AMERICAN LEGACY INSURANCE GROUP

Protecting America's Health, Life, and Retirement

Easy-to-Understand Medicare Guide 2027

Parts A, B, C and D, 2027 costs, enrollment dates,

and how to avoid costly mistakes, in plain English.

You will always talk to a real, licensed person, never a bot.

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Welcome

Medicare can feel confusing, but it does not have to be. This guide explains the basics in plain English: what each part covers, what it costs in 2027, when to sign up and how to choose the coverage that fits you. When you are ready, a real, licensed person can compare plans from 300+ carriers with you at no cost.

Have questions now? Get a free quote or Find a Pro near you.

Medicare in 5 minutes

Part	What it covers
Part A (Hospital insurance)	Inpatient hospital stays, skilled nursing facility care, hospice and some home health care. Most people pay no monthly premium for Part A.
Part B (Medical insurance)	Doctor visits, outpatient care, preventive services, lab tests and medical equipment. Most people pay a monthly premium.
Part C (Medicare Advantage)	Private plans that combine Part A and Part B, and often include drug coverage and extras like dental, vision and hearing.
Part D (Drug coverage)	Prescription drug plans that work with Original Medicare. Most Medicare Advantage plans include drug coverage.

Original Medicare is Part A plus Part B, run by the federal government. Many people add a **Medicare Supplement (Medigap)** plan and a **Part D** drug plan. Others choose a **Medicare Advantage** plan instead.

Your 2027 costs at a glance

Cost	2027 amount
Part B standard monthly premium	$209.40
Part B yearly deductible	$292
Part A hospital deductible	$1,776 per benefit period
Part A premium	$0 for most people
Part D yearly out-of-pocket cap on covered drugs	$2,400

Cost	2027 amount
Highest Part D deductible a plan can charge	$700
Higher-income surcharge (IRMAA) starts above	$112,000 individual or $224,000 joint (based on 2025 income)

Amounts announced by the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services for 2027. Your plan's costs may differ.

When to sign up

- **Initial Enrollment Period:** 7 months around your 65th birthday: the 3 months before your birthday month, that month and the 3 months after.
- **Still working at 65?** If you have coverage through your own or your spouse's current job, you may be able to delay Part B without a penalty. Ask before you decide.
- **General Enrollment Period:** January 1 to March 31 each year if you missed your first chance. Coverage starts the month after you sign up, and penalties may apply.
- **Annual Enrollment Period:** October 15 to December 7 each year to change Medicare Advantage or Part D plans for January 1.
- **Medicare Advantage Open Enrollment:** January 1 to March 31 to make one change if you are already in a Medicare Advantage plan.

Medicare Advantage or Medicare Supplement?

	Original Medicare + Medigap + Part D	Medicare Advantage
Doctors	Any doctor in the U.S. that accepts Medicare	Usually a network (HMO or PPO)
Monthly cost	Part B premium plus Medigap and Part D premiums	Part B premium; many plans have low or $0 plan premiums
Costs when you get care	Usually low or predictable	Copays and coinsurance up to a yearly limit
Extras	Not usually included	Often dental, vision, hearing and more
Travel	Works across the U.S.	Coverage outside the network may be limited

There is no single best choice. It depends on your doctors, prescriptions, health, travel and budget. That is exactly what a licensed agent can help you compare.

Medicare Supplement (Medigap) basics

- Medigap plans help pay what Original Medicare does not, like deductibles and coinsurance.
- Plans are named with letters. Plan G and Plan N are among the most popular for people new to Medicare. Plan F is not available to people who became eligible on or after January 1, 2020.
- Your best time to buy is your **Medigap Open Enrollment Period**: the 6 months starting when you are 65 or older and enrolled in Part B. During this time you cannot be turned down or charged more because of your health.
- Some states have extra rules, like a yearly "birthday rule" or year-round enrollment. See your state's rules

Prescription drugs

- Check that your medications are on a plan's drug list (formulary) before you enroll.
- In 2027, your out-of-pocket costs for covered Part D drugs are capped at $2,400 for the year.
- If you go without drug coverage for 63 days or more after you are first eligible, you may pay a late enrollment penalty for as long as you have Part D.

- Pharmacy choice matters. Preferred pharmacies can lower your costs.

Avoid these costly mistakes

- **Missing your sign-up window.** The Part B penalty can add 10% to your premium for each full 12-month period you could have had Part B but did not, for as long as you have Part B.
- **Not checking your doctors and drugs.** Networks and drug lists change every year.
- **Ignoring your Annual Notice of Change.** Every fall your plan tells you what is changing. Read it, or have us review it with you.
- **Falling for scams.** Never give your Medicare number to someone who calls you out of the blue.

Help paying for Medicare

- **Medicare Savings Programs** can help pay Part B premiums and other costs if your income and savings are limited.
- **Extra Help** lowers prescription drug costs for people with limited income.
- **Medicaid** may cover additional costs for people who qualify for both Medicare and Medicaid.

Your turning-65 checklist

- Three months before your 65th birthday month, decide whether you need to sign up for Part A and Part B now.
- Make a list of your doctors, prescriptions and pharmacies.
- Decide: Original Medicare with Medigap and Part D, or Medicare Advantage.
- Compare plans from many carriers, not just one.
- Enroll before your coverage gap begins, and keep your confirmation.

How we help

American Legacy Insurance Group compares plans from 300+ carriers in all 50 states. Our help is free, and you pay the same premium as buying on your own. Most important: you will always talk to a real, licensed person, never a bot.

Compare Medicare options | Get a free quote | Find a Pro near you

Official Medicare information

For the official government handbook, read "Medicare & You" at Medicare.gov, or call 1-800-MEDICARE (1-800-633-4227). TTY users can call 1-877-486-2048.

We do not offer every plan available in your area. Currently we represent 254 organizations which offer 5,814 products nationwide in 2027; the number in your area depends on your state and county. Please contact Medicare.gov, 1-800-MEDICARE, or your local State Health Insurance Program (SHIP) to get information on all of your options.

This guide is for education only and is not affiliated with or endorsed by Medicare, the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services or any government agency. Costs and rules shown are for 2027 and may change. Plan availability varies by state and county. American Legacy Insurance Group is a licensed insurance agency. Powered by American Legacy Insurance Group.