



MARYLAND Department of Health

Larry Hogan, Governor · Boyd K. Rutherford, Lt. Governor · Dennis Schrader, Secretary

IMPORTANT NOTICE ABOUT MARYLAND MEDICAID AND WHEN YOU BECOME AGE 65 OR MEDICARE ELIGIBLE

NAME
ADDRESS

This letter will help you understand what you **need to know and do** when you become **age 65** or **Medicare eligible**.

GETTING MEDICAID SERVICES

1. If you are now getting your health care services from a Managed Care Organization (MCO) under the State Medicaid Program called **HealthChoice**, you will be taken out of the MCO at the end of the month **prior to the month that you become age 65**. You will continue to be **eligible for Medicaid**, but you will now get your health care services from a **provider (doctor, clinic, etc) of your choice who is enrolled in the Medicaid Fee-For-Service Program**. Check with your **HealthChoice** doctor to see if he/she is enrolled in both Medicare and the **Medicaid Fee-For-Service Program** and can keep you as a patient.

2. If you need help in finding a doctor who participates in the **Medicare Program**, you can call the **Medicare Customer Service Line at 1-800-MEDICARE (1-800-633-4227)**. They will explain the choices you have in obtaining your benefits when you enroll in Medicare. When you contact the doctor, you will need to ask if he/she is also enrolled in the **Medicaid Fee-For-Service Program**.

ENROLLING IN MEDICARE AND A MEDICARE PRESCRIPTION DRUG PLAN

1. MARYLAND'S Medicaid (Medical Assistance) Program **requires** anyone turning age 65 to apply for **Medicare** in order to **continue** to be eligible for Medicaid benefits. If you are

eligible, **Medicare** will become your **Primary** health insurance. Maryland Medicaid will pay your Medicare (Part A and Part B) monthly premiums, co-pays and deductibles. You must also enroll in a Medicare (Part D) Prescription Drug Plan, which will begin to cover your prescription drug costs. After age 65, you will no longer be able to use your red and white Medical Care Program (**Medicaid**) card to get most of your prescriptions. You can continue to use your red and white Medicaid card for such services as long-term care. (See the list of Medicaid covered services on the enclosed sheet.)

2. If Medicare has not contacted you about your Medicare eligibility, please contact your **local Social Security Administration (SSA)** district office to apply for **Medicare** or you may call **1-800-772-1213** for help in applying. **Be sure to show the SSA representative this letter and your Medicaid red and white card, so your Medicare application will be processed correctly. Refugees and aliens must be permanent residents and must live in the U.S. for 5 years before they can become eligible for Medicare.**

GETTING HELP WITH MEDICARE PRESCRIPTION DRUG PROGRAM

1. If you are transitioning into Medicare and have not selected a Medicare Prescription Drug Plan, please call Medicare's Limited Income NET Program @ 1-800-783-1307, Option #3, to enroll in temporary coverage until your Medicare Prescription Drug Plan becomes effective. This program will provide Point of Sale and retroactive prescription drug coverage during the transition period.

2. If you are on Medicare and Medicaid, there is no Part D premium for a basic prescription drug plan. Remember, once you turn 65, Medicare will pay for most of your prescriptions. **So, it is important to join Medicare and enroll in a Medicare Prescription Drug Plan.**

3. If you have any questions about Medicare's Prescription Drug Plans, call Medicare Part D at **1-800-243-3425** or **1-800-633-4227** or visit their website at www.medicare.gov.

4. **Maryland's Department of Aging State Health Insurance Program (SHIP) Coordinators** are also able to help you with questions you have about the Medicare prescription Drug Plans and other health care benefits. For help, please call the SHIP Coordinator listed for your area of the State on the back of the enclosed flyer about the Medicare prescription Drug Program.

If you have any questions about Medicaid, please call the Maryland Medicaid Hotline at **(410) 767-5800, option 2** (Baltimore Area) or **1-800-492-5231, option 2** (outside Baltimore area). Thank you for your cooperation in this important matter.

BASIC SERVICES COVERED BY MARYLAND MEDICAL ASSISTANCE (MEDICAID)

For Beneficiaries who also have Medicare

Medicare Part A premium (if the individual does not have enough working quarters to qualify for free coverage)

Medicare Part B premium

Medicare Co-payments and Deductibles

Medicaid covers the following services if they are not covered by Medicare or other insurance and if the Maryland Medicaid Program's specific requirements are met for the service:

- Home and community-based services waiver for older adults (through the area agencies on aging)
- Home health agency services; hospice care
- Medical day care services; substance abuse treatment services
- Medical equipment and supplies; oxygen services and related respiratory equipment services
- Mental health treatment, case management, and rehabilitation services
- Nurse anesthetist and nurse practitioner services
- Nursing facility services; personal care services
- Pharmacy services limited to some Medicare excluded drugs
- Transportation services to Medicaid covered services (through local health departments only)
- Vision care services (eye examination every two years) (glasses are not covered)

If you have any questions about Medicaid, please call the Maryland Medicaid Beneficiary Services Hotline at (410) 767-5800, Option 2 (Baltimore Area) or 1-800-492-5231, Option 2 (outside Baltimore).

Did You Hear?

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**Medicare Part D
Prescription
Drug Program
Help Is
Here!**

1-800-243-3425

MARYLAND
Department of Aging

For information about the Medicare Prescription Drug Program or other health insurance issues, call your local Senior Health Insurance Assistance Program (SHIP) coordinator:

<u>Allegany County</u>	<u>Harford County (Vacant)</u>
(301) 777-5970, x1710	(410) 638-3577, x2238
<u>Anne Arundel County</u>	<u>Howard County</u>
(410) 222-2457, x4076	(410) 313-7392 (public)
<u>Baltimore City</u>	<u>Kent County</u>
(410) 396-2273	(410) 778-2564
<u>Baltimore County</u>	<u>Montgomery County</u>
(410) 887-2059, (public)	(301) 255-4250 (public)
<u>Calvert County</u>	<u>Prince George's County</u>
(301) 855-1170 or (410) 535-4606	(301) 265-8471 (public)
<u>Caroline County</u>	<u>Queen Anne's County</u>
(410) 479-2535, x8009	(410) 758-0848
<u>Charles County</u>	<u>MAC, INC (Dorchester, Somerset, Wicomico, and Worcester Counties)</u>
(301) 934-9305, x5118 or (301) 934-0118	Dorchester (410) 736-3662, x106 Somerset, Wicomico, & Worcester (410) 742-0505
<u>Carroll County</u>	<u>St. Mary's County</u>
(410) 386-3800	(301) 475-4200, x1064
<u>Cecil County</u>	<u>Talbot County</u>
(410) 996-8174	(410) 822-2869
<u>Frederick County</u>	<u>Washington County</u>
(301) 600-1605 (public)	(301) 790-0275, x221
<u>Garrett County</u>	
(301) 334-9431 or (888) 377-8403	

www.mdoa.state.md.us

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