in January:

Month	Carmen's drug costs	Carmen's monthly payment	Notes
January	\$80	\$80	Carmen's first month's bill is based on the "maximum possible payment" calculation.
February	\$80	\$7.27	After the first month, a different calculation is used.
March	\$80	\$15.27	
April	\$80	\$24.16	
May	\$80	\$34.16	
June	\$80	\$45.59	
July	\$80	\$58.93	
August	\$80	\$74.92	
September	\$80	\$94.93	
October	\$80	\$121.59	
November	\$80	\$161.59	
December	\$80	\$241.59	
TOTAL	\$960	\$960	

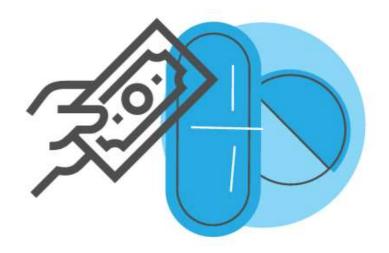
July 2024

Current Topics

The Medicare Drug Price Negotiation Program

Medicare is negotiating directly with participating drug companies for the price of certain high-expenditure brand-name drugs covered under Medicare Part B or Part D that don't have generic or biosimilar competition

- Medicare selected and negotiated maximum fair prices for 10 drugs covered under Part D (prices will be effective in 2026)
- Future selections include:
 - Up to 15 drugs covered under Part D in 2025 (for prices effective in 2027)
 - Up to 15 drugs covered under Part B or Part D in 2026 (for prices effective in 2028)
 - Up to 20 drugs covered under Part B or Part D in 2027 (for prices effective in 2029)
 - Up to 20 drugs covered under Part B or Part D in 2028 (for prices effective 2030)



July 2024

Current Topics

The Medicare Drug Price Negotiation Program (continued)

The following drugs covered under Part D were selected for the first cycle of maximum fair price negotiations for 2026:

- Eliquis
- Jardiance
- Xarelto
- Januvia
- Farxiga
- Entresto

- Enbrel
- Imbruvica
- Stelara
- Fiasp; Fiasp FlexTouch; Fiasp PenFill; NovoLog FlexPen; NovoLog PenFill

Medicare Drug Price Negotiation Program

- Discounts range from 38% to 79% off of list prices
- Projected savings to the Medicare program of \$6 billion
- plus \$1.5 billion in out-of-pocket
- Prices take effect 2026
- Negotiations for 15 additional drugs for 2027
 - Ozempic??

		List price in	Discount of negotiated
Drug Name	Negotiated price	2023	price
Januvia	\$113.00	\$527.00	79%
NovoLog/Fiasp (several pens)	\$119.00	\$495.00	76%
Farxiga	\$178.50	\$556.00	68%
Enbrel	\$2,355.00	\$7,106.00	67%
Jardiance	\$197.00	\$573.00	66%
Stelara	\$4,695.00	\$13,836.00	66%
Xarelto	\$197.00	\$517.00	62%
Eliquis	\$231.00	\$521.00	56%
Entresto	\$295.00	\$628.00	53%
Imbruvica	\$9,319.00	\$14,934.00	38%

August 2024 https://www.cms.gov/newsroom/factsheets/medicare-drug-price-negotiationprogram-negotiated-prices-initial-priceapplicability-year-2026

Understanding Medicare

DrugName	Particlpating Drug Company	Commonly Treated Conditions	Agreed to Negotiated Price for 30- day Supply for CV 2026	List Price for 30-day Supply, CY 2023	Discount of Negotiated Price from 2023 List Price	Total Part D Gross Covered Prescription Drug Costs, CY 2023	Number of Medicare Part D Enrolices Who Used the Drug, CY 2023
Januvia	Merck Sharp Dohme	Diabetes	\$113.00	\$527.00	79%	\$4,091,399,000	843,000
Fiasp; Fiasp FlexTouch; Fiasp PenFill; NovoLog; NovoLog FlexPen; NovoLog PenFill	Novo Nordisk Inc	Diabetes	\$119.00	\$495.00	76%	\$2,612,719,000	785,000
Farxiga	AstraZeneca AB	Diabetes; Heart failure; Chronic kidney disease	\$178.50	\$556.00	68%	\$4,342,594,000	994,000
Enbrel	Immunex Corporation	Rheumatoid arthritis; Psoriasis; Psoriatic arthritis	\$2,355.00	\$7,106.00	67%	\$2,951,778,000	48,000
Jardiance	Boehringer Ingelheim	Diabetes; Heart failure; Chronic kidney disease	\$197.00	\$573.00	66%	\$8,840,947,000	1,883,000
Stelara	Janssen Biotech, Inc.	Psoriasis; Psoriatic arthritis; Crohn's disease; Ulcerative colitis	\$4,695.00	\$13,836.00	66%	\$2,988,560,000	23,000
Xarelto	Janssen Pharms	Prevention and treatment of blood clots; Reduction of risk for patients with coronary or peripheral artery disease	\$197.00	\$517.00	62%	\$6,309,766,000	1,324,000
Eliquis	Bristol Myers Squibb	Prevention and treatment of blood clots	\$231.00	\$521.00	56%	\$18,275,108,000	3,928,000
Entresto	Novartis Pharms Corp	Heart failure	\$295.00	\$628.00	53%	\$3,430,753,000	664,000
Imbruvica	Pharmacyclics LLC	Blood cancers	\$9,319.00	\$14,934.00	38%	\$2,371,858,000	17,000

Note: Numbers other than prices are rounded to the nearest thousands. List prices are rounded to the nearest dollar and represent

2025 CMS Arizona Fact Sheet

Medicare Part D (Standalone Plans):

- 14 stand-alone Medicare prescription drug plans are available in 2025. Number of plans down from 21 in 2024 and 28 in 2023 Number of plans is down 26% nationally YTY Several plans have name or other changes (cross-walking)
 2 Blue and 3 Mutual of Omaha Plans will not be offered in 2025 Clients will need to select a new plan
 5 plans have increased premiums
 9 plans have lower or the same premium
 2 Clear Springs plans are sanctioned (cannot enroll new members)
- 2 Plans with \$0 monthly premium, another at \$0.80/mo





2025 ARIZONA STAND-ALONE PART D PRESCRIPTION DRUG PLAN ORGANIZATIONS compiled by PCOA from information on www.medicare.gov as of October 1, 2024

Pima Council on Aging (520) 546-2011

*In order to qualify for a Stand-Alone Part D plan, a beneficiary may have Part A only, Part B only or both Parts A & B.

Company Name and Phone Number	Plan Name and ID Numbers	Star Rating	Benefit Type Detail	\$0 Premium with Full Low-Income Subsidy	Monthly Drug Premium	Annual Drug Deductible
Aetna Medicare 1-833-526-2445	SilverScript Choice (S5601-056-0)	2.5★	Basic		\$44.90	\$590
Cigna	Cigna Healthcare Saver Rx (S5617-378-0)	2.5★	Enhanced		\$16.40	\$590
1-800-735-1459	Cigna Healthcare Extra Rx (S5617-273-0)	2.5★	Enhanced		\$57.90	\$175
	Cigna Healthcare Assurance Rx (S5617-138-0)	2.5★	Basic	•	\$0.00	\$590
Clear Spring Health *	Clear Spring Health Value Rx (S6946-023-0)	under sanction	Basic	•	\$10.40	\$590
1-877-317-6082	Clear Spring Health Premier Rx (S6946-089-0)	under sanction	Enhanced		\$73.20	\$590
Humana Insurance Company	Humana Basic Rx Plan (S5884-146-0)	3.5★	Basic		\$64.40	\$590
1-800-706-0872	Humana Premier Rx Plan (S5884-174-0)	3.5★	Enhanced		\$133.30	\$0
	Humana Value Rx Plan (S5884-207-0)	3.5★	Enhanced		\$27.90	\$573
United Healthcare Insurance Co. 1-888-867-5564	AARP MedicareRx Saver from UHC (S5921-380-0)	2★	Basic		\$47.90	\$590
1-800-753-8004	AARP MedicareRx Preferred from UHC (S5921-409-0)	2★	Enhanced		\$82.10	\$0
Wellcare	WellCare Classic (S4802-092-0)	3.5★	Basic	•	\$0.80	\$590
1-800-270-5320	WellCare Value Script (S4802-134-0)	3.5★	Enhanced		\$0.00	\$590
	WellCare Medicare Rx Value Plus (S4802-231-0)	3.5★	Enhanced		\$102.40	\$590

Total of 12 Plans available

LIS Benchmark Subsidy 2025 = \$30.10

National Base Premium 2025 = \$36.78

* Plan under sanction cannot enroll new members

"This project was supported, in part by grant number 90SAPG0083, from the U.S. Administration for Community Living, Department of Health and Human Services, Washington, D.C. 20201. Grantees undertaking projects with government sponsorship are encouraged to express freely their findings and conclusions. Points of view or opinions do not, therefore, necessarily represent official ACL policy."

Medicare Part D Funding

- Part D is financed ...
 - primarily by general revenues (74%)
 - beneficiary premiums (15%)
 - an additional 11% of revenues coming from state payments for beneficiaries enrolled in both Medicare and Medicaid
 - It is <u>not</u> funded by the Medicare payroll tax
 - There is No Part D Medicare Trust Fund
- Higher-income enrollees pay a larger share of the cost of Part D coverage, as they do for Part B.
 - Part D IRMMA

August 2024

Part D – Tips for Saving Money

- Run the Drug Plan Finder at https://www.medicare.gov/plan-compare during open/special enrollment periods!
 - Don't focus simply on tiers or premium or deductible! Plan Finder calculates all these for you ٠
 - A higher premium doesn't mean it's a better plan for you. ٠
- If you don't take any prescriptions, good choices in 2025 are ٠
 - Wellcare Value Script at \$0/mo ٠
 - Cigna Assurance Rx at \$0/mo ٠
 - Wellcare Classic at \$0.80/mo ٠
- Costs are usually lowest if you use the plan's Preferred Pharmacies, followed by network pharmacies, ٠ and highest with out-of-network pharmacies
 - Start Plan Finder searches with common Preferred Pharmacies: WalMart, Walgreens & Mail Order ٠ August 2024 54 **Understanding Medicare**

Note Preferred Pharmacies

PLAN NAME PLAN NUMBER	DEDUCTIBLE STAR RATING	COMPANY NAME PHONE NUMBER	MONTHLY	PREFERRED PHARMACIES **	PLAN NAME PLAN NUMBER	DEDUCTIBLE STAR RATING	COMPANY NAME PHONE NUMBER	MONTHLY PREMIUM	PREFERRED PHARMACIES **
AARP Medicare Rx	\$0	UnitedHealthcare	\$82.10	Costco, Fry's, Mail Order,	Humana	\$590	Humana	\$64.40	Mail Order
Preferred from UHC		800 753-8004	LIS	Osco, Safeway	Basic Rx Plan		800 706-0872	LIS	
\$5921-409 ***	2.0	www.aarpmedicareplans.com	\$52.00	Walgreens, Walmart	S5884-146	3.5	www.humana.com/medicare	\$34.30	
AARP Medicare Rx	\$590	UnitedHealthcare	\$47.90	Costco, Fry's, Mail Order,	Humana	\$0	Humana	\$133.30	Costco, Mail Order,
Saver from UHC		888 867-5564	LIS	Osco, Safeway,	Premier Rx Plan		800 706-0872	LIS	Sam's Club, Walmart
\$5921-380	2.0	www.aarpmedicareplans.com	\$17.80	Walgreens, Walmart	S5884-174 ***	3.5	www.humana.com/medicare	\$103.20	
	· ·				Humana	\$573*	Humana	\$27.90	Costco, Mail Order,
Aetna Medicare	\$590	Aetna Medicare	\$44.90		Value Rx Plan		800 706-0872	LIS	Sam's Club, Walmart
SilverScript Choice		833 526-2445	LIS	No Preferred Pharmacies	\$5884-207	3.5	www.humana.com/medicare	\$15.90	
S5601-056	2.5	www.aetnamedicare.com	\$14.80			··			
					Wellcare	\$590	Wellcare	\$0.80	Costco, CVS,
Cigna Healthcare	\$590	Cigna Healthcare	\$0.00	Banner, Evernorth,	Classic		800 270-5320	LIS	Fry's, Mail Order, Osco,
Assurance Rx		800 735-1459	LIS	Mail Order, Safeway,	S4802-092	3.5	www.wellcare.com/pdp	\$0.00	Safeway, Walgreens
S5617-138	2.5	www.cignamedicare.com	\$0.00	Osco, W'greens, W'mart	Wellcare Medicare Rx	\$590*	Wellcare	\$102.40	Costco, CVS,
Cigna Healthcare	\$175*	Cigna Healthcare	\$57.90	Banner, Evernorth,	Value Plus		800 270-5320	LIS	Fry's, Mail Order, Osco,
Extra Rx		800 735-1459	LIS	Mail Order, Safeway,	S4802-231	3.5	www.wellcare.com/pdp	\$72.30	Safeway, Walgreens
S5617-273 ***	2.5	www.cignamedicare.com	\$27.80	Osco, W'greens, W'mart	Wellcare	\$590*	Wellcare	\$0.00	Costco, CVS,
Cigna Healthcare	\$590*	Cigna Healthcare	\$16.40	Evernorth, Mail Order,	Value Script		800 270-5320	LIS	Fry's, Mail Order, Osco,
Saver Rx		800 735-1459	LIS	Osco, Sam's Club,	S4802-134	3.5	www.wellcare.com/pdp	\$0.00	Safeway, Walgreens
S5617-378 ***	2.5	www.cignamedicare.com	\$16.40	Walgreens, Walmart	-			•	

** Plans may have additional Preferred Pharmacies

August 2024

Understanding Medicare

Part D - More Tips for Saving Money

- Mail order is sometimes, but not always, less expensive
- Compare the cash price with your Part D copay. If paying cash, check for discounts from websites such as www.goodrx.com or others
- If your medication is in a high tier ask your plan for a tiering exception
- Ask your doctor about samples. Know that your doctor may not be able to provide samples for long
- If your medication is not on the plan's formulary ask your plan for a formulary exception
- Ask your pharmacist or doctor if there are generics or other medications on the plans formulary that you can take
- Compare plan coverages during open/special enrollment

Variety of On-Line Pharmacies / Savings Cards that Medicare Beneficiaries can use

Not part of Medicare

https://www.costco.com/cmpp

Member price may be less than insr price

Plus Members get better prices on some drugs







GoodRx



amazon pharmacy

SingleCare

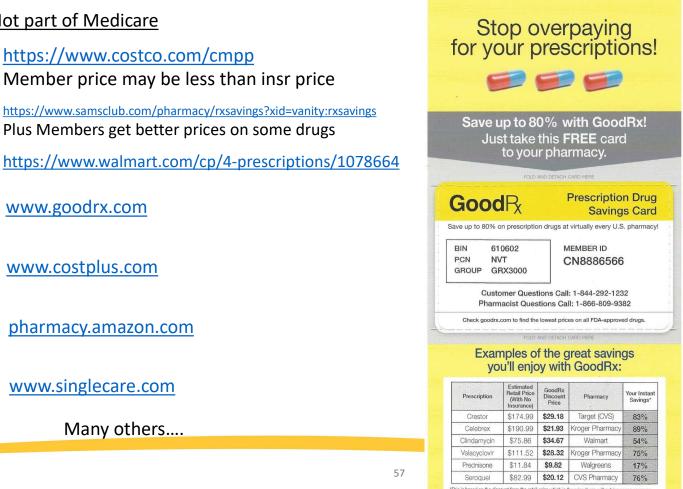
www.costplus.com

www.goodrx.com

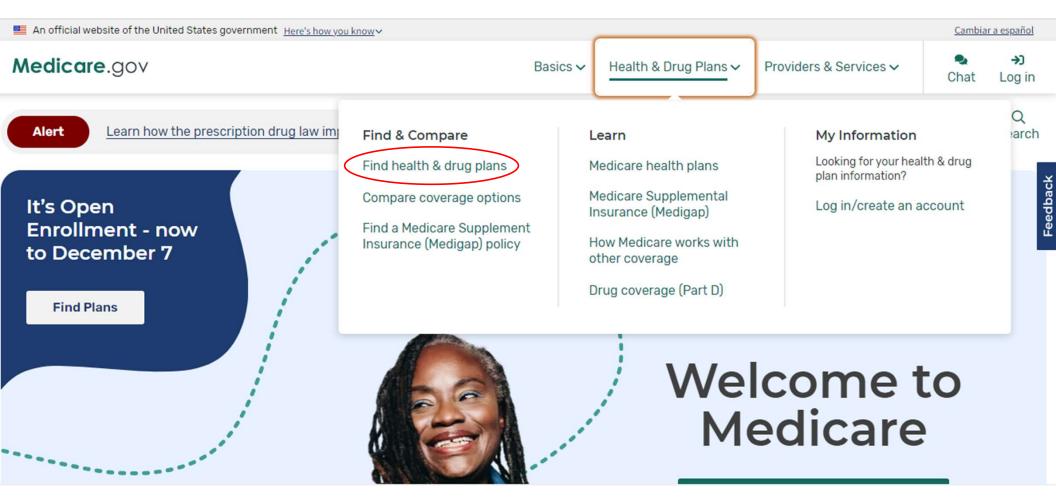
pharmacy.amazon.com

www.singlecare.com

Many others....



This is based on the discount from the retail price which is the price those without insurance coverage typically pay. Prices are as of August 2018. All prices are for generics. Prices are subject to change



Resource	Description
Pharmaceutical manufacturer assistance programs	https://www.medicare.gov/plan-compare/#/pharmaceutical-assistance- program
Extra Help for Medicare patients	The Extra Help Program—based on limited income Visit <u>medicare.gov/basics/costs/help/drug-costs</u> .
Charitable patient assistance foundations	Charitable patient assistance foundations, https://www.panfoundation.org/



Medicare Advantage Health Plans







Your Medicare Choices Medicare Original **Advantage** Medicare Part C Part A Part B combines Hospital Medical Part A & Part B Insurance Insurance **Most** plans Not Include available 🖌 You may add Supplemental Part D Part D Supplemental Insurance Prescription Prescription Insurance for Part A & B Drug for Part A & B Drug Insurance (for example: Medigap) Insurance (for example: Medigap)

*Beneficiaries may see any Medicare provider in the United States who is accepting patients

Medicare Advantage Plans (Part C)

🗹 Part A

🗹 Part B

Most plans include:

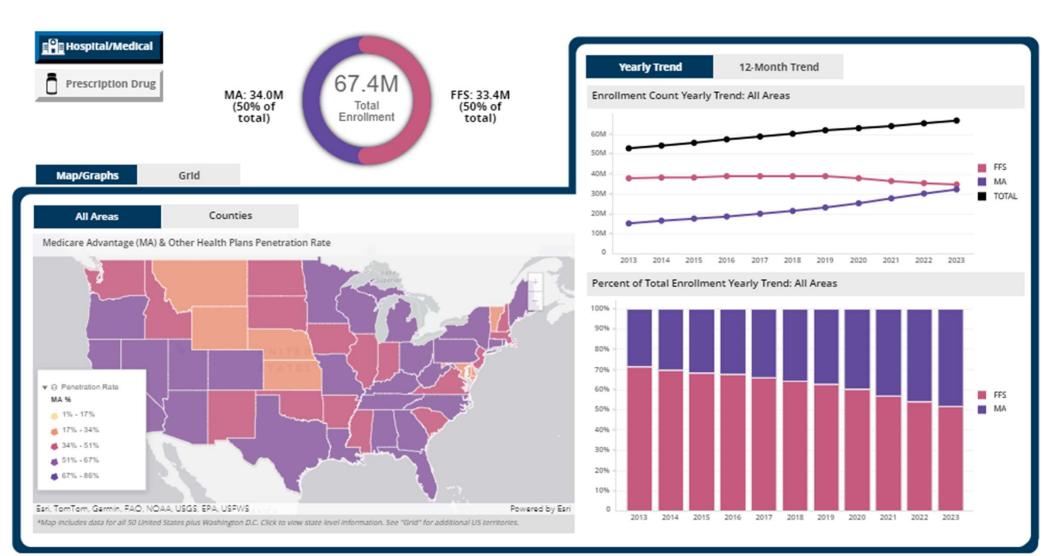
Part D

🗹 Some extra benefits

Some plans also include:

Lower out-of-pocket costs

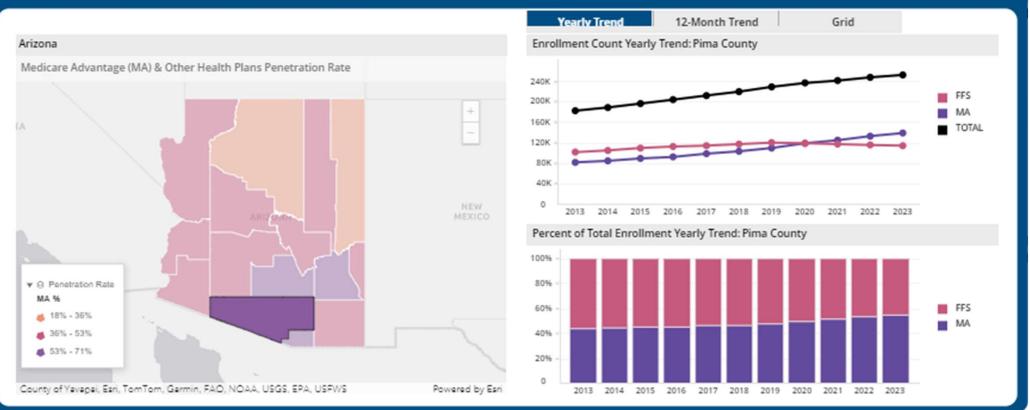
- Another way (other than Original Medicare) to get your Medicare Part A (Hospital Insurance) and Part B (Medical Insurance) coverage
- Offered by Medicare-approved private companies that must follow rules set by Medicare
- Most (but not all) Medicare Advantage Plans include drug coverage (Part D)
- In most cases, you'll need to use health care providers who participate in the plan's network (some plans offer non-emergency coverage out of network, but typically at a higher cost)



JULY ∠U∠4

синент торісь

ARIZONA (15 counties) | TOTAL: 1,484,871 | FFS: 732,729 (49% of total) | MA: 752,142 (51% of total)



https://data.cms.gov/tools/medicare-enrollment-dashboard

Trend in Private and Public Plans to MA

- State of Arizona Retiree plans and many private industry retiree plans provide only MA options
 - Generally, individuals may elect Original Medicare outside their Employer Retiree Plans
- The Postal Service Reform Act of 2022 established a new health benefit program for postal workers
- Postal Service annuitants who retire and become eligible for Medicare after December 31, 2024, and their eligible family members will be required to enroll in Medicare Part B as a condition of eligibility for PSHB
 - See OPM.gov for many details

2026 Required Notice by all MA Plans

- Almost all MA plans offer supplemental benefits (Dental, Vision & Hearing)
 - Many offer 20+ supplemental benefits (OTC, meals, rides, etc)
- But, a 2024 Commonwealth Fund survey found that three out of 10 MA recipients didn't use any available benefits
- Mid-year supplemental benefits notice Beginning January 1, 2026, MA organizations must send notification annually, between June 30 and no later than July 31 of the plan year, to each enrollee with unused supplemental benefits
 - The benefit's scope
 - Cost-sharing for the benefit
 - Instructions on how to access the benefit
 - Network information
 - Customer service number to call for more information

2025 CMS Arizona MA Fact Sheet

In Arizona, 1,484,871 individuals are enrolled in Medicare.

Medicare Advantage:

• The average monthly Medicare Advantage plan premium changed from \$11.44 in 2024 to \$8.10 in 2025.

- 60 Standard Medicare Advantage plans are available in Pima County in 2025
 - 13 new plans
 - HMO, HMO-POS, and PPO
 - plans without Part D (for those with VA/Tricare or other drug benefit)
 - In addition to "street plans" there are SNP (Special Needs Plans) and Dual (AHCCCS/Medicare) Plans
- Many \$0 monthly premium Medicare Advantage plans There are many plans with partial "Give Back" of Part B premium

2025 Pima County Medicare Advantage HMO Plans

						Copers	for Medicare	e-covered B	lenefits						Additio	nal Benefits	i.		
Health Maintenance Organization (HMO) Plan Name	Monthly Premium (besides the Part 8 previum)	Max Out of Pocket (escluding drugs)	urug Coverage/ Deductible*	PCP	Specialist	CR / Urgent Care	Hospital Copay/Days	PT, OT or Speech Therapy	Diabetes Supplies	Podiatry	Chiro- practic	Vision Eye- wear 8	Hearing Aid	Dental*	Rides ¹	Quarterity	Foot- care (copay/ visits)	Chiro- practic (copary/ visits)	Fitness
A DD Mad Adv Corellar from 1997 A7 47 (p. c)	10	66.700	WIE ADD	60	610	CANF ITC	e nor ir	\$45 - \$50	60.504	6.45	630		×	\$1,000		620	64515		~
AARP Med Adv CareFlex from UHC AZ-17 (3) (4)	\$0 \$0	\$6,700	Y/\$495	\$0	\$50 \$15	\$125/55	\$495/5 \$225/7		\$0 - 50%	\$45	\$20	Y	Y		N	\$30 \$45	\$45/6	N	Y
AARP Med Adv Essentials from UHC AZ-1 (4) AARP Med Adv Extras from UHC AZ-4 (2) (4)	S0.40 rebate	\$2,400	Y/\$255 Y/\$340	\$0 \$0	\$15	\$140/\$65 \$140/\$55	\$275/7	\$15 \$25	\$0 - 20% \$0 - 20%	\$15 \$25	\$10 \$10	Y	Y	\$1,000	N	\$75	\$15/6	\$10/12	Y
AARP Med Adv Extras from OHC A2-4 (2) (4)	50.40 rebate	\$4,300 in	1/5540	30	343	\$140/\$55	21/2/1	242	50 - 20%	242	\$15 in	1	1	\$3,000		\$/3	\$30/6 in	\$10/12	
				C1010	\$30 in		\$250/7 in	62010	60 20W In	\$30 in	\$70				I		\$70/6		1
AARP Med Adv from UHC AZ-0013 (4) (5)	\$20	\$10,000 out	Y/50	\$10 in \$35 out	\$70 out	\$120/\$40	40% out	\$20 in \$70 out	\$0 - 20% in 50% out	\$70 out	out	Y	<i></i>	\$1,000	N	\$40	S/U/B	N	Y
Aetha Medicare Platinum (4) (6)	\$20	54,900	Y/\$590	\$35 OUL \$0	\$30	\$120/540	\$190/7	\$30	S0 + 20%	\$0	\$20	Y	Y	\$2,500	N	\$30	N	N	Y
Aetha Medicare Pracinali (4) (6) Aetha Medicare Premier -004 (4) (6)	50	\$4,150	Y/\$590	50	\$30	\$140/\$50	\$445/7	\$30	S0 - 20%	\$30	\$20	Y	Y	\$1,000	N	\$30 N	N	N	Y
Aetna Medicare Sunrise -146 (2) (4) (6)	\$7 rebate	\$2,700	Y/\$590	50	\$30	\$140/\$50	\$175/5	\$5	S0 - 20%	\$0	\$20	Y	Y	\$2,000	N	\$45	N	N	Y
Aetna Medicare Value Plus -177 (4) (5)	\$9.90	\$2,700	Y/\$590	50	\$25	\$140/\$50	\$195/7	\$25	S0 - 20%	\$25	\$20	Y	¥.	\$2,500	N	\$50	N	N	Y
Alignment Health smartHMO (2)	\$125 rebate	\$3,900	Y/\$590	50	\$20	\$120/50	\$375/7	SO	0% - 20%	\$5	\$10	Y	N	Prev	N	N	N	N	Y
Alignment Health the ONE + Walgreens -002	\$125 reduce	\$2,499	Y/S0	50	\$20	\$75/50	\$125/6	50	0% - 20%	\$0	\$0	¥*	Y	\$2,000	24*	\$25/mth *	N	\$0/24	Y
Banner Medicare Advantage Prime -002	50	\$2,995	Y/S0	SO	\$15	\$120/50	\$275/5	50	S0 - 20%	\$25	\$20	Y	Y	Prev	N	\$55	N	\$35/6	Y
Blue Best Life Classic -008 (2) (6)	S6 rebate	\$2,800	Y/SO	50	\$5	\$90/\$25	\$125/5	\$10	S0 - 20%	\$5	\$10	Y	Y	\$2,000	N	\$75	N	\$15/30	Y
Dide dest die Classic 4000 (2) (6)	up to \$5	34,000	1/30	20	22	2301.242	3153/3	510	30-20%	23	210			\$2,000		2/2		213/30	-
Cigna Alliance Medicare (2) (6)	rebate	\$2,300	¥/50	50	\$5	\$140/\$10	\$150/7	\$5	\$0	\$5	\$20	Y	×	\$3,000	50	\$125	\$5/12	\$20/12	×
Contra Permitter interaction (21(0))	up to	24,000	1100	20		2240/220	10001	45	~	~~	440			43,000	50	7	201 24	4407 4A	-
	\$174.70														I				
Cigna Preferred Full Savings Medicare (2) (6)	rebate	\$6,800	Y/SO	\$0	\$45	\$110/\$45	\$450/4	\$35	SO - 20%	\$45	\$15	Y	¥.	\$500	10	\$25	N	N	Y
	up to \$5																		
Cigna Preferred Medicare (2) (6)	rebate	\$2,900	Y/\$0	\$0	\$30	\$140/\$30	\$225/7	\$30	\$0	\$30	\$20	Y	Y	\$20,000	24	\$80	\$25/12	\$20/12	Y
	up to \$105																		
Cigna Preferred Savings Medicare (2) (6)	rebate	\$3,300	Y/\$0	\$0	\$30	\$140/\$30	\$295/7	\$30	\$0	\$30	\$20	Y	¥	\$1,300	10	\$25	\$30/12	\$20/12	Y
Devoted CORE Arizona -016	\$0	\$2,700	Y/\$590	\$0	\$20	\$140/\$45	\$225/7	\$20/\$50	\$0/35%	\$20	\$20	\$1,000		\$1,000					
Devoted Cone Arizona -016	~	34,700	1/2000	30	320	2140/ 343	Sers11	320/330	201.2220	220	220	Flex	Y	Flex	N	N	N	N	Y
Devoted GIVEBACK Arizona -013 (2)			Y/\$590						\$0/20%			\$250		\$250					
Devoted diveback Anzona -015 (2)	\$157 rebate	\$8,300	1/2220	\$0	\$45	\$110/\$45	\$395/5	\$45/\$50	portons	\$45	\$15	Flex	Y	Flex	N	N	N	N	Y
eternalHealth Grand Give Back (2)	up to \$80	\$4,550	Y/\$400	SO	\$15	\$120/\$25	\$325/5	\$30	0%/20%	\$25	\$20			1.1.1.1.1.1.1.1.1			2011		
	rebate		1.000									Y	Y	\$3,000	U	\$70	N	\$25/20	Y
eternalHealth Horizon (3)	\$0	\$3,350	Y/\$200	SO	\$0	\$135/\$0	\$150/7	\$20	0%/20%	\$20	\$20	Y	¥.	\$3,500	U	\$60	N	N	Y
						20% -									I			\$25/20	
eternalHealth Valor Give Back (2) (4) (5)		\$5,500 in		10000		\$120 in					\$20 in				I			in	1
	up to \$100	\$9,000		\$0 in	\$0 in	20% -	Part A	\$30 in	20% in	20% in	50%					12000		50%/2	
	rebate	out	N	\$0 out	\$25 out	\$125 out	amounts	50% out	50% out	50% out	out	Y	Y	\$2,500	24	\$50	N	0 out	Y
Gold Kidney Gold Advantage (2) (4)	\$55 rebate	\$3,400	¥/50	50	\$15	\$135/\$45	\$195/7	\$35	50, 20%	\$15	\$20	\$2,100	\$2,100	\$2,100					
commune a commune for the	433160806	20,100		~~	425	40331 503	Arrali	444	00, 2070			Flex	Flex	Flex	N	\$50/mth	\$15/12	\$20/6	Y
	\$75 rebate	\$5,500	N	50	\$45	\$125/\$45	\$300/7	\$35	\$0, 20%	\$45	20%	\$2,500	\$2,500	\$2,500					
Gold Kidney Gold Loyalty (2) (4)		40,000		~~		Jaco 000	400011	444	<i>40, 207</i>		2010	Flex	Flex	Flex	N	\$50/mth	\$45/12	N	Y
	up to \$3																		
Humana Gold Plus -021 (2)	rebate	\$3,900	Y/\$250	\$0	\$30	\$140/\$55	\$340/7	\$50	\$0 - 20%	\$30	\$15	Y	Y	Prev	N	N	\$30/6	N	Y
	up to \$5	\$2,950	Y/\$0	\$0	\$25	\$140/\$65	\$195/6	\$25	\$0/10%-20%	\$25	\$20						400.00		
Humana Gold Plus -074-2 (2)	rebate						4000	-				Y	Y	\$2,000	N	\$50	\$25/6	N	Y
SCAN Classic	\$0	\$2,800	Y/\$0	\$0	\$0	\$90/\$0	\$75/5	\$0 - \$10	\$0	\$0	\$0	Y	Y	\$2,000	54	\$100	N	\$10/20	N
SCAN MyChoice	\$0	\$2,800	Y/\$0	\$0	\$0	\$90/\$0	\$75/5	\$0 - \$10	\$0	\$0	\$0	Y	¥	\$2,000	N	\$80	N	\$10/20	N
SCAN Venture (z)	\$50 rebate	\$2,999	Y/\$0	\$0	\$0-\$30	\$90/\$20	\$250/6	\$0 - \$30	\$0	\$0 - \$30	\$20	Y	Ŷ	Prev	N	\$55	N	\$5/20	N

Medicare Advantage Open Enrollment Period (MA OEP)

Use this if you chose the wrong MA Plan during Open Enrollment!

January 1st through March 31st

3-Month period each year during which you can:

- ✓ Switch MA Plans (Medicare Advantage Plan with prescription drug coverage (MA-PD) to MA, or MA to MA-PD)
- ✓ Drop MA Plan and return to Original Medicare
 - If you do, you can enroll in a Part D plan
 - You won't have a Guaranteed Issue Right for a Medigap policy

You must already be enrolled in an MA Plan (at any time) during the first 3 months of the year to use this enrollment period.

(Doesn't apply to Medicare Savings Account (MSA) type of MA)

Plan Name / ID Number	/ Star Rating	Alignment Health Plan the ONE + Walgreens 3.5 HMO (H3443-602-6) 3.5	Alignment Health Smart 3.5★ HMD (H3443-005-0)	Banner Medicare Advantage Prime HMO (H5843-002-0) 3.5*		
Plan Contact	Prospective Members	1-888-979-2247	1-888-979-2247	1-844-549-1858		
	Current Members	1-866-634-2247	1-866-634-2247	1-844-549-1857		
Website Address		https://www.alignmenthealthplan.com	https://www.alignmenthealthplan.com	https://www.bannerhealth.com/medicare		
Monthly Premium		\$0	50 (\$125/month Part 8 premium rebate)	\$0		
Out-of-Pocket Limit (excl	ludes Part D)	\$2,459	\$3,900	\$2,995		
Drug Plan Deductible		50	\$590 (applicable to Tier 5)	\$0		
	vered) for chronic lower back pain	30	30	please call plan for info		
Ambulance		\$100	\$100	\$250		
Chiropractic Services (M	ledicare Covered)	\$0	\$10	\$20-\$35		
Dialysis		20%	2%	20%		
Diabetes Supplies		\$0	\$0	\$0		
Diagnostic Tests, Lab &	Radiology Services & X-Rays	\$0 Diagnostic Radiology Sixs (MRts, CT Scans) \$ 0 Diagnostic Tests & Procedures \$0 Lab Services; \$0 Outpatient X-Rays	\$0 Diagnostic Radiology Svs (MRis, CT Scans) \$0 Diagnostic Tests & Procedures \$0 Lab Services; \$0 Outpatient X-Rays	\$125 - \$200 Diagnostic Radiology Svs (MRIs, CT Scans) \$0 - \$10 Diagnostic Tests & Procedures \$0 - \$10 Lab Services; \$0 Outpatient X-Rays		
Doctor's Office Visits		\$0 Primary Care Physician visit \$0 Specialist visit	\$0 Primary Care Physician visit \$20 Specialist visit	\$0 Primary Care Physician visit \$15 Specialist visit		
	ent (Wheelchairs, Oxygen, etc)	0%-20%	2%	22%		
Emergency Care		\$75	\$120	\$120		
Home Health Care		\$0	\$0	\$0		
Inpatient Hospital Care		Days 1 - 6 \$125 per day Days 7 - 90 \$0 per day	Days 1 - 7 \$375 per day Days 8-90 \$0 per day	Days 1 - 5 \$275 per day Days 6 - 90 \$0 per day		
Skilled Nursing Facility (SNF)	Days 1 - 20 \$0 per day Days 21 - 100 \$100 per day	Days 1 - 20 50 per day Days 21 - 100 \$100 per day	Days 1 - 20 \$0 per day Days 21 - 100 \$178 per day		
Outpatient Mental Health	h	\$0 - \$20 Group Therapy or Individual Therapy	\$10-\$20 Group or Individual Therapy	\$25 Group or Individual Therapy		
Outpatient Rehabilitation		\$0 Occupational Therapy \$0 Physical Therapy, Speech & Language Therapy	\$0 Occupational Therapy \$0 Physical Therapy, Speech & Language Therapy	\$0 Occupational Therapy \$0 Physical Therapy, Speech & Language Therapy		
Outpatient Hospital		\$40 - \$85	\$0.5200	\$200		
Podiatry (Medicare Cove	orection and the second s	50	\$5	\$25		
Prescriptions (30-day su		Standard Pharm: Tar 1 \$2 Tar 2 \$2 Tar 3 \$30. Tar 4 \$30. Tier 5 25%	Standard Phare: Tier 1 \$0, Tier 2 \$0, Tier 3 \$30; Tier 4 \$90; Tier 5 25%	Standard Pharm: Tier 1 \$0; Tier 2 \$5; Tier 3 \$47; Tier 4 \$100; Tier 5 33%		
Preventive Services		50	\$0	\$0		
Prosthetic Devices (Brac	es, Artificial Limbs, etc.)	20%	20%	25		
Urgent Care		\$0	\$0	\$0		
Extra Bane	fits & Costs					
Annual Physical Exams		\$0 \$0	\$0	\$0		
Dental Services		\$2,000 coverage limit per year for preventive & comprehensive combined	\$0 Exam, Cleaning, Fluoride per 6 months; \$0 x-ray per 3 yrs	\$1,000 combined coverage/year for preventive & comprehensive ava		
Hearing Services		\$195-\$1,750 copay, 2 hearing aids every year	not covered	\$1,000 max coverage/year for hearing aids, repairs, parts & fitting		
Vision Services		\$300 coverage limit for glasses/contacts per year	\$100 coverage limit for glasses/contacts every 2 years	\$250 allowance towards frames or contact lenses		
Emergency Response D	evice	\$0	not covered	not covered		
Fitness Benefit		no-cost membership at participating fitness centers	no-cost memberships at participating fitness centers	Silver & Fit		
Home Safety Devices &	Modifications	not covered	not covered	not covered		
In-Home Support		12 hours per quarter; 48 hours per year	not covered	not covered		
Meals for short duration		not covered	not covered	14 meals following surgery or after inpatient stay in hospital or SNF		
Over the counter drug be	enelis	\$25 per month	not covered	\$55 every 3 months		
Telehealth		some coverage - please call plan	some coverage - please call plan for info	\$0 - \$25; 24/7 Nurse Advice Line		
Transportation		24 one-way trips per year (within a 25-mile radius)	not covered	not covered		
Worldwide Emergency		\$10,000.00 coverage limit per year	not covered	\$120 copay, \$25,000 coverage limit		

Prior Authorization

- Requiring providers to obtain approval before a service or other benefit will be covered by a patient's insurance
- A tool to contain spending and prevent people from receiving unnecessary or low-value services
- May create unnecessary barriers and delays to care; administrative burden to providers
- Original Medicare requires Prior Auth on a limited number of services
 - Blepharoplasty (eyelid), Botox, Vein ablation, cervical fusion, and others
 - Part D drug plans generally have Prior Auth for some drugs
- Varies by specific Medicare Advantage plan
 - Commonly require Prior Auth for High Cost Services
 - Such as chemotherapy, skilled nursing facility stays, Dialysis, Cochlear Implants, Some DME
 - Pet, CT, MRI scans, X-Rays, Phys & Ocp & Cardiac & Radiation Therapy, Second Opinions
 - Home Heath, Mental Health, Bariatric, Surgeries, Sleep Studies, Transplants, Pain Mgmt
 - etc etc _{https://www.optum.com/content/dam/optum4/resources/pdf/colorado-prior-authorization-list.pdf}
- Generally, no Prior Auth for Routine / Preventative Services including Colonoscopy

Prior Authorization

- More than 46 million prior authorization requests were submitted to Medicare Advantage insurers on behalf of Medicare Advantage enrollees in 2022, up from 37 million in 2019.
- In 2022, there were 1.7 prior authorization requests per Medicare Advantage enrollee,
- In 2022, insurers fully or partially denied 3.4 million (7.4%) prior authorization requests
- Just one in ten (9.9%) prior authorization requests that were denied were appealed in 2022
- The vast majority of appeals (83.2%) resulted in overturning the initial prior authorization denial.
- Medicare Advantage insurers vary in their use of prior authorization.

https://www.kff.org/medicare/issue-brief/use-of-priorauthorization-in-medicare-advantage-exceeded-46-millionrequests-in-2022/

Review your Coverage Every Year! Most Beneficiaries do NOT explore their Options during OE

Nearly 7 in 10 Medicare Beneficiaries Did Not Compare Medicare Coverage Options During Open Enrollment Period for Coverage in 2022

Share of Medicare beneficiaries who did not compare their Medicare insurance plan with other Medicare coverage options that were available during the 2021 open enrollment period:

Did not compare Compared									
Medicare overall	69 %		1%						
Traditional Medicare	73%		27%						
Medicare Advantage	65%	35%							

Note: Analysis excludes Medicare beneficiaries living in long-term care facilities, beneficiaries with Parts A or B only, those with Medicare as a secondary payer, and beneficiaries who just signed up for Medicare. Numbers may not sum to 100% due to rounding.

Source: KFF analysis of CMS Medicare Current Beneficiary Survey, 2022 Survey File.

August 2024

Understanding Medicare



OTHER MEDICARE TOPICS

August 2024

Understanding Medicare

New Marketing Regulatory Requirements

- Effective June 5, 2023
- Applicable September 30, 2023, for calendar year 2024
- Categories of Changes
 - Beneficiary Contact
 - Marketing Requirements
 - Third-Party Marketing Organization (TPMO) Requirements