

Welcome

- ▶ Hawaii SHIP (State Health Insurance Assistance Program)/Sage PLUS Program
- ▶ Federally funded program to assist individuals with questions regarding Medicare benefits
- ▶ Administered by the Department of Health's Executive Office on Aging
- ▶ Volunteer based program

What is Medicare?

- ▶ Health insurance for people
 - 65 and older
 - Under 65 with certain disabilities
 - Any age with End-Stage Renal Disease (ESRD)

What is Medicare?

- ▶ It is Administered by
 - Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS)
- ▶ But Enrollment is done by
 - Social Security Administration (SSA) for most
 - Railroad Retirement Board (RRB) railroad retirees

Enrolling in Medicare

- ▶ Automatic for those receiving
 - Social Security benefits
 - Railroad Retirement Board benefits
- ▶ Initial Enrollment Period Package
 - Mailed 3 months before
 - 25th month of disability benefits
 - Age 65



How to Enroll in Medicare

- ▶ Enrollment is automatic
 - If you get Social Security or RRB benefits
- ▶ If enrollment is not automatic
 - For instance, you're still actively working
 - You need to enroll with Social Security
 - Visit local office
 - Call 1-800-772-1213
 - Online at socialsecurity.gov
- ▶ If retired from Railroad enroll with RRB
 - 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 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

Enrollment Periods

- ▶ Initial Enrollment Period – 7 months
 - 3 months prior to the month of eligibility
 - The month of eligibility
 - 3 months after the month of eligibility
 - For most people – the month of eligibility is the first day of the month that you turn 65 years old
 - OR the first of the month after having Social Security DISABILITY payments for 24 months

Enrollment Periods

- ▶ **General Enrollment – Medicare Part B**
 - January 1 – March 31 of each year
 - Coverage for Part B begins July 1
 - If you were not covered by an active employer group health plan – you may face a penalty
 - Medicare Part B penalty is 10% for every 12 months you were not covered

Enrollment Periods

- ▶ Special Enrollment Periods
 - You may qualify if you or your spouse were covered under an active employer group health plan
 - If you were an international volunteer
 - Other special circumstances
 - You may still be faced with penalties for Medicare Part B & D

Medicare Card

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

Front

Back

MEDICARE			HEALTH INSURANCE	
1-800-MEDICARE (1-800-633-4227)				
NAME OF BENEFICIARY				
JANE DOE				
MEDICARE CLAIM NUMBER		SEX		
000-00-0000-A		FEMALE		
IS ENTITLED TO		EFFECTIVE DATE		
HOSPITAL MEDICAL		(PART A)	07-01-1986	
		(PART B)	07-01-1986	
SIGN HERE →		<i>Jane Doe</i>		

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 its penalty. If found, drop in nearest U.S. Mail box.


Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services
 Baltimore, MD 21244-1850
 Form CMS-1968 (01/2002)

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.

The Four Parts of Medicare



Part A Hospital Insurance



Part B Medical Insurance



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



Part D Medicare Prescription Drug Coverage

Original Medicare

▶ Has Part A – Hospital Insurance



- Hospital
- Skilled Nursing Facility
- Home health care
- Hospice care

▶ Has Part B – Medical Insurance



- Doctor's visits
- Outpatient hospital services
- Clinical lab tests
- Durable Medical Equipment
- Preventive services

Medicare Part A (Hospital Insurance)

- ▶ What does Part A cost?
 - Most people get Part A premium free
 - If you paid FICA taxes at least 10 years
 - If you paid FICA less than 10 years
 - You can pay a premium to get Part A
 - May have penalty
 - If not bought when first eligible

What you Pay for Inpatient Hospital Stays

For each benefit period in 2013	You Pay
Days 1–60	\$1,184 deductible
Days 61–90	\$296 per day
Days 91–150	\$592 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 2013	You Pay
Days 1–20	\$0
Days 21–100	\$148.00 per day
All days after 100	All Costs

Paying for Part B Services

- ▶ In Original Medicare you pay
 - Yearly deductible of \$147 in 2013
 - 20% coinsurance for most services
- ▶ Programs may help pay these costs
 - For people with limited income and resources

Decision

Should I keep/sign up for Part A?

Yes

▶ Consider

- Get it automatically if getting Social Security/RRB
- Free for most people
- Can pay if work history is not 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

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 SS/RRB benefits
 - Amount depends on income (see Attachment C)
- It may supplement employer coverage

What is a Medigap policy?

- ▶ Medicare Supplement Insurance Policies
 - Sold by private companies
- ▶ Fill the gaps in Original Medicare
 - Deductibles, coinsurance, copayments
- ▶ Standardized plans in all but three states
 - Minnesota, Massachusetts, Wisconsin
- ▶ All plans with same letter
 - Have same coverage
 - Only the costs are different

Decision

Do I need a Medigap policy?

Maybe

▶ Consider

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

Decision

When is the best time to buy Medigap?

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 – plans MUST sell you a plan
- You can buy a Medigap policy whenever a company agrees to sell you one
 - If later, there may be restrictions

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 amount for each member's care
- ▶ May have to use network doctors or hospitals

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



Part D – Medicare Prescription Drug Coverage



- ▶ Available for all people with Medicare
- ▶ Provided through
 - Medicare Prescription Drug Plans
 - Medicare Advantage Plans
 - Other Medicare 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 must actively enroll to join
 - In most cases no automatic enrollment
 - You must fill out an application

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
 - 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

How do I choose a Part D plan?

▶ Call or by computer

- 1-800-MEDICARE
- Medicare Plan Finder at www.medicare.gov/find-a-plan
- Call Hawaii SHIP/Sage PLUS Program for help comparing plans

▶ To join a Part D Plan

- Enroll on www.medicare.gov
- Call the plan
- Enroll on the plan's Web site
- Call 1-800-MEDICARE (1-800-633-4227)

What help is there for people with limited income and resources?

- ▶ Medicaid
- ▶ Extra Help
- ▶ Medicare Savings Programs

What is Extra Help?

- ▶ Help paying prescription drug costs
- ▶ Social Security or state makes determination
- ▶ Some groups automatically qualify
 - People with Medicare and Medicaid
 - Supplemental Security Income (SSI) only
 - Medicare Savings Programs
- ▶ You or someone on your behalf can apply

Additional insurance

- ▶ Retirement Programs (federal, state, unions)
- ▶ May or may not include Medicare Part D
- ▶ May or may not be a Medicare Advantage (Part C) plan
- ▶ If a person/spouse is not actively working then Medicare is usually primary and retirement plan is secondary
- ▶ Medicare does NOT coordinate with VA benefits

Key Points to Remember

- ▶ Medicare is a health insurance program
- ▶ It does not cover all of your health care costs
- ▶ There are other ways to get coverage within the program
- ▶ There are programs for people with limited income and resources
- ▶ Important
 - Make the right decisions
 - Make them at the right times
 - Get help if you need it

Key Points to Remember

- ▶ Medicaid
 - Helps people with low income and resources
 - Is different in each state
- ▶ Pre-existing Condition Insurance Plans
 - In place until 2014
 - Covers certain uninsured people
 - Regardless of health status
- ▶ 2014 Hawaii Health Connector (federally known as health exchanges)
 - Enrollment begins October 1, 2013

Helpful Resources

- ▶ For information about Social Security
 - Phone 1-800-772-1213
 - Website www.socialsecurity.gov
- ▶ For information about Medicare
 - Phone 1-800-633-4227 (24 hours per day)
 - Website www.medicare.gov
- ▶ For information or Medicare Counseling
 - Phone 1-888-875-9229 (toll-free)
 - Website www.hawaiihip.org
- ▶ For information on the Hawaii Health Connector
 - <http://www.hawaiihealthconnector.com>

Thank You !