

Almost 65?

When you reach age 65, you will become eligible for Medicare. Unless you are actively employed and covered under a group health plan, Medicare will become your coverage for hospital and medical expenses. Many people purchase additional insurance that supplements Original Medicare. You can choose a Medicare Supplemental plan (often referred to as Medigap) to use with Original Medicare that pays for deductibles and coinsurance that Medicare alone does not cover. Another choice is to join a Medicare Advantage Plan (sometimes referred to as Part C). With a Medicare Advantage Plan, you still have Medicare, but you will get your Part A (Hospital Insurance) and Part B (Medical Insurance) coverage through a private company approved by Medicare.

Part D is the federally subsidized prescription drug program. You are not automatically enrolled in Part D when you turn age 65; you must specifically opt into the program and apply for benefits. Part D does require a premium and can be purchased as a stand-alone prescription plan to be used with supplemental insurance or you can choose a Medicare Advantage Plan that includes this coverage.

Sound confusing? Here at Smathers Insurance Agency, we can help you choose the plan or plans that are best suited to your individual needs.

With our training and expertise, we are able to explain and help you to understand how these Medicare plans work. If you are interested in a free report via the Internet, you can go to www.SmathersAgency.net. If you want to schedule an appointment or receive information in print, please call Jim Smathers or Tracey Moon at (814) 226-5000.