

Medicare Part A and/or B Enrollment FAQs

Why do I need to sign up for Parts A and/or B?

- Effective July 1, 2015, your USG healthcare plan will be secondary coverage only. Unless you are enrolled in other coverage outside of USG, we recommend that you enroll in Medicare Part A and/or B during the General Enrollment Period (January 1st through March 31st, 2015) to provide your primary coverage after June 30, 2015. You may have to pay a higher Part A and/or Part B premium for late enrollment

How will Medicare Parts A and B affect my current USG Healthcare coverage?

- Beginning July 1, 2015, USG healthcare plans will coordinate with Medicare Parts A and B, and will provide secondary coverage only.

For example – Let's say you have a Hospital claim and three follow-ups with a specialist after you are released. The total bill is \$10,000. Your hospital and Doctor's office will send the bill to Medicare for payment. Medicare pays for \$8,000, and the remaining \$2,000 is covered by the USG healthcare plan because it was a Medicare approved procedure. In this scenario, you pay nothing (for example). However, if you had not enrolled in Medicare Parts A and B, you would be responsible for the \$8,000 Medicare would have covered. The USG healthcare plan will not cover the entire unpaid bill – only the portion left over after Medicare would have paid its approved portion (\$2,000).

How do I enroll in Parts A and/or B?

- To enroll in Medicare Parts A and/or B, contact the Social Security Administration starting on January 1st at www.ssa.gov or call 800-772-1213 (TTY 800-325-0778). The General Enrollment Period for Medicare Parts A and/or B is January 1st through March 31st each year, with a coverage effective date of July 1st.

How soon do I need to take action?

- You will need to enroll during the 2015 **Medicare General Enrollment Period from January 1 – March 31**. Additional resources, provided by Aon, will be available to assist you with enrolling in Medicare Part A and/or B. **If you enroll during this period, the University System of Georgia will pay any late enrollment penalties on your behalf.**

Once I have enrolled or verified my Medicare effective dates do I need to take any other action?

- Yes. Once you have enrolled in Medicare Parts A and/ or B, confirmed your Medicare Parts A and B effective dates, or determined that you do not need Medicare Parts A and/or B, please contact Aon at 866-212-5052 to update your account with this information.

Who is Aon and why did USG partner with Aon to help USG retirees?

- Aon is a human capital consulting company and is a leader in helping organizations solve their most complex benefits, talent, and related financial challenges and improve business performance. They have expertise in implementing and communicating changes in healthcare design strategies.

- USG partnered with Aon because they have expertise in Medicare and will be able to help answer retiree questions regarding Medicare and the Medicare enrollment process.

What happens if I don't enroll in Medicare Parts A and/or B during the Medicare General Enrollment Period?

- If you take no action during the 2015 Medicare General Enrollment Period between January 1 and March 31, 2015 and do not have other healthcare coverage, you will not have primary medical coverage with the University System of Georgia medical plans beginning July 1, 2015 and will be responsible for paying primary coverage medical costs out of your pocket.

My spouse is not currently Medicare eligible, will my spouse need to enroll in Medicare Parts A and B when he/she becomes eligible?

- Yes, your spouse should enroll in both Medicare Part A and B as soon as he/she is eligible since the USG plan will provide secondary coverage only to Medicare eligible retirees and their spouses beginning July 1, 2015.

What if I have other coverage under a different group plan?

- If you want to be sure you have the coverage you need, you should consider enrolling in Medicare Parts A and/or B. If you have group coverage from another employer —either as an employee or as a dependent of an employee—you may have the coverage you need, but you should consider enrolling in Medicare Parts A and/or B as well.

What is the premium associated with Medicare Part B?

- In 2014, the monthly Medicare Part B Premium for most people is \$104.90. High income earners may have to pay more.
- Part B Premiums are determined by your tax returns. Social Security will use the income reported 2 years ago on your IRS Income Tax return to determine your premium. If you have further questions, please contact the Social Security Administration today so they can calculate your Medicare Part B premium at www.ssa.gov (<http://www.ssa.gov>) or call 800-772-1213 (TTY 800-325-0778).

What does Medicare Part A cover?

- Medicare Part A covers Inpatient care in hospitals, Inpatient care in a skilled nursing facility (not custodial or long-term care), Hospice Care, and Home Health Care, and Inpatient care in a religious nonmedical health care institution For additional details about Medicare Part A coverage, visit www.ssa.gov (<http://www.ssa.gov>) or call 800-772-1213 (TTY 800-325-0778).

What does Medicare Part B cover?

- Medicare Part B helps cover medically-necessary doctors' services, , ambulatory surgical centers, outpatient care, some preventive care, lab services, durable medical equipment (like walkers), emergency department services, home health services, Diabetic supplies, and limited prescription drugs administered by a doctor. For additional details about Medicare Part B coverage, visit www.ssa.gov (<http://www.ssa.gov>) or call 800-772-1213 (TTY 800-325-0778).

Do I currently pay anything for Medicare Part A?

- Most people do not pay a monthly premium for Part A because they, or their spouse, have 40 or more quarters of Medicare-Covered employment. If you do not qualify for Medicare Part A based on your work history, you may be able to enroll by contacting your local Social Security Administration office at www.ssa.gov (<http://www.ssa.gov>) or call 800-772-1213 (TTY 800-325-0778).

What other costs are associated with Medicare Parts B?

- The deductible for **Part B** for 2015 is \$147. Once the deductible is met, Medicare pays 80% of the Medicare Approved amount. Remember the remaining portion of the bill (the 20%) will be filed with your University System healthcare plan as secondary coverage.

Will I have to pay an enrollment penalty since I did not sign up for Medicare Part B when I initially became eligible?

- If you did not enroll in Medicare Part A and/or B when you first became eligible, you may have to pay a late enrollment penalty. Your monthly premium for Medicare Part B may go up as much as 1% per month up to 10% for each 12 month period that you could have had Part B but did not sign up for it.
- Because Medicare Part B enrollment may not have been required at the time you retired or turned age 65, the University System of Georgia will be partnering with the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid (CMS) Services to pay the late enrollment penalty on your behalf **if you enroll during the Medicare General Enrollment period from January 1 through March 31, 2015**. This is a one-time opportunity for retirees that enroll during this period. USG will be working directly with the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services to facilitate the payment of the late fee once you enroll in Medicare Part B.

Can I go to my local Social Security office to sign up for Medicare Part A and/or B during the General Enrollment Period?

- Yes. To locate your nearest Social Security office and make an appointment if necessary, contact the Social Security Administration at www.ssa.gov (<http://www.ssa.gov>) or call 800-772-1213 (TTY 800-325-0778).