

Important Notice from The University of Toledo About Your Prescription Drug Coverage and Medicare

This notice provides important information for people who are currently eligible or will become eligible to receive Medicare benefits. Some of the provisions of this notice may not apply to you if your plan does not provide for retiree benefits.

Please read this notice carefully and keep it where you can find it. This notice has information about your current prescription drug coverage with The University of Toledo and new prescription drug coverage available for people with Medicare. It also tells you where to find more information to help you make decisions about your prescription drug coverage.

1. **Medicare prescription drug coverage became available in 2006 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. **The University of Toledo has determined that the prescription drug coverage offered by the University of Toledo Health Benefit Plan is, on average for all plan participants, expected to pay out as much as the standard Medicare prescription drug coverage will pay.**
3. **Read this notice carefully – it explains the options you have under Medicare prescription drug coverage, and can help you decide whether or not you want to enroll.**

You may have heard about Medicare's prescription drug coverage, also known as Medicare Part D and wondered how it would affect you. The University of Toledo has determined that your prescription drug coverage with the University is, on average for all plan participants, expected to pay out as much as the standard Medicare prescription drug coverage pays.

Because your existing coverage is on average at least as good as standard Medicare prescription drug coverage, you can keep this coverage and not pay extra if you later decide to enroll in Medicare coverage.

People can enroll in a Medicare prescription drug plan when they first become eligible for Medicare and each year from November 15 - December 31. Beneficiaries leaving The University of Toledo's prescription drug plan may be eligible for a special enrollment period to sign up for a Medicare prescription drug plan.

You should compare your current coverage, including which drugs are covered, with the coverage and costs of the plans offering Medicare prescription drug coverage in your area.

If you decide to enroll in a Medicare prescription drug plan and drop The University of Toledo's prescription drug coverage, be aware that you and your beneficiaries may not be able to get The University of Toledo coverage back. Before you decide, 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.

It is important to note that The University of Toledo's prescription drug plan is considered to be a part of the medical benefits program and covered participants who chose to disenroll would no longer be covered for either prescription drug or medical benefits from The University of Toledo.

You should also know that if you drop or lose your coverage with The University of Toledo and don't enroll in Medicare prescription drug coverage after your current coverage ends, you may pay more to enroll in Medicare prescription drug coverage later. If you go 63 (sixty-three) days or longer without prescription drug coverage that's at least as good as Medicare's prescription drug coverage, your monthly premium for Medicare coverage will go up at least 1% per month for every month that you did not have that Medicare coverage. For example, if you go nineteen months without coverage, your premium will always be at least 19% higher than what most other people pay. You'll have to pay this higher premium as long as you have Medicare coverage. In addition, you may have to wait until the following November to enroll.

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

More detailed information about Medicare plans that offer prescription drug coverage is available in the "Medicare & You" handbook. You'll get a copy of the handbook in the mail from Medicare. You may also be contacted directly by Medicare prescription drug plans. You can also get more information about Medicare prescription drug plans from these places:

- Visit www.medicare.gov for personalized help,
- Call your State Health Insurance Assistance Program (see your copy of the Medicare & You handbook for their telephone number)
- 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 a Medicare prescription drug plan is available. Information about this extra help is available from the Social Security Administration (SSA). For more information about this extra help, visit SSA online at www.socialsecurity.gov, or 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 need to give a copy of this notice when you join to show that you are not required to pay a higher premium amount.

Date: October 15, 2010
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