

Medicare Enrollment

The Center for Medicare and Medicaid Services has given people more time to apply for Medicare or make certain changes to their Medicare plans because of COVID-19. **The deadline to make most of these changes is June 17, 2020, so if you think you need to apply for Medicare or make changes to your plan you should do so as soon as possible.** We have included some information below on Medicare during COVID-19.

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Q: I was supposed to enroll for Medicare in April, but was not able to. Can I still enroll?

A: Yes. If you had a Medicare enrollment deadline (for general enrollment, open enrollment or a special enrollment period) between March 17, 2020 and June 17, 2020, you can still enroll in Medicare **until June 17, 2020.**

Q: Will I have to prove that I did not make my April deadline because of the coronavirus?

A: No. The Center for Medicare Services has given everyone with an enrollment deadline extra time to enroll, because of the closures related to COVID-19.

Q: How do I enroll in Medicare?

A: You may be able to enroll in Medicare online, depending on what type of Medicare

(Part A or Part B) you want to enroll in, at www.SocialSecurity.gov.

You can also enroll in Medicare by calling your local Social Security office. You will not be able to go to your Social Security office in person because the Social Security offices are closed to the public. You can find your local Social Security office information here: <https://www.ssa.gov/locator/>. When you call Social Security, make sure to ask for a protected filing date. It is a good idea to write down who you talk to, and when you call the Social Security office so you have a record of it later if you need it.

Many people are calling Social Security right now, so you may have to wait on the phone for a long time before you are able to speak with someone. If you can, try to call during times of day when other people are less likely to call (early in the morning).

Q: I have Medicare, but I do not think I have the right Medicare Advantage Plan. Will I have more time to make changes?

A: It depends. If you want to make changes to a Part C or Part D plan, and your enrollment period was March 1, 2020 or after, you can make changes to your plan until July 1, 2020.

Q: I had health insurance through my job, but lost my job because of the coronavirus. Can I still enroll in Medicare?

A: Yes. If you lost your health insurance because you lost your job, if you are eligible for Medicare, you can still enroll in Medicare. If you are not eligible for Medicare, you may also be able to apply for Medicaid. For more information on Medicaid, please see our Medicaid tip sheet: <https://www.lascinti.org/wp-content/uploads/Medicaid-During-the-COVID-19-Pandemic.pdf>.

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If you have questions, visit <https://www.cms.gov/Medicare/Eligibility-and-Enrollment/OrigMedicarePartABEligEnrol>

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