

RASHP

Introduction to Medicare

April 23, 2024

Agenda



When am I eligible for Medicare?



When employee/spouse turns 65?



Enrollment and Disenrollment rules



What is Original Medicare and Parts of Medicare?



What if I'm still working?



Prescription Drug coverage



How do I apply for Medicare?



HSA and Medicare



When can I enroll?

When am I eligible for Medicare?

Generally, you are eligible for Original Medicare if you are:

- You are 65 years or older, or
- You are under 65 with certain conditions

AND

- You are a citizen or permanent resident of the United States
- You or your spouse have worked at least 10 years in a job where Medicare taxes (a portion of FICA taxes) were withheld from you or your spouse's pay



What is Medicare?

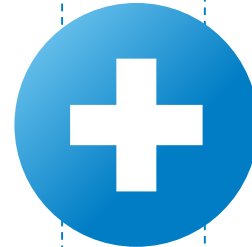
A federal health insurance program administered by the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS)

PART A



Hospital Coverage

- Helps cover inpatient hospital services
- Helps cover skilled nursing facility, hospice, and home health services



PART B



Medical Coverage

- Helps cover doctor appointments and outpatient care
- Helps cover some preventive services

What are the other parts of Medicare?

PART C



**Medicare
Advantage Plans**

PART D



**Prescription
Drug Coverage**

How do I apply for Medicare?



Contact the Social Security Administration

- Visit secure.ssa.gov
- Call toll-free **1-800-772-1213**

Enrollment is **automatic** into Part A and Part B if...

- Members are receiving Social Security benefits or are part of a Railroad Retirement plan
- Members are under 65 and have received **Social Security Disability** benefits for 24 months

What Happens when an employee/spouse turns 65?

Excellus will notify your group asking for the members Medicare information.

- “**Turning 65 Letter**” accompanied by Medicare Eligibility Form

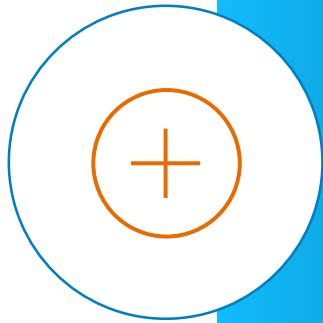


Section I-To be completed by subscriber regarding Medicare-eligible member. Please refer to Medicare ID card	
Medicare Claim Number: <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/>	Part A Effective Date: ____/____/____ <i>mm dd yyyy</i> Part B Effective Date: ____/____/____ <i>mm dd yyyy</i>
I certify that the information listed above is accurate to the best of my knowledge. I authorize the release of any relevant information to my insurance carrier.	
Subscriber Signature: _____	Date: _____

- Each member or spouse that is eligible for Medicare should fill out a **Medicare Eligibility Form** if they choose to continue to work after their ICEP.
- If the retiree’s spouse is turning 65, the spouse will need to enroll in Medicare A and B. (the under 65 retiree will continue coverage on the Pre-65 plan).

What if I continue working?

If you are over 65 and work for the school district



With **20 or more**
employees:

- You will **automatically receive Part A & Part B** if you are receiving Social Security benefits.
- You **may defer Part B coverage** until you retire.

If you are 65 or older **AND** still actively working for the school district:

- Employee (and spouse) can **DEFER** Medicare without penalty.
- *Note about Part A: if one enrolls in Part A, they generally cannot disenroll from it. (HSA Implications)*

Special Notes about Health Savings Accounts (HSA)

- **Triple Tax Advantage**

- No tax on contributions, growth or withdrawals

- **Part A and Part B are not considered qualified plans.**

- Can not contribute or take employer contributions to HSA if enrolled in Part A and/or Part B

- *Special Note for individuals who retire after age 65 (From “Medicare and You”):*

Health Savings Account (HSA)


You aren't eligible to make contributions to an HSA after you have Medicare. To avoid a tax penalty, you should make your last HSA contribution the month before your Part A coverage begins. Premium-free Part A coverage will go back (retroactively) 6 months from when you sign up for Part A or apply for benefits from Social Security or the Railroad Retirement Board (RRB), but no earlier than the first month you're eligible for Medicare. Depending on how you become eligible for Part A, the retroactive period may be different. Review the chart below to help decide when it's best to stop your HSA contributions.

- Can still withdraw with no penalties


- **IRS Resource:** [2023 Publication 969 \(irs.gov\)](https://www.irs.gov/publications/p969)

Enrollment Rules

- **Medicare Advantage Plans & PDP Plans**

- Enrollments are reported to CMS
- CMS requires that signature date must precede the enrollment date requested
- Concurrent enrollment in more than 1 of these types of plans is not allowed 

- **Medicare Supplement & Classic Blue Secure Plans**

- Enrollments are not reported to CMS
- Concurrent enrollment in Medicare Advantage and Medicare Supplement/CBS not allowed 
- Med Supp signature date must precede the effective date requested
- No signature date requirement for CBS, effective date can be retro up to two months

Termination Rules

Medicare Advantage and PDP Rx Plans

- **NEW** Medicare Advantage/PDP will cancel **OLD** Medicare Advantage/PDP 
- **NEW** Medicare Advantage/PDP will not cancel **OLD** U65 BluePoint 2 or HDHP 
- **NEW** Medicare Advantage/PDP will not cancel **OLD** Medicare Supplement or CB Secure 

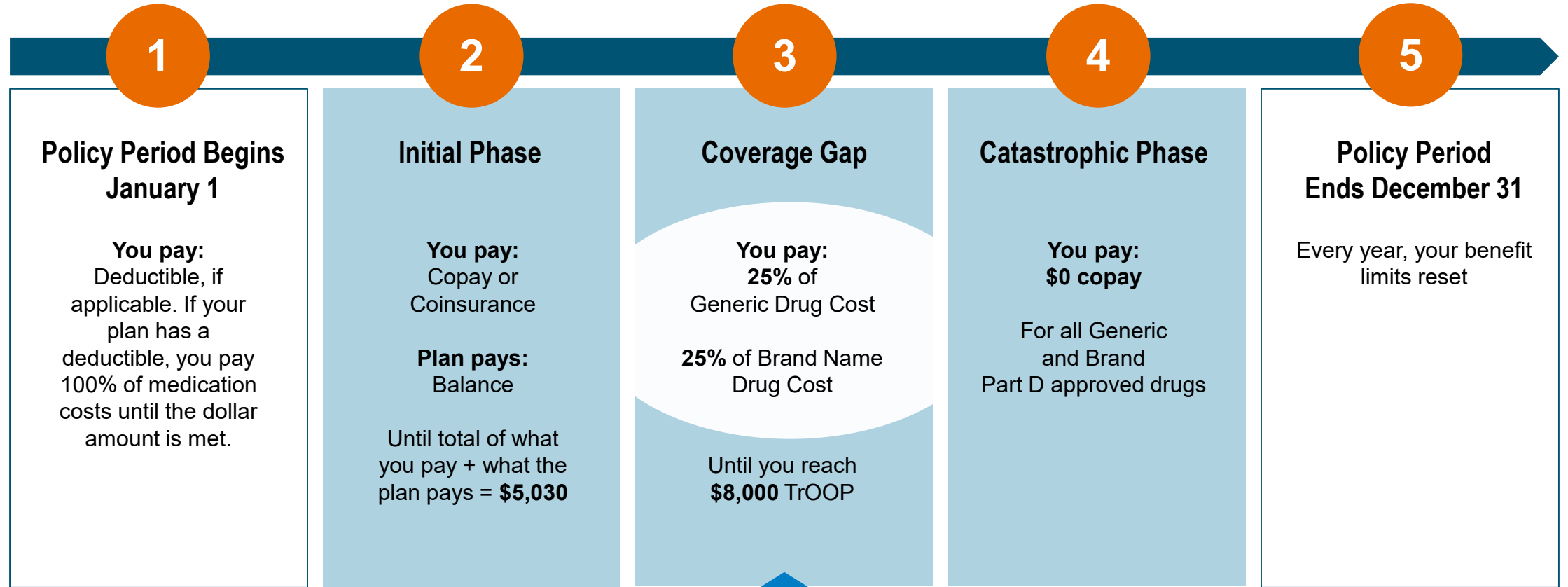


- Medicare is the “traffic cop” for Medicare Advantage/PDP enrollments and disenrollments

Medicare Supplement and Classic Blue Secure Plans

- Disenrollment form required for voluntary cancellations
- Death certificate required for terminations due to death

Prescription Drug Coverage



True-Out-Of-Pocket (TrOOP) cost:

- Part D Deductible (if applicable)
- Copays/coinsurance you paid during the initial phase and coverage gap
- Drug manufacturer discount

When Can I Enroll in a Medicare Advantage plan?

Individuals may enroll in the plan only during specific times of the year.



Initial Election Period

Three months before you turn 65 through three months following the month of your 65th birthday



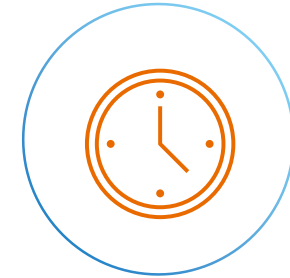
Annual Election Period

October 15 - December 7



Special Election Period

Can occur throughout the year



Medicare Advantage Open Enrollment Period

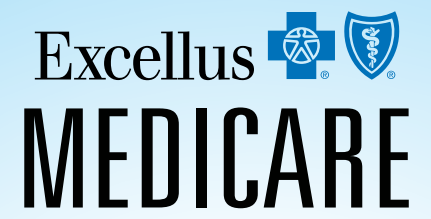
January 1 - March 31

Excellus BCBS – 2024 Direct Pay Medicare Plans

We have a plan for you. Everybody benefits.

Excellus BlueCross BlueShield Medicare Advantage Prescription Drug Plans

- www.excellusbcbs.com/medicare-coverage/medicare-plans
- \$500 Flex Card – For Dental, Vision and Hearing Expenses
- Comprehensive Dental Included - \$1,000 Annual Allowance
- \$200 Annual Allowance – OTC Medications
- Six Available Plan Options For Rochester Region
 - Medicare Blue Choice Access PPO (\$14.40 per month)
 - Medicare Blue Choice Extra (\$0 per month / \$31 Part B Refund)
 - Medicare Blue Choice Select (\$0 per month)
 - Medicare Blue Choice Advance (\$32.40 per month)
 - Medicare Blue Choice Value Plus (\$66.40 per month)
 - Medicare Blue Choice Optimum (\$203.40 per month)



Thank You!

