



10 things to know about your new Medicare card

Medicare is mailing new Medicare cards starting in April 2018. Here are 10 things to know about your new Medicare card:

- 1. Mailing takes time:** Your card may arrive at a different time than your friend's or neighbor's.
- 2. Destroy your old Medicare card:** Once you get your new Medicare card, destroy your old Medicare card and start using your new card right away.
- 3. Guard your card:** Only give your new Medicare Number to doctors, pharmacists, other health care providers, your insurers, or people you trust to work with Medicare on your behalf.
- 4. Your Medicare Number is unique:** Your card has a new number instead of your Social Security Number. This new number is unique to you.
- 5. Your new card is paper:** Paper cards are easier for many providers to use and copy, and they save taxpayers a lot of money. Plus, you can print your own replacement card if you need one!
- 6. Keep your new card with you:** Carry your new card and show it to your health care providers when you need care.
- 7. Your doctor knows it's coming:** Doctors, other health care facilities and providers will ask for your new Medicare card when you need care.
- 8. You can find your number:** If you forget your new card, you, your doctor or other health care provider may be able to look up your Medicare Number online.
- 9. Keep your Medicare Advantage Card:** If you're in a Medicare Advantage Plan (like an HMO or PPO), your Medicare Advantage Plan ID card is your main card for Medicare – you should still keep and use it whenever you need care. However, you also may be asked to show your new Medicare card, so you should carry this card too.
- 10. Help is available:** If you don't get your new Medicare card by **April 2019**, call 1-800-MEDICARE (1-800-633-4227). TTY users can call 1-877-486-2048.

You have the right to get Medicare information in an accessible format, like large print, Braille, or audio. You also have the right to file a complaint if you feel you've been discriminated against. Visit [CMS.gov/about-cms/agency-information/aboutwebsite/cmsnondiscriminationnotice.html](https://www.cms.gov/about-cms/agency-information/aboutwebsite/cmsnondiscriminationnotice.html), or call 1-800-MEDICARE (1-800-633-4227) for more information. TTY users can call 1-877-486-2048.





You're getting a new Medicare card!

Cards will be mailed between April 2018 – April 2019

You asked, and we listened. You're getting a new Medicare card! Between April 2018 and April 2019, we'll be removing Social Security numbers from Medicare cards and mailing each person a new card. This will help keep your information more secure and help protect your identity.

You'll get a new Medicare Number that's unique to you, and it will only be used for your Medicare coverage. The new card won't change your coverage or benefits. You'll get more information from Medicare when your new card is mailed.

Here's how you can get ready:

- Make sure your mailing address is up to date. If your address needs to be corrected, contact Social Security at ssa.gov/myaccount or 1-800-772-1213. TTY users can call 1-800-325-0778.
- Beware of anyone who contacts you about your new Medicare card. We'll never ask you to give us personal or private information to get your new Medicare Number and card.
- Understand that mailing everyone a new card will take some time. Your card might arrive at a different time than your friend's or neighbor's.