DOING YOUR OWN MEDICARE RESEARCH



If you're new to Medicare or want to review your options during Medicare Open Enrollment (October 15-December 7), it is important to do some research. To get started, you'll need to set up an account on the Medicare.gov website to get personalized information and accurate costs.

1. Create a MyMedicare.gov account

- Use the password guidelines to set up a strong password.
- Remember your username and password.
- Identify an answer to a secret question, which will allow you to reset your username and/or password if you forget it in the future.

2. You'll need your personal information, as listed with Social Security



3. Make a list of your prescriptions

- Exact name (additional letters and numbers after the name are important)
- Dosage
- Quantity
- Frequency

4. Write down the name of your current pharmacy

• Make a list of pharmacies you are willing to use, including mail order.

5. Have the names of your health care providers available.

- If you are looking for a Medicare Advantage or Cost plan you need to check their website or call their customer service to make sure your health care providers are in their plan network.
- If you use providers or get services outside the plan network the service or item may not be covered or could cost more.

6. Gather information about whether you get help paying Medicare costs*

- Medical Assistance or Medicare Savings program (through county human services)
- Extra Help program (through Social Security)

^{*} If you get help to pay your Medicare costs, call the Senior LinkAge Line at 800-333-2433 to find a plan that best fits your level of assistance. You can also call to find out if you may qualify for help and/or to receive application assistance.

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Name of Medication	Dosage	Quantity	Frequency
Example: Lipitor	10 mg	30	Monthly

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