

Stop Your Medicaid Benefit from Ending

If you will be turning age 65 in the next three months or have already turned age 65 but are not yet receiving MEDICARE, you may be entitled to additional medical benefits through the MEDICARE program. In order to continue to be eligible for the Medicaid program, you must apply for and use MEDICARE coverage if it is available to you.

If you have not already done so, and do not currently have MEDICARE coverage, you must apply by calling the Social Security Administration at 1-800-772-1213 or by applying on-line at: <https://www.ssa.gov/medicare/>. You are eligible to apply when you are within 3 months of turning 65. Proof that you have applied for MEDICARE must be included with your Medicaid renewal application.

Proof can be:

- Your award or denial letter from the Social Security Administration, or
- Your online confirmation letter stating that you have applied for MEDICARE with the Social Security Administration

What is the difference between MEDICARE and Medicaid?

- MEDICARE is a federal program that gives you health care coverage if you are 65 or older regardless of your income.
- Medicaid is a state-run program that covers medical expenses for people with low or limited incomes.

When a person has both MEDICARE and Medicaid, MEDICARE pays first and Medicaid pays second. Individuals with MEDICARE also have more medical providers to choose from.

There are Medicaid programs that may help you with your MEDICARE premiums costs and prescription drugs costs.

- The MEDICARE Savings Program (MSP) helps pay the MEDICARE premiums. If you are eligible for the MEDICARE Savings Program, Medicaid will pay the cost of your MEDICARE premiums. This program has higher income levels than Medicaid program and also has no resource test.
- The MEDICARE Prescription Drug Program (MEDICARE Part D) is the part of MEDICARE that provides prescription drug coverage. Individuals who have MEDICARE and Medicaid will receive help from Medicaid to pay the Part D premiums.

Apply for MEDICARE Today