
Your Medicare Cost Planner

———— A Guide to Estimating Your Medicare Cost ————



My Lung Meds

Medicare Estimator Tool

For Medicare Advantage plans, check that your doctors are part of the provider network.

This tool helps you look at different coverage options during enrollment periods. In each box, write down the costs for the plans you’re considering. This will help you see what you may pay with each plan over the year.

Helpful Hint: Check to see if your medications are on the plan’s formulary and what tier they are in to avoid higher costs later.

		OPTION 1	OPTION 2	OPTION 3	OPTION 4
PART A	Premium*				
	Deductible				
	Inpatient Costs				
	Skilled Nursing Facility Costs				
PART B (and C)	Premium*				
	Deductible				
	Coinsurance				
	Durable Medical Equipment (DME)				
Medigap	Premium				
	Part B Copayment (If Applicable)				

		OPTION 1	OPTION 2	OPTION 3	OPTION 4
PART D	Premium				
	Deductible				
	Tier 1 Costs				
	Tier 2 Costs				
	Tier 3 Costs				
	Tier 4 Costs				
	Tier 5 Costs				
	Tier 6 Costs				
Maximum Out of Pocket Costs					

* To join a Medicare Advantage Plan, you must first be enrolled in Medicare Parts A & B. Some Medicare Advantage plans may give you some money back on your Part B premium, but not all of them do. Be sure to check the details.

See an example of the completed chart on page 11 and 12.

Note: These prices may not match your specific coverage. Check the plan costs before making your selections.

But What Will I Pay in Health Care Costs Throughout the Year?

Your health care costs depend on your plan and how much care you need each year. Even with the same coverage, costs can change from year to year based on your usage. To see what your costs might be with each plan based on different levels of care, complete the activities below.

If You Have Fewer Health Care Needs

Fill in the table on the right to estimate your yearly costs if you have a few doctors' visits and no hospital stays. To estimate yearly costs, any monthly expenses should be multiplied by 12.

- For example:
- 2 Primary Care Provider visits
 - 2 Specialists visits
 - 2 new generic medications

	OPTION 1	OPTION 2	OPTION 3	OPTION 4
Part A Premium (Annual)				
Part B Premium (Annual)				
Medigap Premium (Annual)				
PCP Copay				
Specialist Copay				
Pulmonary Rehabilitation				
Outpatient Imaging				
Emergency Room Copay				
Inpatient Costs				
Part D Premium (Annual)				
Prescribed Medications				
Newly Prescribed Medications				
Other costs				

If You Have Moderate Health Care Needs

Fill in the table on the right to estimate your yearly costs if you have regular doctors’ visits and regular medical tests. To estimate yearly costs, any monthly expenses should be multiplied by 12.

- For example:
- 8 Primary Care Provider visits
 - 6 Specialists visits
 - 36 Pulmonary Rehabilitation sessions
 - Outpatient imaging
 - Emergency room visit
 - 5 new generic medications

	OPTION 1	OPTION 2	OPTION 3	OPTION 4
Part A Premium (Annual)				
Part B Premium (Annual)				
Medigap Premium (Annual)				
PCP Copay				
Specialist Copay				
Pulmonary Rehabilitation				
Outpatient Imaging				
Emergency Room Copay				
Inpatient Costs				
Part D Premium (Annual)				
Prescribed Medications				
Newly Prescribed Medications				
Other costs				

If You Have High Health Care Needs

Fill in the table on the right to estimate your yearly costs if you have regular doctors’ visits and a hospital stay. To estimate yearly costs, any monthly expenses should be multiplied by 12.

- For example:
- 12 Primary Care Provider visits
 - 10 Specialists visits
 - 2 Outpatient imaging services
 - Emergency room visit
 - 8-day inpatient hospital stay
 - 10 new generic medications

	OPTION 1	OPTION 2	OPTION 3	OPTION 4
Part A Premium (Annual)				
Part B Premium (Annual)				
Medigap Premium (Annual)				
PCP Copay				
Specialist Copay				
Pulmonary Rehabilitation				
Outpatient Imaging				
Emergency Room Copay				
Inpatient Costs				
Part D Premium (Annual)				
Prescribed Medications				
Newly Prescribed Medications				
Other costs				

Putting it All Together

Medicare plans can have different costs beyond the monthly premium. These summaries can help you estimate your total yearly costs, including premiums, medical care, and prescription drugs. Use the cost estimates you calculated on the previous pages to compare the total estimated yearly cost of each plan in one place to see which option may work best for your health care needs and budget.

Option 1

- Annual Premium Cost: _____
- Expected Medical Costs: _____
- Expected Medication Costs: _____
- Estimated Annual Total: _____
- Worst-Case Total Cost: _____
- Are my doctors in network? ☐ Yes ☐ No

Option 2

- Annual Premium Cost: _____
- Expected Medical Costs: _____
- Expected Medication Costs: _____
- Estimated Annual Total: _____
- Worst-Case Total Cost: _____
- Are my doctors in network? ☐ Yes ☐ No

Option 3

- Annual Premium Cost: _____
- Expected Medical Costs: _____
- Expected Medication Costs: _____
- Estimated Annual Total: _____
- Worst-Case Total Cost: _____
- Are my doctors in network? ☐ Yes ☐ No

Option 4

- Annual Premium Cost: _____
- Expected Medical Costs: _____
- Expected Medication Costs: _____
- Estimated Annual Total: _____
- Worst-Case Total Cost: _____
- Are my doctors in network? ☐ Yes ☐ No

Key Takeaways

When evaluating options, it’s important to look past just the monthly premiums. The points below will help you find the option with the lowest overall costs, the best financial protection, and the coverage features that suit your needs.

- Lowest Premium Option: _____
- Lowest Annual Out-Of-Pocket cost: _____
- Best Flexibility: _____



Using the Medicare Estimator Tool

An example of how to use the Medicare Estimator Tool is included below.

		OPTION 1: Original Medicare with Medigap Plan C; Humana Basic Rx plan	OPTION 2: Original Medicare with Medigap Plan N; Humana Basic Rx plan	OPTION 3: Freedom Blue PPO	OPTION 4: AARP Medicare Advantage
PART A	Premium*	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
	Deductible	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
	Inpatient Costs	\$0 for 365 days	\$0 for 365 days	\$245/day for days 1 – 5, \$0 afterward	\$350/day for days 1 – 6, \$0 afterward
	Skilled Nursing Facility Costs	\$0 days 1-100; all costs afterward	\$0 days 1-100; all costs afterward	\$0 up to 20 days; \$218/day days 20 – 100	\$0 up to 20 days; \$218/day days 20 – 100
PART B (and C)	Premium*	\$202.90/month	\$202.90/month	\$224.90/month	\$202.90/month
	Deductible	N/A	\$283	N/A	N/A
	Coinsurance	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
	Durable Medical Equipment (DME)	\$0	\$0 after deductible	20% coinsurance	20% coinsurance
Medigap	Premium	\$159/month	\$91/month	N/A	N/A
	Part B Copayment (If Applicable)	\$0 for preventative and diagnostic services	\$20 Office Visit \$50 ER Visit	\$0 PCP copay \$45 specialist copay \$20 diagnostic test copay \$175 radiology copay \$50 urgent care copay \$130 emergency care copay	\$0 PCP copay \$45 specialist copay \$50 diagnostic test copay \$0 lab work copay \$200 radiology copay \$50 urgent care copay \$130 emergency care copay

		OPTION 1	OPTION 2	OPTION 3	OPTION 4
PART D	Premium	\$6.60/month	\$6.60/month	\$44/month	N/A
	Deductible	\$615	\$615	N/A	\$440
	Tier 1 Costs	\$0 copay	\$0 copay	\$0 copay	\$0 copay
	Tier 2 Costs	\$1 copay	\$1 copay	\$13 copay	\$8 copay
	Tier 3 Costs	25% coinsurance	25% coinsurance	\$45 copay	19% coinsurance
	Tier 4 Costs	33% coinsurance	33% coinsurance	30% coinsurance	\$40% coinsurance
	Tier 5 Costs	25% copay	25% copay	33% coinsurance	28% coinsurance
	Tier 6 Costs	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Maximum Out of Pocket Costs		N/A	N/A	\$5,500 in-network \$8,950 out-of-network	\$6,700 in-network

Disclaimer: This worksheet is provided for informational and educational purposes only, and is only intended to offer general guidance on choosing a plan. There may be situations that fall outside of this worksheet, and it is made available with the understanding that COPD Foundation, Inc., is not providing any legal or professional services by its publication or distribution. It should not be used as a substitute for professional advice or services, and is provided for personal, non-commercial use only. To the fullest extent permitted by law, COPD Foundation, Inc., is not liable for any claims or damages arising from use of or reliance on this resource.

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