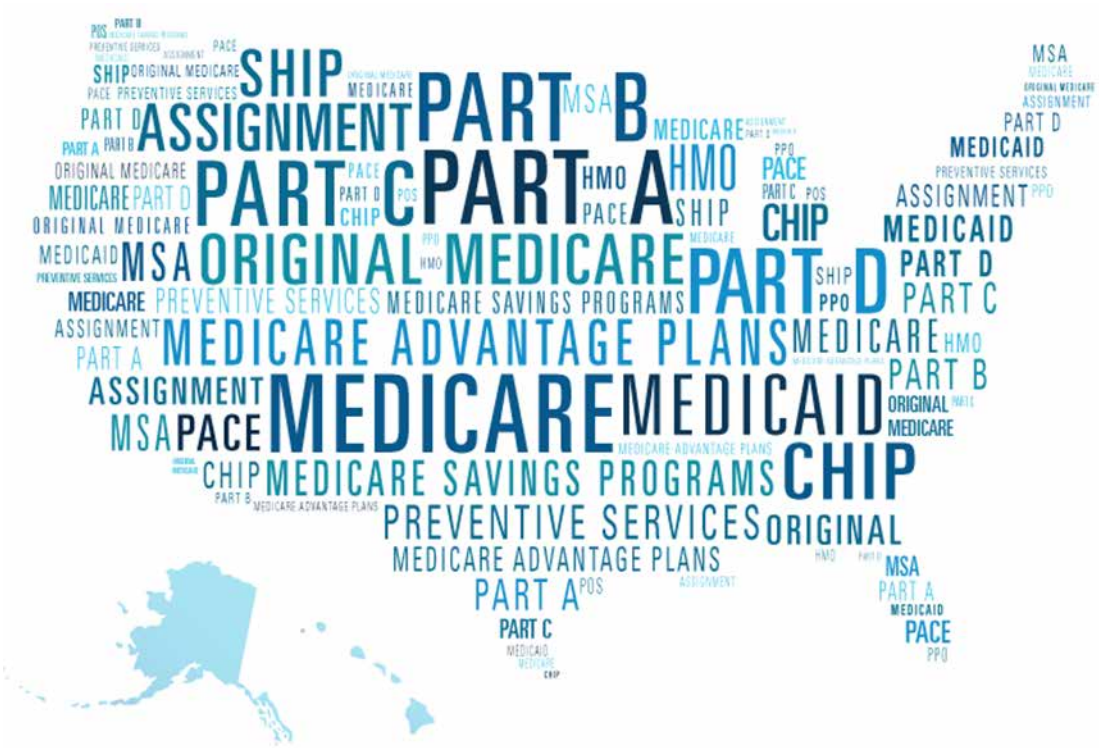
CENTERS FOR MEDICARE & MEDICAID SERVICES

National Training Program



Medicare Getting Started

2015 Rate Updates

With an Introduction to Medicaid, the Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP) and the Federally Facilitated Health Insurance Marketplace

What is Medicare?

§ Health insurance for people

- 65 and older
- Under 65 with certain disabilities
- Any age with End-Stage Renal Disease (ESRD)

Who Runs Medicare?

- § Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS)
  - Administers program
- § Social Security Administration (SSA)
  - Enrolls most individuals
  - Railroad Retirement Board (RRB) enrolls railroad retirees

The Four Parts of Medicare

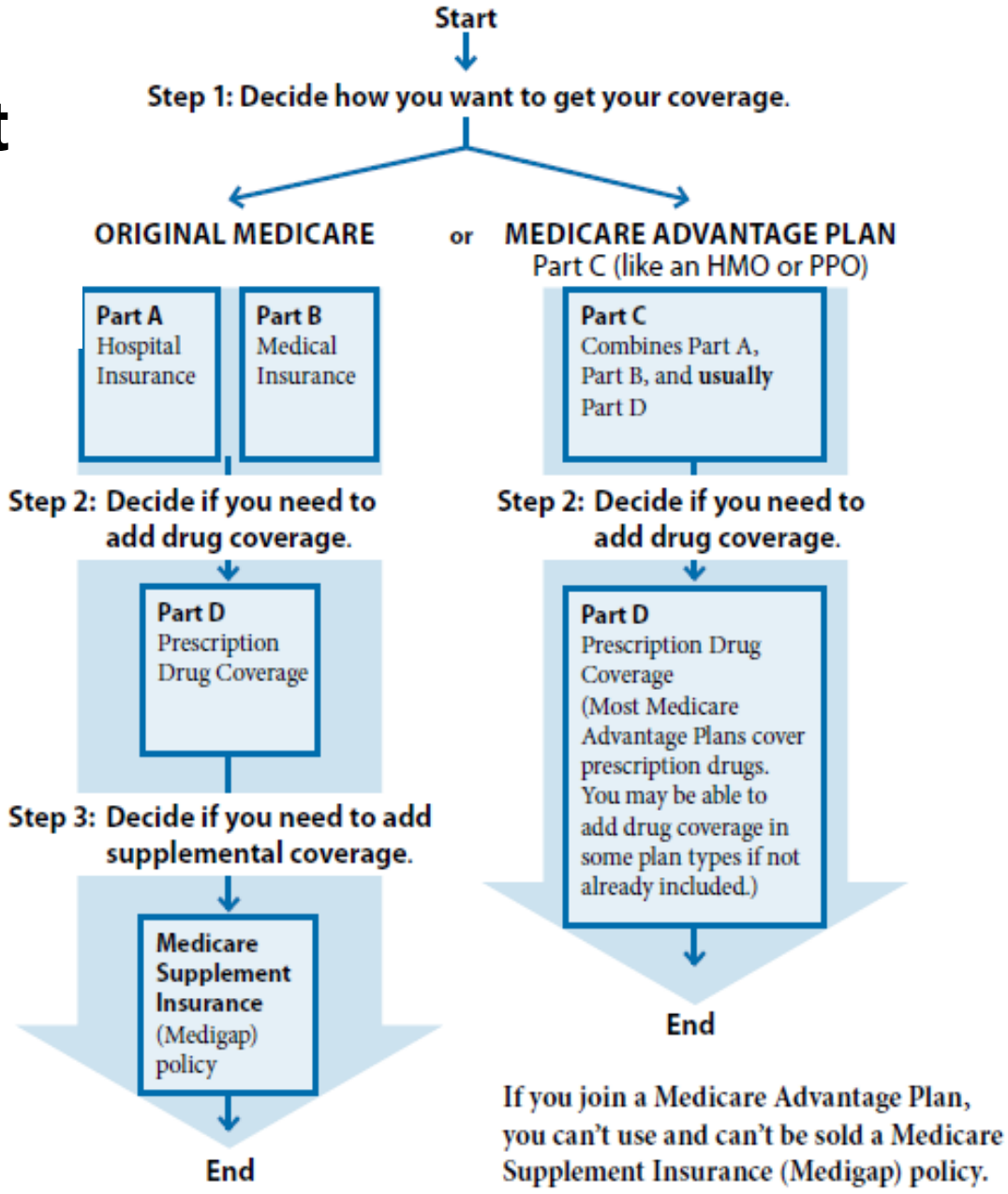
Part A Hospital Insurance

Part B Medical Insurance

Part C Medicare Advantage Plans (like HMOs/PPOs)
Includes Part A, Part B and sometimes Part D coverage

Part D Medicare Prescription Drug Coverage

Decide how you want to get your Medicare coverage



Source: Page 16 of the Medicare & You 2014 handbook

Enrolling in Medicare

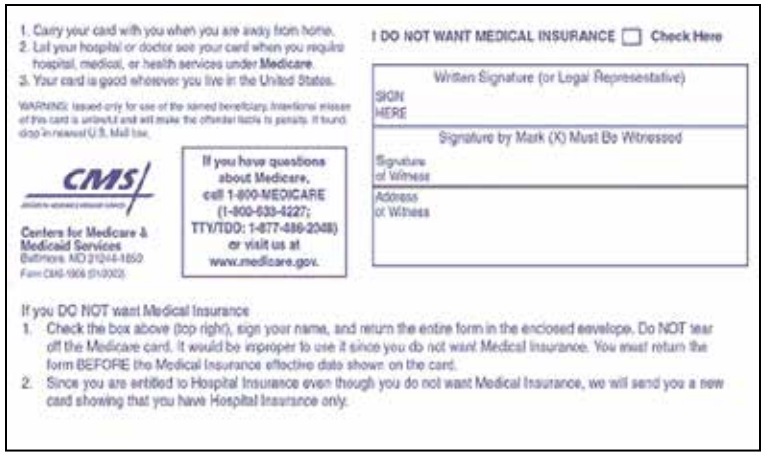
- § Automatic enrollment for those receiving
  - Social Security benefits
  - Railroad Retirement Board benefits
- § Initial Enrollment Period Package
  - Mailed 3 months before
    - q Age 65, or
    - q 25th month of disability benefits
  - Includes your Medicare card

Medicare Card

- § Keep it and accept Medicare Part A and Part B
- § Return it to refuse Part B
  - Follow instructions on back of card

Front

Back



1. Carry your card with you when you are away from home.
2. Let your hospital or doctor see your card when you require hospital, medical, or health services under Medicare.
3. Your card is good wherever you live in the United States.

WARNING: Issued only for use of the named beneficiary. Intentional misuse of this card is unlawful and will make the offender liable to penalty. If found, drop in nearest U.S. Mail box.

CMS

Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services
Baltimore, MD 21244-1850
Form CMS-1906 (01/2003)

If you have questions about Medicare, call 1-800-MEDICARE (1-800-633-4227; TTY/TDD: 1-877-486-2048) or visit us at www.medicare.gov.

I DO NOT WANT MEDICAL INSURANCE ☐ Check Here

Written Signature (or Legal Representative)
SIGN HERE

Signature by Mark (X) Must Be Witnessed
Signature of Witness
Address of Witness

If you DO NOT want Medical Insurance

1. Check the box above (top right), sign your name, and return the entire form in the enclosed envelope. Do NOT tear off the Medicare card. It would be improper to use it since you do not want Medical Insurance. You must return the form BEFORE the Medical Insurance effective date shown on the card.
2. Since you are entitled to Hospital Insurance even though you do not want Medical Insurance, we will send you a new card showing that you have Hospital Insurance only.

How and When to Enroll in Medicare

- If enrollment isn't automatic
  - For instance, you're still actively working
  - You need to enroll with Social Security
    - Visit your local office, or
    - Call 1-800-772-1213, or
    - Visit Socialsecurity.gov
  - If retired from Railroad, enroll with Railroad Retirement Board
    - Call your local RRB office or 1-877-772-5772

When to Enroll in Medicare

- You don’t have to be retired
- Your Initial Enrollment Period (IEP) lasts 7 months
  - Begins 3 months before your 65th birthday
  - Includes the month you turn 65
  - Ends 3 months after you turn 65
- There are other times you may enroll
  - But you may pay a penalty if you delay

Check Your Knowledge - Question 1

Which agencies are responsible for Medicare enrollment?

a. The Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) and the Social Security Administration (SSA)
b. The Social Security Administration (SSA) and the Railroad Retirement Board (RRB)
c. The Veterans' Administration (VA) and the Social Security Administration (SSA)
d. The Social Security Administration (SSA) and the Railroad Retirement Board (RRB)

Check Your Knowledge - Question 2

There are four parts of Medicare. Match the part to the appropriate description.

a. Part A _____ Medicare Prescription Drug Coverage

b. Part B _____ Hospital Insurance

c. Part C _____ Medical Insurance

d. Part D _____ Medicare Advantage Plans

Medicare Decisions

- § Original Medicare or Medicare Advantage?
- § Should I take Part B? When?
- § What about Part D?
- § Do I need a Medigap policy?

Original Medicare

§ Part A – Hospital Insurance helps cover

- Inpatient hospital care
- Skilled nursing facility (SNF) care
- Home health care
- Hospice care
- Blood

§ Part B – Medical Insurance helps cover

- Doctors' services
- Outpatient medical & surgical services, supplies
- Clinical lab tests
- Durable medical equipment
- Preventive services

Paying for Medicare Part A (Hospital Insurance)

- Most people receive Part A premium free
  - If you paid Federal Insurance Contributions Act (FICA) taxes at least 10 years
- If you paid FICA less than 10 years
  - Can pay a premium to get Part A
  - May have a penalty
    - If not bought when first eligible

What You Pay for Inpatient Hospital Stays

For Each Benefit Period in 2015	You Pay
Days 1-60	$1,260 deductible
Days 61-90	$315 per day
Days 91-150	$630 per day (60 lifetime reserve days)
All days after 150	All Costs

What You Pay for Skilled Nursing Facility Care

For Each Benefit Period in 2015	You Pay
Days 1-20	$0
Days 21-100	$157.50 per day
All days after 100	All Costs

Decision: Do I need to sign up for Part A?

Maybe

- Consider
  - You get it automatically if getting Social Security/RRB
  - It's premium free for most people
  - You can pay for it if work history isn't sufficient
    - There may be a penalty if you delay
  - If you/your spouse is actively working and covered by employer plan
    - Contact Social Security to sign up
- Maybe not if you have a Health Savings Account

Monthly Part B Premium

If Your Yearly Income in 2013 was		In 2015 You Pay
File Individual Tax Return	File Joint Tax Return	
$85,000 or less	$170,000 or less	$104.90
$85,000.01 – $107,000	$170,000.01 – $214,000	$146.90
$107,000.01 – $160,000	$214,000.01 – $320,000	$209.80
$160,000.01 – $214,000	$320,000.01 – $428,000	$272.70
Above $214,000	Above $428,000	$335.70
*per month		

Note: Premiums are usually deducted from your Social Security benefit payment

Paying for Medicare Part B (Medical Insurance)

- In Original Medicare you pay
  - Yearly deductible of $147 in 2015
  - 20% coinsurance for most services
- Programs may help pay these costs
  - If you have limited income and resources

Decision: Should I keep/sign up for Part B?

It Depends

§ Consider

- Automatic if getting Social Security/RRB benefits
- Most people pay a monthly premium
  - Usually deducted from SSA/RRB benefits
  - Amount depends on income
- It may supplement employer coverage

Should I keep/sign up for Part B?

- Sometimes you must have Part B
  - If you want to buy a Medigap policy
  - If you want to join a Medicare Advantage Plan
  - If you're eligible for TRICARE
  - If your employer coverage requires you have it
    - Talk to your employer's or union benefits administrator
- With Veterans benefits it's optional
  - But you pay a penalty if you sign up late or if you don't sign up during your Initial Enrollment Period

Decision: Should I keep/sign up for Part B?

§ If you don't have coverage from active employment

Probably

- Delaying Part B may mean
  - q Higher premiums
  - q Paying for your health care out-of-pocket

§ If you do have coverage through active employment

Maybe Not

- You may want to delay Part B
- No penalty if you enroll while you have coverage or within 8 months of losing coverage

Check Your Knowledge - Question 3

Which is **not** covered under Medicare Part B?

a. Durable medical equipment

b. Skilled nursing facility care

c. Doctor's visits

d. Preventive services

Check Your Knowledge - Question 4

Everyone who gets Part B pays the same monthly premium.

a. True

b. False

Part C – Medicare Advantage

- Health plan options approved by Medicare
  - Another way to get Medicare coverage
  - Still part of the Medicare program
  - Run by private companies
- Medicare pays plan an amount
  - For each member's care
- May have to use network doctors or hospitals
- Types of plans available may vary

How Medicare Advantage Works

- Still in Medicare with all rights and protections
- Still get Part A and Part B services
- May include prescription drug coverage
- May include extra benefits
  - Like vision or dental
- Benefits and cost-sharing may be different

When & How Can I Enroll in an MA Plan?

- During your 7-month Initial Enrollment Period
- During the yearly Open Enrollment Period
  - October 15 – December 7 each year
  - Coverage begins January 1
- May be able to join at other times
  - Special Enrollment Period
- Contact the plan to join
  - Call their number
  - Visit their website
  - Use the Medicare Plan Finder at Medicare.gov

Decision: Should I join a Medicare Advantage Plan?

It Depends

§ Consider

- You must have Part A and Part B to join
- Most offer comprehensive coverage
  - Including Part D drug coverage
- May require you to use a network
- May need a referral to see a specialist
- You must pay Part B and monthly plan premium
- Can only join/leave plan during certain periods
- Doesn't work with Medigap policies

Check Your Knowledge - Question 5

When can you enroll in a Medicare Advantage Plan?

a. During your 7-month Initial Enrollment Period
b. During an Open Enrollment Period
c. During a Special Enrollment Period if you qualify
d. All of the above
e. None of the above

Check Your Knowledge - Question 6

If you enroll in a Medicare Advantage Plan, you are no longer considered to be in the Medicare program.

a. True

b. False

Part D – Medicare Prescription Drug Coverage

- Available for all people with Medicare
- Provided through
  - Medicare Prescription Drug Plans
  - Medicare Advantage Plans
  - Some other Medicare health plans

How Medicare Part D Works

- It's optional
  - You can choose a plan and join
- Plans have formularies
  - Lists of covered drugs
  - Must include range of drugs in each category
- You pay the plan a monthly premium
- You pay deductibles and copayments
- There is Extra Help to pay Part D costs
  - If you have limited income and resources

Who Can Join Part D?

- You must have Part A and/or Part B
- You must live in the plan's service area
- You can't live outside the U.S.
- You can't be incarcerated
- You must actively enroll to join
  - In most cases no automatic enrollment

When Can I Enroll in a Part D Plan?

- During your 7-month Initial Enrollment Period
- During the yearly Open Enrollment Period
  - October 15 – December 7 each year
  - Coverage begins January 1
- May be able to join at other times
  - Special Enrollment Period

Choosing a Part D Plan

- Compare plans by computer or phone
  - Use the Medicare Plan Finder at Medicare.gov
  - Call 1-800-MEDICARE (1-800-633-4227) (TTY: 1-877-486-2048)
  - Contact your State Health Insurance Assistance Program (SHIP) for help comparing plans
- To join a Part D Plan
  - Enroll at Medicare.gov
  - Call 1-800-MEDICARE
  - Enroll on the plan's website
  - Call the plan
  - Complete a paper enrollment form

Decision: Should I enroll in a Part D plan?

It Depends

- Consider
  - Do you have creditable drug coverage?
    - Coverage as good as Medicare's
      - For example, through an employer plan
      - No penalty if you delay
  - Will that coverage end when you retire?
  - How much do your current drugs cost?
  - What do the premiums cost for Part D plans?
- Without creditable coverage
  - Later enrollment may mean you pay a penalty

Check Your Knowledge - Question 7

You will automatically be enrolled in Medicare Part D when you turn 65.

a. True

b. False

Check Your Knowledge - Question 8

Where can you get help finding a Medicare Prescription Drug Plan in your area? Select the answer that does NOT apply.

a. Call the Social Security Administration

b. Call your State Health Insurance Assistance Program (SHIP)

c. Use the Medicare Plan Finder at Medicare.gov

d. Call 1-800-MEDICARE

What is a Medigap Policy?

- Medicare Supplement Insurance Policies
  - Sold by private companies
- Fills gaps in Original Medicare
  - Deductibles, coinsurance, copayments
- All plans with same letter
  - Have same coverage
  - Only costs are different

Medigap Plan Types

	Medicare Supplement Insurance (Medigap) Plans									
Benefits	**A**	**B**	**C**	**D**	**F***	**G**	**K****	**L****	**M**	**N**
Medicare Part A coinsurance and hospital costs (up to an additional 365 days after Medicare benefits are used)	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%
Medicare 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%
Medicare Part A deductible		100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	50%	75%	50%	100%
Medicare Part B deductible			100%		100%					
Medicare Part B excess charges					100%	100%				
Foreign travel emergency (up to plan limits)			100%	100%	100%	100%			100%	100%
Out-of-pocket limit in 2015							$4,940	$2,470		

* Plan F also offers a high-deductible plan in some states. If you choose this option, this means you must pay for Medicare-covered costs (coinsurance, copayments, deductibles) up to the deductible amount of $2,180 in 2015 before your policy pays anything.

**For Plans K and L, after you meet your out-of-pocket yearly limit and your yearly Part B deductible ($147 in 2015), 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 an inpatient admission.

Decision: Do I need a Medigap policy?

§ Consider

Maybe

- It only works with Original Medicare
- Do you have other supplemental coverage?
  - If so, you might not need Medigap
- Can you afford Medicare deductibles and copayments?
- What does the monthly Medigap premium cost?

When is the best time to buy a Medigap policy?

Usually during your Medigap Open Enrollment Period

§ Consider

- Your Medigap Open Enrollment Period begins when you're 65 or older AND enrolled in Part B
  - Lasts 6 months (may vary by state)
  - You have protections – companies MUST sell you a plan
- You can also buy a Medigap policy whenever a company agrees to sell you one
  - If later, there may be restrictions

How do I find the right Medigap policy for me?

- Compare plans by computer or phone
  - Visit Medicare.gov
    - Use the Medigap comparison tool
  - Call 1-800-MEDICARE (1-800-633-4227)
    - TTY users should call 1-877-486-2048
  - Call your State Health Insurance Assistance Program (SHIP)

Check Your Knowledge - Question 9

If Julie is enrolled in a Medicare Advantage Plan, would she benefit from purchasing a Medigap policy?

a. Yes

b. No

Check Your Knowledge - Question 10

Which of the following benefits are NOT covered by **all** Medigap policies?

a. Part A hospice care coinsurance or copayment

b. Medicare Part B coinsurance or copayment

c. Answers a. and b.

d. Medicare Part A deductible

Medicare and the Health Insurance Marketplace

- Medicare isn’t part of Marketplace
- Marketplace doesn’t affect your Medicare choices
- Medicare’s benefits aren’t be changing because of the Marketplace
- If you joined a Marketplace plan before you were eligible for Medicare, you can cancel the Marketplace plan once Medicare coverage starts

Help for People with Limited Income and Resources

- Medicaid
- Medicare Savings Programs
- Extra Help
- Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP)

What is Medicaid?

- § Federal-state health insurance program
  - For people with limited income/resources
  - Covers most health care costs
    - q If you have both Medicare and Medicaid
- § Eligibility determined by state
- § Application processes and benefits vary
- § State office names vary
  - Apply if you MIGHT qualify

What are Medicare Savings Programs?

- Help from Medicaid paying Medicare costs
  - Pay Medicare premiums
  - May pay Medicare deductibles and coinsurance
- Often higher income and resources amount than for Medicaid
- Income amounts change each year
- Some states offer their own programs

Who Can Qualify For Medicare Savings Program?

Medicare Savings Program	Individual monthly income limit (2014)*	Married couple monthly income limit (2014)*	Helps pay your
Qualified Medicare Beneficiary (QMB)	$993	$1,331	Part A and Part B premiums, and other cost-sharing (like deductibles, coinsurance, and copayments)
Specified Low-Income Medicare Beneficiary (SLMB)	$1,187	$1,593	Part B premiums only
Qualifying Individual (QI)	$1,333	$1,790	Part B premiums only
Qualified Disabled & Working Individuals (QDWI)	$3,975	$5,329	Part A premiums only

What is Extra Help?

- Help paying Part D prescription drug costs
- Social Security or state makes determination
- You automatically qualify if you get
  - Both Medicare and full Medicaid
  - Supplemental Security Income (SSI) only
  - Help from Medicare Savings Programs
- You or someone on your behalf can apply

What is the Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP)?

- Jointly financed by the Federal and state governments
  - Administered by each state
- Covers uninsured children up to age 19 and may cover pregnant women
  - Family income too high for Medicaid
- Must be a U.S. citizen
  - Or certain non-citizens lawfully residing in U.S.

Decision: Should I apply?

- Apply if you MIGHT qualify
- Your State Health Insurance Assistance Program (SHIP) can help you

Yes

Check Your Knowledge - Question 11

Match the program with its description:

a. Extra Help		_____ This program provides low-cost health insurance coverage to children in families who earn too much income to qualify for Medicaid, but not enough to buy private health insurance.
b. Medicaid		_____ This program provides help from Medicaid paying Medicare costs, including Medicare premiums, deductibles, and/or coinsurance; often has higher income and resource guidelines than full Medicaid.
c. CHIP		_____ This program helps people with limited income and resources with the costs of Medicare prescription drug coverage. Also called low-income subsidy.
d. Medicare Savings Program		_____ This program helps pay medical costs for some people with limited income and resources; it is jointly funded by the Federal and state governments and is administered by each state.

What resources are available to help?

- Medicare website
  - Medicare.gov
- Medicaid website
  - Medicaid.gov
- Social Security website
  - Socialsecurity.gov
- Health Insurance Marketplace website
  - HealthCare.gov
- Insure Kids Now website
  - Insurekidsnow.gov

Medicare.gov Homepage

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About Us | FAQ | Glossary | CMS.gov | MyMedicare.gov Login

Medicare.gov

The Official U.S. Government Site for Medicare

type search term here | Search

Sign Up / Change Plans | Your Medicare Costs | What Medicare Covers | Drug Coverage (Part D) | Supplements & Other Insurance | Claims & Appeals | Manage Your Health | Forms, Help, & Resources

Is my test, item, or service covered?

type your test, item, or service here | Go

Find health & drug plans

Apply for Medicare

MyMedicare.gov login

Address change/Medicare card issue?

Select your card issue... | Go

Information for my situation

Select your situation... | Go

Find someone to talk to

Select your state... | Go

Medicaid.gov Homepage

Medicaid.gov
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Federal Policy Guidance | Medicaid & CHIP Program Information | State Resource Center | Affordable Care Act | Need Health Insurance?

Medicaid and CHIP Provide Health Coverage to nearly 60 million Americans

Medicaid and CHIP Program Information by:

State Population Topic

What's New

MACPro Webinar Sessions: New System Concept Demonstration
June 8, 2012

New Funding Opportunity - Aging and Disability Resource Center Program
June 5, 2012

Medicaid Pharmacy-Survey of Retail Prices
May 31, 2012

View More

Affordable Care Act

New Guidance

Medicaid and CHIP Eligibility and

State Resource Center

Events and Announcements

Medicaid State Technical Assistance Teams

HealthCare.gov

Quick Links

CMS Provider Screening

SSA.gov Homepage

Click on "Benefits" at the top, then "Medicare" to reach the Medicare page

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Official Social Security Website

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20th Anniversary
www.socialsecurity.gov

Two decades of convenient, secure online services
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1994 - 2014

my Social Security
Sign In
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Check out your Social Security Statement, change your address & manage your benefits.

Online Services
Whether you are applying for or receiving benefits, learn what you can do online.

Retirement Estimator
Calculate your benefits based on your actual Social Security earnings record & apply online.

Disability Facts
Learn more about the Faces and Facts of Disability.

Healthcare.gov Homepage

For More Information

- Medicare & You Handbook
- 1-800-MEDICARE (1-800-633-4227)
  - TTY users should call 1-877-486-2048
- Your State Health Insurance Assistance Program (SHIP)
- CMS National Training Program
  - cms.gov/outreach-and-education/training/cmsnationaltrainingprogram

Key Points to Remember

- Medicare is a health insurance program
- It doesn’t cover all of your health care costs
- You have choices in how you get coverage
- There are programs for people with limited income and resources
- Important
  - Decisions affect type of coverage you get
  - Certain decisions are time-sensitive
  - Get help if you need it

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