

[Recipient Name First] [Recipient Name Last]
[Address Line 1]
[Address Line 2]
[City, State Zip-Zip Extn]

IMPORTANT INFORMATION:

For People Age 65+ Receiving Medical Assistance

You are receiving this letter because you or someone in your household may be receiving Medical Assistance. The Department of Human Services (DHS) wants you to be aware of other important benefits you may be entitled to. If you complete your renewal and are no longer eligible for Medical Assistance, you may be able to get health care coverage through Medicare. Medicare covers hospital visits, doctor visits, lab work, medical tests, medical supplies, prescription drugs, and more. Most medical providers accept Medicare.

If you want full Medicare coverage and don't already have it, you must sign up for it.

We urge you to sign up for all available Medicare coverage (Medicare Part A, Part B, and Part D) so you can have full health care coverage if your Medical Assistance ends. Even if you already have full Medicare coverage, you may want to change your Medicare coverage if you are losing Medical Assistance.

You must act fast to sign up for Medicare if you get notice that your Medical Assistance is ending to avoid gaps in health care coverage and fees.

Call PA MEDI at 1-800-783-7067 for help to find out if you have Medicare or to learn about your Medicare coverage options and how to enroll.

When can I sign up for Medicare Hospital and Medical Coverage (Medicare Part A and Part B)?

You can sign up for Medicare without paying late enrollment fees when you are in a Special Enrollment Period (SEP).

There is an SEP for people who lose their Medical Assistance to sign up for Medicare Part A and Part B. **This SEP starts the month you are notified that your Medical Assistance benefits are ending and lasts for 6 months.** If you sign up for Medicare during this SEP, you will not have to pay late enrollment fees. Your Medicare Part A and/or Part B coverage will start the month after you sign up.

When can I sign up for Medicare Drug Coverage (Medicare Part D)?

There is a separate SEP to sign up for Medicare prescription drug coverage (Part D) when you lose Medical Assistance. **The Medicare Part D SEP starts on the day you lose Medical Assistance and lasts for 3 months.** This is shorter than the Medicare Part A and Part B SEP described above. If you sign up for Medicare Part D during this Medicare Part D SEP, your drug coverage will start the first day of the month after you sign up and you will not have to pay late enrollment fees.

The Medicare Part D SEP can also be used by someone who already has Medicare Part D to change their drug plan.

What if I miss signing up for Medicare during the Special Enrollment Periods?

If you miss signing up for Medicare Part A, Part B, or Part D during an SEP, there are other times you can sign up, but you may have to pay late enrollment fees. You can also sign up during General Enrollment, which occurs January 1 – March 31 every year.

More information about Medicare and how to sign up can be found at www.medicare.gov or by calling 1-800-MEDICARE (1-800-633-4227). You can also call PA MEDI at the number below to find out about other times you may sign up and to learn about possible late enrollment fees.

If you need help to sign up for Medicare, PA MEDI CAN HELP!

Pennsylvania Medicare Education and Decision Insight (PA MEDI) is a program through the Pennsylvania Department of Aging. **PA MEDI's Helpline number is 1-800-783-7067** (Monday-Friday from 8am to 5pm).

PA MEDI offers free Medicare counseling to older Pennsylvanians and younger people living with disabilities. PA MEDI counselors are trained to answer questions and share useful information about Medicare, Medigap plans, Prescription Drug Plans, Medicare Advantage Plans, and Medicare appeals. They can also give you information about programs that help with Medicare costs and prescription assistance programs. PA MEDI counselors do not sell Medicare insurance or products.