

CHECKLIST

For Annual Enrollment Period



Make sure
you are
prepared!

Make the most of AEP and give your
Medicare Coverage its annual check-up!

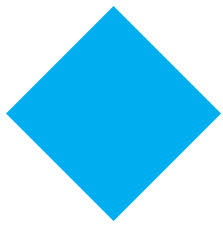


AEP CHECKLIST

Medicare's Annual Enrollment Period,
known also as **AEP**, takes place:
October 15th to December 7th.

Reasons to Review Your Coverage

1. Your health has changed.
2. Your medications have changed.
3. Your budget or income has changed.
4. You are paying too much for your prescriptions.
5. Your prescription drug premium has increased.
6. Your doctor has changed or you are now seeing a specialist.
7. Your Advantage plan is no longer accepted by your doctor(s) and/or hospital.
8. To learn about plan changes for 2022.
9. Your prescription drug premium has increased.



8 Tips to Consider Ahead of Annual Enrollment

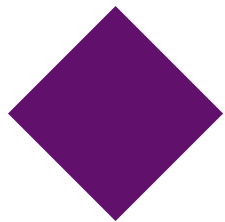
1. Know what changes you can make

During open enrollment, existing Medicare beneficiaries can make the following changes:

- Switch from Medicare Part C to Original Medicare (Medicare Part A and Medicare Part B).
- Change Medicare Part C plans, also known as Medicare Advantage plans.
- Change Medicare Part D (prescription drug) plans.
- Enroll in a Medicare prescription drug plan when on Original Medicare and in need of one.

2. Review your Annual Notice of Change

Your current Medicare health care provider must send you an annual notice of change by September 30th. This notice outlines any changes in coverage, costs or service areas that will go into effect in January. That paperwork is instrumental when it comes to determining whether you should switch plans. If you haven't received your annual notice of change, contact your current health insurer.



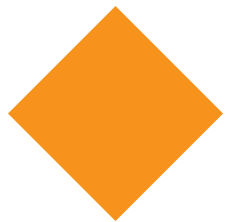
Tips to Consider Ahead of Annual Enrollment

3. Double-check your drug formulary.

Prescriptions covered by any given Medicare plan vary — and are subject to change. Check your plan's formulary to see if it will still cover the medications you need in the new year. Also check if those meds have changed tiers. The higher the tier, the higher your copay for the prescriptions.

4. Have Medicare Part D? Go comparison-shopping.

Medicare Part D premiums change from year to year. So even if you're OK with your prescription drug coverage, it's worth shopping around. You could find a cheaper, but equally robust plan in your area.



Tips to Consider Ahead of Annual Enrollment

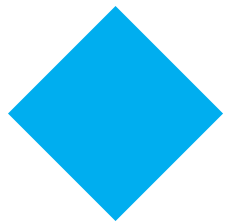
5. Consider the total cost when comparing plans.

Avoid simply opting for the Medicare plan with the lowest premium. Instead, account for all its out-of-pocket costs.

On top of your monthly premiums, the big expenses include a plan's deductible (how much you must pay before coverage kicks in) and copays (flat fees or percentages you pay for services or medication).

6. Use the free tools or services at your disposal

- You can start comparing plans in your zip code ahead of open enrollment using Medicare's online Plan Finder at www.medicare.gov or call 1-800-MEDICARE (1-800-4227).
- Your State Health Insurance Assistance Program (SHIP) offers free counseling. [Visit their website](#) or call (615) 238-2025.
- Your local licensed agents at [Senior Financial Group](#) can assist you free of charge. Ask specific questions, check your plan for changes and prescription coverage options for 2022. Call us at **865-777-0153** or visit us online at SFGMedicare.com. Our independent benefits consultants are ready to assist you at no charge or obligation. Just free education!

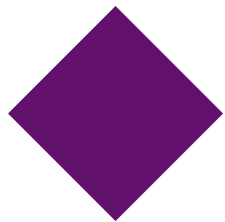


Tips to Consider Ahead of Annual Enrollment

7. Think big picture

Estimate your current medical expenses as you assess plans. Medicare Part C usually cover services that Original Medicare excludes, like vision, dental or prescriptions, so if you need robust coverage, an Advantage Plan might work better for you. Conversely, low-income beneficiaries are eligible for Medicare savings programs, but only when enrolled in Original Medicare.

Set aside ample time to research all of your options and contact health care providers, Medicare or SHIP offices or your local agency/agent with any applicable questions ahead of open enrollment.



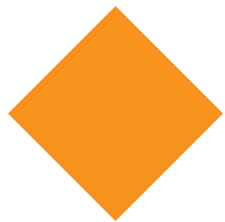
Tips to Consider Ahead of Annual Enrollment

8. You're not necessarily stuck with the plan you pick

The Medicare Advantage disenrollment period runs from January 1st through March 31st each year. It allows Medicare Part C beneficiaries to switch back to Original Medicare and purchase a Medicare Part D plan or switch to another Medicare Advantage Plan. In other words, if you enroll in a Medicare Advantage plan and immediately decide you're dissatisfied, you have some time to adjust coverage. (See chart on next page).

Medicare beneficiaries can also change coverage if they qualify for a special enrollment period. These periods are generally tied to loss or changes to your current health insurance.

Finally, Medigap plans, which help Original Medicare beneficiaries pay out-of-pocket expenses, are available for purchase all year round but are subject to health questions if signing up outside of your initial or guaranteed issue window. The cost of Medigap plan varies by zip code and carrier.



AEP CHECKLIST

Medicare Advantage Open Enrollment Period

If you have a Medicare Advantage Plan with or without drug coverage, you can switch to:

- A different Medicare Advantage Plan with drug coverage
OR
- A different Medicare Advantage Plan without drug coverage
OR
- Original Medicare and a Part D plan*
OR
- Original Medicare without a Part D plan.

If you have Original Medicare with or without a prescription drug plan, you cannot switch your plan during this time.

** If you have a Medicare Advantage Plan and a separate Part D plan, you can switch to a Medicare Advantage Plan that does not include drug coverage or Original Medicare, but you cannot change Part D plans.*



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