

Part D Medicare Drug Plan? Questions to Ask

1. Are you a veteran that utilizes the V.A. only?

- Yes – a veteran who plans to only use V.A. facilities does not need a Part D Plan.
- No (Continue to next question)

2. Do you have Tricare?

- Yes – Tricare covers your medications so you do not need a Medicare Prescription Drug Plan.
- No (Continue to next question)

3. Are you Alaska Native and utilize tribal health facilities only?

- Yes – an Alaska Native (IHS beneficiary) that doesn't go outside the tribal system in Alaska doesn't need a Part D Plan, but if they have both Medicare and Medicaid it shouldn't cost them anything . Dual beneficiaries (on Medicare and Medicaid) can use the Part D plans to save tribal health funds.
- No – If you travel Outside or use non IHS facilities or providers, consider getting a Part D Plan. (Continue to next question)

4. Do you have Prescription Drug Coverage through a union, spouse, retiree health plan?

- Yes – STOP HERE - a person who already has “creditable” drug coverage doesn't need a Part D plan
- No (Go to next question)

5. Do you have a Medicare Part D Prescription Drug Plan?

- Yes (Go to next question)
- No (If you are new to Medicare you have a 7 month window around your birthday month in which to enroll in a Part D plan).
*If you did not previously enroll in Part D you can enroll during November 15-December 31st and we can help you find an appropriate plan.

6. Did you receive any mailing from your plan notifying you of 2010 information?

- Yes (Go to next question)
- No (Call your present Part D plan to obtain 2010 plan information, cost, formulary)

7. Have you checked that the prescription drugs you take will be covered in 2010?

- Yes (Go to next question)
- No (Go to Question #8)

8. Are the plan's 2010 premium, co-pays and/or deductibles affordable to you?

- Yes (You are satisfied with your present plan, and no further action is needed)- however, you may still want to do a comparison to see if there's another plan that covers your medications And has lower costs such as monthly premium and co-payments.
- No (Go to next question)

9. Do you have limited income and resources?

- Yes (Go to next question)
- No (Go to Question #13)

10. Are you currently receiving Extra Help (a Social Security program that helps pay all or part of your premium, deductible and co-pay)?

- Yes (Carefully read the letters from Medicare and call Alaska's Medicare Information Office's Helpline if you have questions) 1-800-478-6065
- No (You may qualify for extra help and will need to complete a paper application or we can file it for you online). (Go to Next Question).

11. Would you like assistance in applying for Extra Help?

- Yes (Let's do it online for much faster turnaround time from Social Security)
- No (Go to www.ssa.gov and click on "SAVE on Prescription Drugs")

12. Would you like one-on-one, personalized counseling on 2010 Medicare Prescription Drug Plans?

- Yes (We can help you when you have your red, white and blue card and list of all prescription medications with dosage and quantity, other insurance cards and recent letters)
- No – Let us know if we can help you with Medicare in the future!

Important Numbers:

Social Security 800-772-1213
National Medicare Helpline 1-800- MEDICARE
Alaska's Medicare Information Office –1 800-478-6065

Definitions:

- Creditable coverage means "as good or better than Medicare"
- Dual Beneficiary means someone on both Medicare AND Medicaid

Medicare Information Office

