

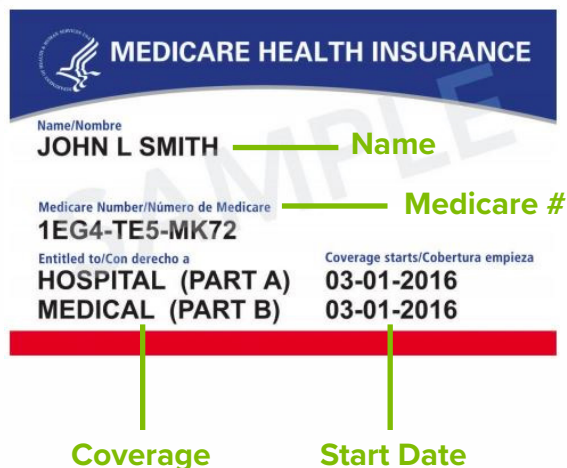
# Everything You Need to Know About Your Medicare Card Guide

Your Medicare card is an important tool to ensure your health is made a priority. To be sure you know all about this tool, we created a guide just for you!

## What is a Medicare Card?

Whenever you go to the doctor or hospital you can hand them your Medicare card. This is the document that proves you have Medicare health insurance.

Your Medicare card has your name, Medicare Number, a list of the coverage you're entitled to, and the start date of that coverage.



The card will also show the coverage you're entitled to. Depending on your coverage it will list Medicare Part A (listed as HOSPITAL), Part B (listed as MEDICAL), or both. Medicare Part A (listed as HOSPITAL) covers care in a hospital or nurse facility. It also covers hospice or home healthcare. Medicare Part B (listed as MEDICAL) covers medical care and preventive services.

Lastly, your card will show the date your coverage began.

**HERE'S SOME GOOD NEWS:** We no longer have to use your social security number as proof of Medicare health insurance! Instead, your card has a Medicare Number that's individualized to you. This is how Medicare puts some even more extra care into protecting your identity.



## Why do you need it?

Your Medicare card is needed to prove you have health insurance through Medicare. You will need to give it to your healthcare providers so your hospital visits or medical care will be covered under Medicare.

## Medicare Card vs. Plan Service Card (from the carrier)

There are some differences between having a Medicare card and being covered by private health insurance – known as Medicare Advantage. It is important to do your research on the differences in order to choose which is best for you.

Costs vary between the two depending on what type of coverage you are looking for.

Medicare Advantage plans (also known as Plan C) often include coverage beyond Parts A & B. These added benefits often include prescription drug coverage (Plan D) and may include dental, hearing, or vision care.

## What happens if you lose your Medicare card?

If you lose your Medicare card, no worries! Just log-in to your Medicare account and print a copy of your Medicare card, or call 1-800-MEDICARE (1-800-633-4227) and they will issue you a replacement card. Call 1-877-486-2048 if you use a TTY.

## Protect your card information

It is important to keep your Medicare card protected at all times. Although Medicare cards no longer have your social security number on them, it still holds private information that can be used to steal your identity. You are encouraged to carry it with you when you leave home just in case medical emergencies arise, but be sure it is secured in a wallet or another safe spot.

We want to make sure your identity is protected, so here is some more important information:

- Medicare will never call you for personal information.
- Medicare will never call or email you asking for money or threatening to cancel your insurance benefits.
- If you receive a call or email like this, immediately call 1-800-MEDICARE (1-800-633-4227) or TTY: 1-877-486-2048.
- Do not give anyone your private information over the phone, through email, or in person.
- The only time that could be necessary is if you contacted them first giving them permission to contact you.

The only people authorized to see your Medicare number are doctors, insurers assisting you, or Medicare associates.

## STILL FEELING OVERWHELMED BY MEDICARE?

Our Medicare advisors are here to help. Visit our website to find a Medicare Advisor near you.



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