Medicare 101 A Simple Guide



What is Medicare?

Medicare is a federal health insurance program for:

- People age 65 or older
- Individuals under 65 with certain disabilities
- People of any age with End-Stage Renal Disease (ESRD) or ALS

The Four Parts of Medicare



Hospital Insurance

Covers: in patient hospital stays, skilled nursing facility care, hospice care, and some home health services

Cost: Usually free if you (or your spouse) paid Medicare taxes for at least 10 years



Medicare Advantage

- All-in-one plans from private insurers that combine Parts A & B, often with Part D and extra benefits (like dental, vision, hearing)
- May include HMO or PPO networks; costs and coverage vary by plan



Medical Insurance

Covers: doctor visits, outpatient care, preventive services, medical equipment

Cost: Monthly premium (varies based on income)



Prescription Drug Coverage

- Helps pay for prescription medications
- Offered by private insurers; monthly premiums and copays vary
- Important: Late enrollment may lead to penalties

What is Medigap?

Also called Medicare Supplement Insurance, Medigap helps pay out-of-pocket costs not covered by Original Medicare (Parts A & B) like copays, coinsurance, and deductibles.:

- You must have Parts A & B to enroll
- Plans are standardized but offered by private companies
- Cannot be combined with Medicare Advantage

Choosing a Medicare plan can feel overwhelming - you don't have to do it alone. Call **HOPE Solutions** today!

When to Enroll?

Initial Enrollment Period (IEP)

- Starts **3 months before** your 65th birthday
- Includes your birth month
- Ends **3 months after** your birthday

Missing IEP could lead to late penalties, so don't wait!

Contact Us

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