

Medicare Advantage Disenrollment Period

Between **January 1 & February 14** each year, if someone is in a Medicare Advantage Plan, he or she can leave that plan and switch to [Original Medicare](#). If the person switches to Original Medicare during this period, he or she will have until February 14 to also join a [Medicare Prescription Drug Plan](#) to add drug coverage. The coverage will begin the first day of the month after the plan gets the enrollment form.

During this period, a person **can't** do the following:

- Switch from Original Medicare to a Medicare Advantage Plan
- Switch from one Medicare Advantage Plan to another
- Switch from one Medicare Prescription Drug Plan to another
- Join, switch, or drop a [Medicare Medical Savings Account Plan](#)

In most cases, a person must stay enrolled in a [Medicare Advantage](#) or [Medicare Prescription Drug Plan](#) for a whole calendar year. However there are exceptions such as the following:

- Moving out of the plan's service area
- Having both Medicare and Medicaid
- Qualifying for Extra Help to pay for prescription drugs
- Living in an institution (like a nursing home)

Next Steps

The following resources are available if you need help deciding what to recommend:

- Visit www.medicare.gov/Publications to view the "Medicare & You" handbook
- Visit www.medicare.gov/Publications to view the tip sheet "Understanding Medicare Enrollment Periods."
- Call Social Security at 1-800-772-1213 for more information about Medicare eligibility and how to sign up for Part B. TTY users should call 1-800-325-0778.
- For information about Railroad Retirement Board (RRB) benefits, call your local RRB office or 1-877-772-5772.
- Visit www.medicare.gov, and select "Find Out if You're Eligible."
- Visit www.medicare.gov/find-a-plan to learn more about Medicare Advantage Plans, Medicare drug plans, [Medigap policies](#), and other Medicare health plans.
- Call 1-800-MEDICARE (1-800-633-4227). TTY users should call 1-877-486-2048
- Get free, personalized health insurance counseling from your State Health Insurance Assistance Program (SHIP).

Pending CMS Approval