



LOCAL HELP FOR PEOPLE WITH MEDICARE

SHIP is a free and impartial Medicare information and counseling program provided by the Indiana Department of Insurance.

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Make-up Time for Medicare Enrollment, February, 2021

If you didn't enroll in Medicare Part B Medical Insurance when you were first eligible (at age 65 or after receiving Social Security or Railroad Disability Insurance payments for 24 months), you can enroll now during Medicare's Part B General Enrollment Period (GEP) from January 1 - March 31, 2021. The GEP provides you an opportunity to sign-up for Part B coverage that would start July 1, 2021. You must pay premiums for Part B coverage, and you may have to pay higher premiums if you waited to sign-up more than 12 months after you were first eligible to enroll in Part B.

If you have Medicare Part A Hospital Insurance now, adding Part B can help you get more out of your Medicare coverage. Part B helps pay for:

- Services from doctors and other outpatient health care providers (like emergency rooms and ambulances)
- Durable medical equipment (like wheelchairs, walkers, hospital beds, and other medical equipment)
- Preventative services (like health screenings, shots or vaccines, and yearly "Wellness Visits")

Also, you may be eligible to enroll in a Medicare Advantage Plan or a Medigap Supplement Policy and Part D Drug Plan April 1 - June 30, 2021 to start July 1 if you enroll in Part B during this year's GEP.

Because all Medicare enrollments are handled by the Social Security Administration (SSA), Form CMS-40B, applications for the Part B GEP must be submitted to SSA by March 31, 2021 if you want your coverage to start July 1. Below is a link to a printable Form CMS-40-B application that you can complete and mail or fax to your local SSA office:

<https://www.cms.gov/medicare/cms-forms/cms-forms/downloads/cms40b-e.pdf>

If needed, you can find the mailing address and fax number of your local SSA office at <https://www.ssa.gov/locator/>

If you have questions about Part B or have any other Medicare related questions, call the State Health Insurance Assistance Program (SHIP) at 1-800-452-4800, 1-866-846-0139 (TDD) or go online at www.medicare.in.gov. You can also find us on Facebook and Twitter. SHIP provides free impartial Medicare information and counseling year-round.

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John Williams is a Medicare Specialist with State Health Insurance Assistance Program (SHIP). Hoosiers can get answers to Medicare questions by calling SHIP at 800-452-4800 Monday - Friday between 8:00AM - 4:00PM.