

Important Notice from Medica* on behalf of Your Plan Sponsor about Your Prescription Drug Coverage and Medicare (“Medicare Part D”)**

Keep this notice if you will become eligible for Medicare Part D within the next 12 months. You may disregard this notice if you are not eligible for Medicare Part D or will not become eligible within 12 months.

This notice pertains only to those members, and their covered dependents, who are eligible for Medicare Part D, or who will be eligible within the next 12 months. In general, an individual who is entitled to Part A and/or enrolled in Part B is eligible for Medicare Part D. In most instances, a person has Part A coverage if he or she has attained age 65 and receives monthly Social Security benefits or is a qualified railroad retirement beneficiary. Individuals under age 65 may also become entitled to Medicare Part A benefits if they receive at least 24 months of social security or railroad retirement benefits based on disability.

Please read this notice carefully and keep it where you can find it. This notice has information about your current prescription drug coverage with your Plan Sponsor and about your options under Medicare’s prescription drug coverage. This information can help you decide whether you want to join a Medicare drug plan. If you are considering joining, you should compare your current coverage, including which drugs are covered at what cost, with the coverage and costs of the plans offering Medicare prescription drug coverage in your area. Information about where you can get help to make decisions about your prescription drug coverage is at the end of this notice.

There are two important things you need to know about your current coverage and Medicare’s prescription drug coverage:

- 1. Medicare prescription drug coverage became available in 2006 to everyone with Medicare. You can get this coverage if you join a Medicare Prescription Drug Plan or join a Medicare Advantage Plan (like an HMO or PPO) that offers prescription drug coverage. All Medicare drug plans provide at least a standard level of coverage set by Medicare. Some plans may also offer more coverage for a higher monthly premium.**
- 2. Medica, in conjunction with your Plan Sponsor, has determined that the prescription drug coverage offered by your benefit plan is, on average for all plan participants, expected to pay out as much as standard Medicare prescription drug coverage pays and is considered Creditable Coverage.**

When Can You Join a Medicare Drug Plan?

You can join a Medicare prescription drug plan when you first become eligible for Medicare and each year from October 15th through December 7th. However, if you lose creditable prescription drug coverage, through no fault of your own, you will be eligible for a two (2) month Special Enrollment Period (SEP) to join a Medicare drug plan.

What Happens to Your Current Coverage if You Decide to Join a Medicare Drug Plan?

If you do decide to join a Medicare drug plan and drop your coverage with Medica, *WHICH INCLUDES BOTH YOUR MEDICAL AND PRESCRIPTION DRUG COVERAGE*, be aware that you may not be able to get this coverage back.

Please contact your Plan Sponsor for more information about what happens to your coverage if you enroll in a Medicare prescription drug plan.

When Will You Pay a Higher Premium (Penalty) to Join a Medicare Drug Plan?

You should also know that if you drop or lose your current coverage with your Plan Sponsor and don’t join a Medicare drug plan within 63 continuous days after your current coverage ends, you may pay a higher premium (a penalty) to join a Medicare drug plan later.

If you go 63 continuous days or longer without creditable prescription drug coverage, your monthly premium may go up by at least 1% of the Medicare base beneficiary premium per month for every month that you did not have that coverage. For example, if you go nineteen months without creditable coverage, your premium may

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consistently be at least 19% higher than the Medicare base beneficiary premium. You may have to pay this higher premium (a penalty) for as long as you have Medicare prescription drug coverage. In addition, you may have to wait until the following October to join.

For more information about this notice or your current prescription drug coverage...

Contact our office for further information by calling the number listed on the back of your member ID card. If, however, you have a question about your eligibility for Medicare Part D, you should call 1-800-MEDICARE.

NOTE: You'll get this notice each year. You will also get it before the next period you can join a Medicare drug plan, and if this coverage changes. You also may request a copy from Medica at any time.

For more information about your options under Medicare prescription drug coverage...

More detailed information about Medicare plans that offer prescription drug coverage is in the "Medicare & You" handbook. You'll get a copy of the handbook in the mail every year from Medicare. You can also view or download it from their website. You may be contacted directly by Medicare drug plans. For more information about Medicare prescription drug coverage:

- Call 1-800-MEDICARE (1-800-633-4227). TTY users should call 1-877-486-2048.
- Call your State Health Insurance Assistance Program (see the inside back cover of your copy of the "Medicare & You" handbook for their telephone number) for personalized help.
- Visit www.medicare.gov

If you have limited income and resources, extra help paying for Medicare prescription drug coverage is available. For information about this extra help, visit Social Security on the web at www.ssa.gov or call them at 1-800-772-1213 (TTY 1-800-325-0778).

Remember: Keep this Creditable Coverage notice. If you decide to join one of the Medicare drug plans, you may be required to provide a copy of this notice when you join to show whether or not you have maintained creditable coverage and, therefore, whether or not you are required to pay a higher premium (a penalty).

Date: September 1, 2023 and forward

Name of Entity/Sender: Medica*

Contact: Customer Service

Address: Route CP555, P.O. Box 9310, Minneapolis, MN 55440-9310

Phone Number: 1-800-952-3455 or 952-945-8000 *(Or refer to number on back of ID card)*

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* Medica includes Medica Health Plans

** Your Plan Sponsor is the entity that established your benefit plan, typically your employer (or former employer).