

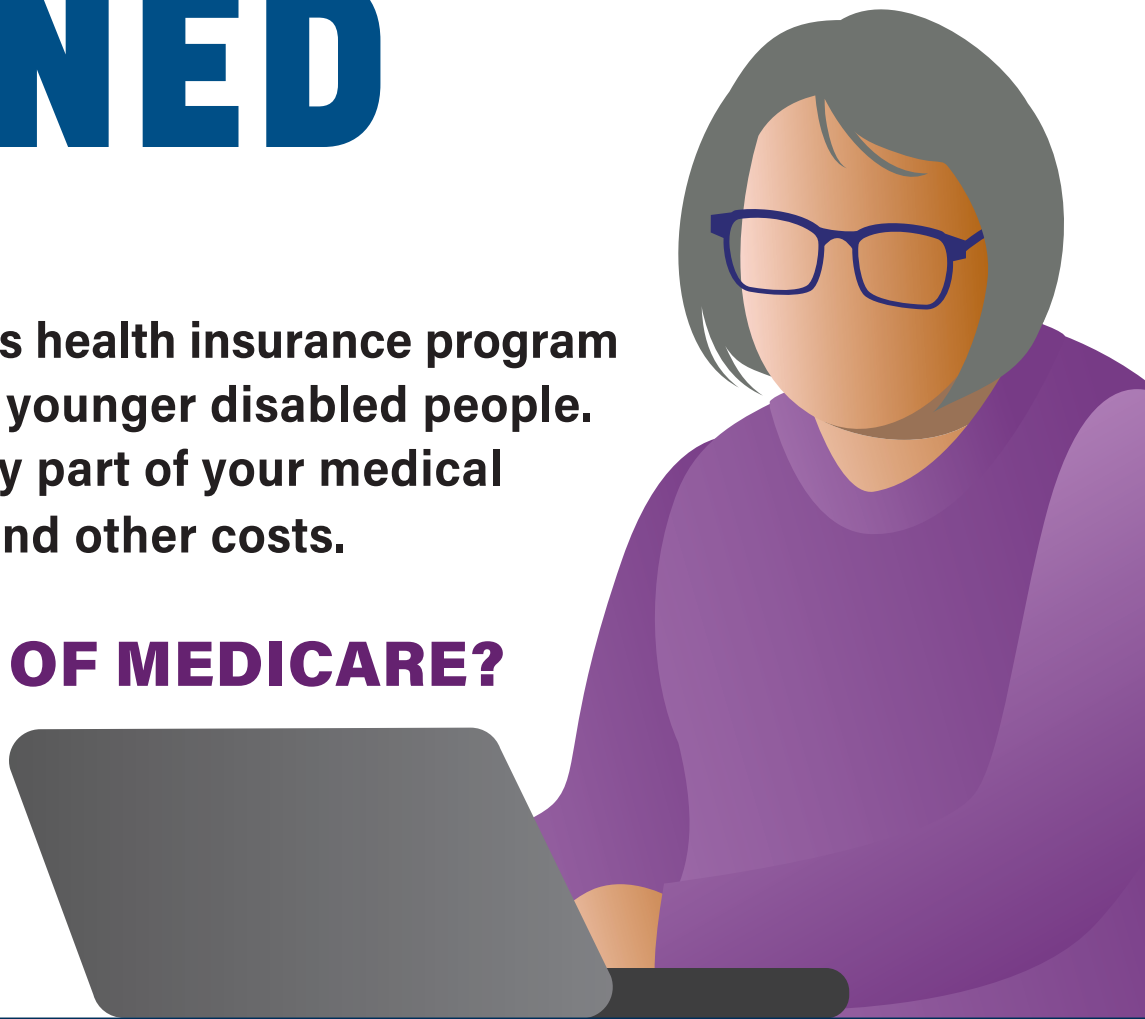
# MEDICARE PARTS EXPLAINED

## WHAT IS MEDICARE?

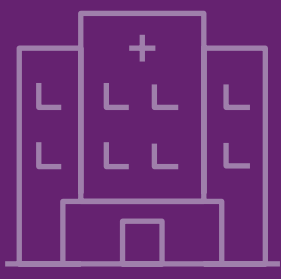
Medicare is the U.S. government's health insurance program for people 65 and up, as well as younger disabled people. When you use Medicare, you pay part of your medical expenses through deductibles and other costs.

## WHAT ARE THE PARTS OF MEDICARE?

Medicare has four parts: A, B, C, and D. "Original Medicare" is Parts A and B, managed directly by the federal government.



### PART A HOSPITAL COVERAGE



- Covers stays at hospitals, skilled nursing homes and hospice
- You pay deductibles and coinsurance
- No premium if you or your spouse paid Medicare payroll taxes long enough while working
- Use any provider that meets Medicare rules
- Mandatory if you're on Social Security

### PART B MEDICAL COVERAGE



- Covers doctor visits, preventive services, and home health care
- Includes medical supplies like canes and hospital beds
- You pay premiums and deductibles
- Use any provider that meets Medicare rules
- Optional

### PART C MEDICARE ADVANTAGE



- Sold by private insurers
- Covers the same things as Parts A and B
- You must use providers in the plan's network
- Most plans cover drugs; many cover services like dental and vision
- You may pay premiums, copays, and deductibles

### PART D DRUG COVERAGE



- Sold by private insurers
- Covers outpatient medications
- You pay premiums, deductibles, and copays/coinsurance
- Each plan has a formulary, a list of drugs it covers
- You may not need it if you have Medicare Advantage

### MEDIGAP A+B+ SUPPLEMENTAL INSURANCE



- Sold by private insurers
- For people with Original Medicare
- Pays some expenses Original Medicare doesn't cover
- May cover deductibles, coinsurance, and copays
- You pay Medigap premiums as well as Part B premiums

Reviewed by Melinda Ratini DO, MS on September 2, 2022

SOURCES: U.S. Department of Health and Human Services: "What Is the Difference Between Medicare and Medicaid?" "What Is Medicare Part B?" Medicare.gov: "Medicare costs at a glance," "Joining a health or drug plan," "What's Medicare supplement insurance (Medigap)?" Social Security Administration: "Medicare Benefits."