



BENEFIT PARTNERS

INSURANCE STRATEGIES

Medicare Part D – Frequently Asked Questions

Disclaimer: Information provided is for education purposes only. Enrollment must be completed directly through the plan provider.

◇ What is Medicare Part D?

Prescription drug coverage from private insurance companies approved by Medicare.

◇ How do I find & enroll in a plan?

Visit www.medicare.gov and create an account (**highly recommended**). After you enter your information, your prescriptions will automatically appear in the system. This saves you time each year during the Annual Enrollment Period (AEP).

◇ Do I need a Part D plan if I don't take any medications?

No. However, delaying your enrollment to a Part D plan may result in late penalties later. A plan also protects you if you need prescriptions in the future.

◇ How much does Part D cost?

Monthly premium, possible annual deductible, plus copays/coinsurance that vary by plan and drug.

◇ How do I know if my prescriptions are covered?

Each plan has a formulary (a list of covered drugs) with cost tiers. Review yearly to confirm coverage.

Tip:

Review your plan **every** fall during **Medicare Annual Enrollment Period (AEP) Oct 15-Dec 7**. Formularies and plan premiums can change from year to year!

◇ What if my plan doesn't cover a drug I need?

Your doctor can request a "formulary exception", prescribe an alternative, or you can file an appeal.

◇ Can I use my Part D plan while traveling?

Yes, if you use network pharmacies. Out of network pharmacies may cost more.

◇ When can I enroll or change plans?

You can join, switch, or drop a Part D plan during the **Annual Enrollment Period (Oct 15-Dec 7)** each year. Plan effective date is January 1. In some cases (like moving, or losing other coverage), you may qualify for a Special Enrollment Period.

◇ What happens if I move to another state?

Moving may change your plan options. You'll get a **Special Enrollment Period** to pick a new plan in your new location. Notify your plan right away so you don't have a gap in coverage.

◇ What help is available if I have a limited income?

The Extra Help program (Low-Income Subsidy) may lower or eliminate premiums. Apply through Social Security or your state Medicaid office.

We do not offer every plan available in your area. Currently we represent 5 organizations which offer 22 products in your area. Please contact Medicare.gov, 1-800-MEDICARE, or your local State Health Insurance Program to get information on all your options.