

Navigating the Annual Enrollment Period (AEP) with Confidence

A Guide for Medicare Beneficiaries

The Annual Enrollment Period (AEP) is a crucial period for Medicare beneficiaries to review and optimize their coverage choices. This guide is designed to empower you with a clear understanding of AEP, ensuring you make informed decisions that align with your healthcare needs and preferences.

1. What is AEP?

Familiarize yourself with AEP's timeframe, which occurs annually from October 15 to December 7. Changes you make during this period become effective on January 1. AEP is your opportunity to adjust your Medicare coverage for the upcoming year.

2. Evaluate Your Current Coverage:

Begin by assessing your current Medicare coverage. Are you on Original Medicare (Parts A & B), a Medicare Advantage plan (Part C), or do you have a combination with prescription drug coverage (Part D)? Understanding your existing coverage forms the foundation for exploring AEP options

3. Explore Your AEP Options:

- Depending on your current coverage, here are the options available to you:
- Original Medicare Only:
- Join a Medicare Advantage plan (Part C).
- Enroll in a stand-alone Medicare prescription drug plan (Part D).
- Keep your current coverage as is.
- Transition to a Medicare Advantage plan.
- Switch prescription drug plans.
- Decide whether to keep or drop drug coverage.



- Maintain your current coverage.
- Switch to a different Medicare Advantage plan.
- Return to Original Medicare.
- Enroll in a stand-alone Part D plan.
- Decide whether to keep or drop drug coverage.
- Maintain your current coverage.
- Change your Medicare Advantage plan.
- Switch prescription drug plans.
- Return to Original Medicare.
- Decide whether to keep or drop drug coverage.
- Maintain your current coverage.

4. Consider Your Healthcare Needs:

Reflect on your health requirements, preferred healthcare providers, and medication needs. Select a coverage option that best aligns with your budget and long-term wellness goals.

5. Utilize Resources:

Utilize plan comparison tools, worksheets, and online resources provided by Medicare and insurance agencies. These tools can help you visualize the benefits of each option and make an informed choice.

6. Importance of Regular Review:

Emphasize the significance of an annual coverage review. Healthcare needs can change over time, and AEP is an opportunity to ensure your coverage remains in line with your evolving health journey.

7. Seek Guidance:

If needed, consult with Medicare insurance agents. They can provide personalized advice and answer any questions you have about AEP and coverage options. By understanding AEP's significance, exploring your coverage choices, and aligning them with your healthcare requirements, you're empowered to navigate AEP with confidence. Making informed decisions during this period ensures you have the right coverage to support your health and well-being throughout the upcoming year.

Contact us for more information on your options, or to schedule a plan review.

