

## **Important Notice** **IU-sponsored Prescription Drug Coverage and Medicare**

Employers, like Indiana University, who currently sponsor prescription drug coverage, are required to provide notice about the Medicare prescription drug coverage (sometimes called Part D) to individuals currently covered under their health plans.

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Please read this notice carefully and keep it where you can find it. This notice has information about your current prescription drug coverage with Indiana University and prescription drug coverage available for people with Medicare. It also explains the options you have under Medicare prescription drug coverage and can help you decide whether or not you want to enroll. At the end of this notice is information about where you can get help to make decisions about your prescription drug coverage.

1. Medicare prescription drug coverage is available to everyone with Medicare through Medicare prescription drug plans and Medicare Advantage Plans that offer prescription drug coverage. All Medicare prescription drug plans provide at least a standard level of coverage set by Medicare. Some plans may also offer more coverage for a higher monthly premium.
  2. Indiana University has determined that the prescription drug coverage offered by the PPO \$900 Deductible, PPO \$500 Deductible, IU Health HDHP, and IU HDHP PPO plans are, on average for all plan participants, expected to pay out as much as the standard Medicare prescription drug coverage will pay and is considered Creditable Coverage.
  3. COBRA participants that are under age 65 should be aware that COBRA coverage will end at the age of 65. At age 65, there is an initial Medicare enrollment period, beginning three months prior to age 65 and ending three months after age 65. If you do not enroll in Medicare during this period, you may pay a higher premium as long as you have Medicare prescription drug coverage.
  4. COBRA participants that are already age 65 should be aware that there is no special Medicare enrollment period at the end of COBRA coverage. If you do not enroll in Medicare prescription drug coverage between October 15 and December 7, 2016 you will have to wait until the next annual enrollment to join – between October 15 – December 7, 2017, and your coverage will not begin until January 1, 2018. If this delay results in more than a 63 day lapse of coverage, you will have to pay a higher premium as long as you have Medicare prescription drug coverage.
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You should compare your current coverage, including which drugs are covered, with the coverage and cost of the plans offering Medicare prescription drug coverage in your area.

**If you decide to enroll in a Medicare prescription drug plan and drop your Indiana University coverage, be aware that you and your dependents may not be able to get this coverage back.**

**Please contact us for more information about what happens to your coverage if you enroll in a Medicare prescription drug plan.**

**At age 65 you are eligible to enroll in the medical plan that IU sponsors for Medicare-eligible Retirees; however this plan does not include prescription drug coverage. If you enroll in this plan at age 65, you will also need to make a decision about your prescription drug coverage.**

You should also know that if you drop or lose your Indiana University sponsored medical plan coverage with Indiana University and go 63 days or longer without prescription drug coverage that is at least as good as Medicare's prescription drug coverage, your monthly premium will go up at least 1% per month for every month that you did not have that coverage. For example, if you go nineteen months without coverage, your premium will always be at least 19% higher than what many other people pay. You'll have to pay this higher premium as long as you have Medicare prescription drug coverage. In addition, you may have to wait until the following October to enroll.

**For more information about this notice or your current prescription drug coverage...**

Contact our office for further information (812) 856-4459. NOTE: You will receive this notice annually and at other times in the future such as before the next period you can enroll in Medicare prescription drug coverage, and if this coverage through Anthem changes. You also may request a copy.

**For more information about your options under Medicare prescription drug coverage...**

More detailed information about Medicare plans that offer prescription drug coverage is in the "Medicare & You" handbook. Medicare typically mails a copy of the handbook every year. You may also be contacted directly by Medicare prescription drug plans. For more information about Medicare prescription drug plans:

- Visit [www.medicare.gov](http://www.medicare.gov)
- Call your State Health Insurance Assistance Program (see your copy of the Medicare & You handbook for their telephone number) for personalized help,
- Call 1-800-MEDICARE (1-800-633-4227). TTY users should call 1-877-486-2048.

For people with limited income and resources, extra help paying for Medicare prescription drug coverage is available. Information about this extra help is available from the Social Security Administration (SSA) online at [www.socialsecurity.gov](http://www.socialsecurity.gov), or you call them at 1-800-772-1213 (TTY 1-800-325-0778).

**Remember: Keep this notice. If you enroll in one of the new plans approved by Medicare which offer prescription drug coverage, you may be required to provide a copy of this notice when you join to show that you are not required to pay a higher premium amount.**

Date: October 1, 2016

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