

Understanding and Paying for Your Part B Premium

Learn the easiest ways to make payments, so you never have to worry about staying covered.

You may be used to paying for your health insurance through a monthly premium, or maybe you had money deducted from your paycheck. Many Medicare Advantage plans, also known as Part C plans, have premiums that must be paid monthly.

Even if you have a \$0 premium through your Medicare Advantage plan, you still need to pay your monthly Medicare Part B premium to keep your health coverage. You'll also pay your share of your health care costs, such as any deductibles, copays and coinsurance.

Tips on How to Pay Medicare Premiums

Looking for an easy way to make your monthly premium payment? Have your premium withheld from your monthly Social Security check.* This doesn't happen automatically: It's your responsibility to make sure the premium withholding starts. You may need to pay your premium directly for a couple of months.

If you don't get Social Security or choose not to have your premium deducted from your Social Security check, you can pay your premium from your bank account or by check. Make sure to pay both your Part B and Part C (Medicare Advantage) premiums on time so you won't lose coverage.

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Pro tip: The best way to make sure you never miss a premium payment? Set up automatic payments, which are available through most banks and credit unions.

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Here are some important reminders:

- ✔ You are responsible for your Part B premium, even if you have a \$0 premium Florida Blue Medicare plan. Most people have their Part B premium deducted automatically from their Social Security. If you don't, make sure Medicare has your current mailing address for bill delivery.
- ✔ Don't miss more than three months of Medicare Part B payments. Premiums are due the 25th of every month. Your coverage will end in the fourth month if you don't make your past due payments.

*If you get Railroad Retirement Board (RRB) benefits, your Part B premium will be deducted from your benefit payment. If you're a federal retiree with an annuity from the Office of Personnel Management and not entitled to Social Security or RRB benefits, you may request to have your Part B premiums deducted from your annuity.

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