

2026

MEDICARE & SOCIAL SECURITY CHEAT SHEET



(800) 970-1964

themedicarefamily.com

Medicare Cost 2026		
	Part A	Part B
Monthly Premium	\$0	\$202.90
Deductible	\$1,736 per benefit period	\$283 per year
Cost Sharing	\$0 for the first 60 days of benefit period	Medicare pays 80%, you pay 20%
	\$434/day for days 61-90	
	\$868 per "lifetime reserve day" after 90 days (max of 60 days over your lifetime)	
	No limit on total out-of-pocket costs!	

Medicare IRMAA Chart 2026			
Individual Tax Return 2024	Joint Tax Return 2024	Part B Premium 2026	Part D IRMAA 2026
\$109,000 or less	\$218,000 or less	\$202.90	---
\$109,001 to \$137,000	\$218,001 to \$274,000	\$284.10 (202.90 + 81.20)	+ \$14.50
\$137,001 to \$171,000	\$274,001 to \$342,000	\$405.80 (202.90 + 202.90)	+ \$37.50
\$171,001 to \$205,000	\$342,001 to \$410,000	\$527.50 (202.90 + 324.60)	+ \$60.40
\$205,001 to \$499,999	\$410,001 to \$749,999	\$649.20 (202.90 + 446.30)	+ \$83.30
\$500,000 +	\$750,000 +	\$689.90 (202.90 + 487.00)	+ \$91.00

Medicare Enrollment Periods

Open Enrollment Period	All Year	Annual Election Period
<p>January 1 - March 31</p> <p>During OEP, you can make one change to your Medicare Advantage plan</p>	<p>You can enroll in a Medicare Supplement (Medigap) plan at any point in the year</p> <p>*Must pass medical underwriting</p>	<p>October 15 - December 7</p> <p>During AEP, you can enroll in Advantage & Part D Drug plans for 2027</p>

Initial Enrollment Period

Your Medicare will typically start on the 1st day of the month you turn 65 (unless you delay it due to having other coverage). This is your time to get a Supplement without health questions!

Special Election Periods

Certain events allow you to make changes to your coverage outside of the enrollment periods listed. Common SEPs include: Moving, losing coverage, and getting / losing Medicaid benefits.

Social Security Full Retirement Age by Birth Year

SURVIVOR BENEFITS		ALL OTHER BENEFITS	
1945 - 1956	66	1943 - 1954	66
1957	66 and 2 months	1955	66 and 2 months
1958	66 and 4 months	1956	66 and 4 months
1959	66 and 6 months	1957	66 and 6 months
1960	66 and 8 months	1958	66 and 8 months
1961	66 and 10 months	1959	66 and 10 months
1962 and Later	67	1960 and Later	67

Age-Based Reductions & Increases

Filing Age	Individual Benefit % of Benefit	Spousal Benefit % of Benefit**	Survivor Benefit % of Benefit
60	N/A	N/A	71.50%
61	N/A	N/A	75.58%
62	70%	65%	79.65%
63	75%	70%	83.72%
64	80%	75%	87.79%
65	86.66%	83.33%	91.86%
66	93.33%	91.66%	95.93%
67	100%	100%	100%
68	108%	100%	100%
69	116%	100%	100%
70	124%	100%	100%

Spousal Benefit Formula

(1/2 of higher earner FRA benefit) – (lower earner FRA benefit) = spousal payment (then adjusted for filing age)



Note: Assuming a Full Retirement Age of 67

Have questions about Medicare? We can help!
Our service is 100% free and we're licensed in all 50 states.
Schedule an appointment at themedicarefamily.com or call us at (800) 970-1964

Social Security Earnings Limit		
Age	Earnings Limit	Benefit Withheld
62 - January 1 of the year reaching Full Retirement Age	\$24,480	\$1 for every \$2 over limit
Year reaching Full Retirement Age	\$65,160	\$1 for every \$3 over limit
Full Retirement Age	No Limit	N/A

What Counts as "Earnings" for the Limit?

WHAT DOES COUNT	WHAT DOES NOT COUNT
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Wages Net Earnings from Self-Employment 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Pension Payments Annuity Payments IRA Distributions Dividends Interest Income Capital Gains

Monthly Reductions / Increases	
Individual Benefits	
(-) 5/9 of 1%	36 month period before full retirement age
(-) 5/12 of 1%	More than 36 months before full retirement age
(+) 2/3 of 1%	Full Retirement Age to Age 70
Spousal Benefits	
(-) 25/36 of 1%	36 month period before full retirement age
(-) 5/12 of 1%	More than 36 months before full retirement age
No increase beyond full retirement age	
Survivor Benefits	
28.5% is maximum reduction regardless of full retirement age. To determine the monthly amount of reduction based on various full retirement ages, divide the number of months between age 60 and full retirement age by 28.5.	

Tax on Social Security					
Step 1	Calculate Combined Income	Step 2	Apply Combined Income to Thresholds		
			Adjusted gross income	Single Return	Joint Return
	+ Tax Exempt Income				
	+ Exclude Foreign Income				
	+ 50% of SS Benefit				
	= Combined Income				
			\$0 - \$24,999	\$0	
			\$25,000 - \$34,000	Up to 50%	
			Over \$34,000	Up to 85%	

Maximum % of YOUR full retirement age benefit an eligible family member can receive if you:

	DIE	RETIRE (OR) BECOME DISABLED	AGE-BASED CONSIDERATIONS
SPOUSAL BENEFIT	100% (Adjusted for survivor's filing age)	50% (Adjusted for survivor's filing age)	If you retire or become disabled, your spouse can collect at age 62+ or any age if caring for your child who is under 16 or disabled before the age of 22. If you die, your spouse of any age who is caring for your child who is under 16 or child of any age if child was disabled before 22.
CHILD IN CARE BENEFIT	75%	50%	Payable to spouse of any age who is caring for your child who is under 16 or child of any age if child was disabled before 22.
BENEFIT TO CHILDREN	75%	50%	Payable to child who is under 18, or 19 if still in high school of any age if disabled before 22.

LENGTH OF MARRIAGE RULES	9 Months - Survivor Benefits	1 Year - Spousal Benefits	10 Years - Divorced Spouse
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Social Security Disability Thresholds	
SUBSTANTIAL GAINFUL ACTIVITY	
Non-Blind	\$1,690 per month
Blind	\$2,830 per month
Trial Work Period	\$1,210 per month

Average Social Security Benefit	
\$2,071	All Retirees
\$3,208	Couple, both receiving benefits
\$1,630	Disability

Starting Medicare Soon?

If you're starting Medicare in the next 6 months, we can help you!

You'll learn how Medicare works for your situation and find the right plan for you.

Go to themedicarefamily.com and click the yellow button to schedule your FREE call or call (800) 970-1964.



[Schedule Appointment](#)

Quarter of Coverage (1 Credit)
\$1,890

Maximum Taxable Wages
\$184,500

Social Security Administration
1-800-772-1213