The ABCs of Medicare — A Look at the Basics

Original Medicare is a federal health insurance program made up of Part A and Part B.

Original Medicare Part A
- Hospital care
- Skilled nursing facility care
- Hospice

Original Medicare Part B
- Doctor visits
- Mental health care
- Outpatient surgery

Medicare Advantage Part C
- Cost savings
- SilverSneakers® fitness program
- 24-hour Nurse Line and Blue Cross Online Visits℠
- Care support programs

If you already receive Social Security you’ll be automatically enrolled in Medicare Part A and Part B.

If you need to enroll, you can choose one of these three easy steps:

1. Call Social Security Administration for an appointment at 1-800-772-1213 between 7 a.m. and 7 p.m. Monday through Friday. TTY users call 1-800-325-0778

2. Apply online at the official website: www.ssa.gov/medicareonly/

3. Visit your local Social Security office in person

You have seven months to enroll in Medicare

You’re eligible to enroll in a Medicare Advantage plan if you’re entitled to Medicare Part A and are enrolled in and pay the Medicare Part B premium. You’ll still need to pay the monthly premium for Part B when you’re enrolled in a Medicare Advantage plan.

Medicare Advantage adds extra benefits
Part C plans, also known as Medicare Advantage, combine all the benefits of Original Medicare Parts A and B, and include additional benefits and services. Medicare Advantage plans are regulated by the federal government and offered by private health insurance companies, such as Blue Cross.

The Blue Cross Medicare Advantage PPO plan comes with even more benefits:
- Cost savings
- SilverSneakers® fitness program
- 24-hour Nurse Line and Blue Cross Online Visits℠
- Care support programs

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Medicare Plus Blue℠ is a PPO plan with a Medicare contract. Enrollment in Medicare Plus Blue depends on contract renewal.
Here's what to expect as you move to the Blue Cross Medicare Advantage PPO plan

### Before your birthday

We offer a variety of resources with details about the plan. You can enroll three months before you turn 65 so there’s time to:

- Gather information in print or online
- Call us to learn more
- Attend a member meeting
- Phone in to an informational call
- Log in to an online discussion

We’ll be in touch over the next few months with more information and we welcome your questions by phone at **1-877-336-0377**, 8:30 a.m. to 6 p.m. Eastern time, Monday through Friday. TTY users call **711**. You can also learn more online at: [www.bcbsm.com/uawtrust](http://www.bcbsm.com/uawtrust).

### 4 months

You’ll receive important benefit details offering ways to save, instructions for locating doctors, and information on health and wellness programs. This packet will also contain tips for using digital tools, such as our mobile app and online registration.

### Enrollment month

In the mail you will receive enrollment instructions from the UAW Trust and your red, white and blue Medicare card from Social Security.

Now it’s time to enroll in the **Blue Cross Medicare Advantage PPO plan**.

**Enroll by calling Retiree Health Connect: 1-866-637-7555**, 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Eastern time, Monday through Friday. TTY users call **711**.

### 2 months

Once you’ve enrolled in the Blue Cross Medicare Advantage PPO plan, you’ll receive a confirmation postcard and a welcome kit with information to help you make the most of your plan benefits all year.

If you haven’t enrolled, there’s still time:

**Call Retiree Health Connect: 1-866-637-7555**, 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Eastern time, Monday through Friday. TTY users call **711**.

### Birthday month

Enroll as soon as you’re eligible to ensure your savings and benefits begin the first day of your birthday month. Members of the UAW Trust can still enroll in Blue Cross Medicare Advantage PPO after age 65.