



Medical Associates SmartPlan (Cost) offered by Medical Associates Health Plan, Inc. (MAHP)

Annual Notice of Changes for 2025

You are currently enrolled as a member of Medical Associates SmartPlan. Next year, there will be changes to the plan's costs and benefits. *Please see page 4 for a Summary of Important Costs, including Premium.*

This document tells about the changes to your plan. To get more information about costs, benefits, or rules please review the Evidence of Coverage, which is located on our website at www.mahealthplans.com. You may also call Member Services to ask us to mail you an *Evidence of Coverage*.

- **If you wish to enroll in a Medicare Advantage health plan or Medicare prescription drug plan, you have from October 15 until December 7 to make changes to your Medicare coverage for next year. If you decide other cost plan coverage better meets your needs, you can switch cost plans anytime the cost plan is accepting members. You may also change to Original Medicare. For more information see Section 2.2 of this document.**

What to do now

1. ASK: Which changes apply to you

Check the changes to our benefits and costs to see if they affect you.

- Review the changes to medical care costs (doctor, hospital).
- Think about how much you will spend on premiums, deductibles, and cost sharing.

- Check to see if your primary care doctors, specialists, hospitals, and other providers will be in our network next year.
- Think about whether you are happy with our plan.

2. **COMPARE:** Learn about other plan choices

- Check coverage and costs of plans in your area. Use the Medicare Plan Finder at the www.medicare.gov/plan-compare website or review the list in the back of your *Medicare & You 2025* handbook. For additional support, contact your State Health Insurance Assistance Program (SHIP) to speak with a trained counselor.
- Once you narrow your choice to a preferred plan, confirm your costs and coverage on the plan's website.

3. **CHOOSE:** Decide whether you want to change your plan

- If you don't join another plan by December 7, 2024, you will stay in Medical Associates SmartPlan.
- To change to a Medicare Advantage health plan, you can switch plans between October 15 and December 7. Your new coverage will start on **January 1, 2025**. This will end your enrollment with Medical Associates SmartPlan.
- If you recently moved into or currently live in an institution (like a skilled nursing facility or long-term care hospital), you can switch plans or switch to Original Medicare (either with or without a separate Medicare prescription drug plan) at any time. If you recently moved out of an institution, you have an opportunity to switch plans or switch to Original Medicare for two full months after the month you move out.

Additional Resources

- Please contact our Member Services number at 1-866-821-1365 for additional information. (TTY users should call 1-800-735-2942.) Hours are 8:00 am to 8:00 pm CST, 7 days a week. This call is free.
- This document is available in other formats such as large print or alternate formats.

About Medical Associates SmartPlan

- MAHP is a Cost Plan with a Medicare contract. Enrollment in MAHP depends on contract renewal.
- When this document says “we,” “us,” or “our,” it means Medical Associates Health Plan, Inc. (MAHP). When it says “plan” or “our plan,” it means Medical Associates SmartPlan.

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Summary of Important Costs for 2025

The table below compares the 2024 costs and 2025 costs for Medical Associates SmartPlan in several important areas. **Please note this is only a summary of costs.**

Cost	2024 (this year)	2025 (next year)
Monthly plan premium* See Section 1.1 for details.	\$128.00	\$131.00
Doctor office visits	<u>Primary care visits:</u> \$0 copay per visit with a network provider Original Medicare cost sharing with an out of network provider <u>Specialist visits:</u> \$0 copay per visit with a network provider Original Medicare cost sharing with an out of network provider.	<u>Primary care visits:</u> \$0 copay per visit with a network provider Original Medicare cost sharing with an out of network provider <u>Specialist visits:</u> \$0 copay per visit with a network provider Original Medicare cost sharing with an out of network provider
Inpatient hospital stays	\$0 copay per benefit period with a network hospital/provider Original Medicare cost sharing with an out of network hospital/provider	\$0 copay per benefit period with a network hospital/provider Original Medicare cost sharing with an out of network hospital/provider

SECTION 1 Changes to Benefits and Costs for Next Year

Section 1.1 – Changes to the Monthly Premium

Cost	2024 (this year)	2025 (next year)
Monthly premium (You must also continue to pay your Medicare Part B premium.)	\$128.00	\$131.00

Section 1.2 – Changes to the Provider Network

An updated directory is located on our website at www.mahealthplans.com. You may also call Member Services for updated provider information or to ask us to mail you a directory, which we will mail within three business days.

It is important that you know that we may make changes to the hospitals, doctors and specialists (providers), and pharmacies that are part of your plan during the year. If a mid-year change in our providers affects you, please contact Member Services so we may assist.

Section 1.3 – There are no changes to your Benefits or amounts you pay for Medical Services

Our benefits and what you pay for these covered medical services will be exactly the same in 2025 as they are in 2024.

SECTION 2 Deciding Which Plan to Choose

Section 2.1 – If you want to stay in Medical Associates SmartPlan

To stay in our plan, you don’t need to do anything. If you do not sign up for a different Medicare health plan or change to Original Medicare by December 7, you will automatically be enrolled in our Medical Associates SmartPlan.

Section 2.2 – If you want to change plans

We hope to keep you as a member next year but if you want to change plans for 2025 follow these steps:

Step 1: Learn about and compare your choices

- You can join a different Medicare health plan,
- – *OR* – You can change to Original Medicare. If you change to Original Medicare, you will need to decide whether to join a Medicare drug plan, if you don't already have one.

To learn more about Original Medicare and the different types of Medicare plans, use the Medicare Plan Finder (www.medicare.gov/plan-compare), read the *Medicare & You 2025* handbook, call your State Health Insurance Assistance Program (see Section 4), or call Medicare (see Section 6.2).

As a reminder, Medical Associates Health Plan, Inc. offers other Medicare health plans. These other plans may differ in coverage, monthly premiums, and cost-sharing amounts.

Step 2: Change your coverage

- To **change to a different Medicare health plan**, enroll in the new plan. You will automatically be disenrolled from Medical Associates SmartPlan.
- To **add a Medicare prescription drug plan or change to a different drug plan**, enroll in the new drug plan. You will continue to receive your medical benefits from Medical Associates SmartPlan.
- To **change to Original Medicare with a prescription drug plan**, you must enroll in the new drug plan and ask to be disenrolled from Medical Associates SmartPlan. Enrolling in the new drug plan will not automatically disenroll you from Medical Associates SmartPlan. To disenroll from Medical Associates SmartPlan you must *either*:
 - Send us a written request to disenroll. Contact Member Services if you need more information on how to do so.
 - – *OR* – Contact **Medicare**, at 1-800-MEDICARE (1-800-633-4227), 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, and ask to be disenrolled. TTY users should call 1-877-486-2048.
- To **change to Original Medicare without a prescription drug plan**, you must either:
 - Send us a written request to disenroll. Contact Member Services if you need more information on how to do so.
 - – *OR* – Contact **Medicare** at 1-800-MEDICARE (1-800-633-4227), 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, and ask to be disenrolled. TTY users should call 1-877-486-2048.

SECTION 3 Deadline for Changing Plans

If you want to change to a different type of plan, like a Medicare Advantage plan, or make a change to your prescription drug coverage for next year, you can do it from **October 15 until December 7**. The change will take effect on January 1, 2025.

If you want to change to a different Cost plan, you can do so anytime the plan is accepting members. The new plan will let you know when the change will take effect.

If you want to disenroll from our plan and have Original Medicare for next year, you can make the change up to December 31. The change will take effect on January 1, 2025.

Are there other times of the year to make a change?

In certain situations, changes are also allowed at other times of the year. Examples include people with Medicaid, those who get “Extra Help” paying for their drugs, and those who move out of the service area.

If you recently moved into or currently live in an institution (like a skilled nursing facility or long-term care hospital), you can change your Medicare coverage **at any time**. You can change to any other Medicare health plan (either with or without Medicare prescription drug coverage) or switch to Original Medicare (either with or without a separate Medicare prescription drug plan) at any time. If you recently moved out of an institution, you have an opportunity to switch plans or switch to Original Medicare for two full months after the month you move out.

SECTION 4 Programs That Offer Free Counseling about Medicare

The State Health Insurance Assistance Program (SHIP) is an independent government program with trained counselors in every state. In Illinois, the SHIP is called Senior Health Insurance Program (SHIP).

It is a state program that gets money from the Federal government to give free local health insurance counseling to people with Medicare. Senior Health Insurance program (SHIP) counselors can help you with your Medicare questions or problems. They can help you understand your Medicare plan choices and answer questions about switching plans. You can call Senior Health Insurance Program (SHIP) at 1-800-252-8966. You can learn more about Senior Health Insurance Program (SHIP) by visiting their website www.state.il.us/aging/ship.

SECTION 5 Programs That Help Pay for Prescription Drugs

You may qualify for help paying for prescription drugs. Below we list different kinds of help:

- **“Extra Help” from Medicare.** People with limited incomes may qualify for “Extra Help” to pay for their prescription drug costs. If you qualify, Medicare could pay up to 75% or more of your drug costs including monthly prescription drug premiums, yearly deductibles, and coinsurance. Additionally, those who qualify will not have a late enrollment penalty. To see if you qualify, call:
 - 1-800-MEDICARE (1-800-633-4227). TTY users should call 1-877-486-2048, 24 hours a day, 7 days a week;

- The Social Security Office at 1-800-772-1213 between 8 am and 7 pm, Monday through Friday for a representative. Automated messages are available 24 hours a day. TTY users should call, 1-800-325-0778; or
- Your State Medicaid Office.
- **The Medicare Prescription Payment Plan.** The Medicare Prescription Payment Plan is a new payment option to help you manage your out-of-pocket drug costs, starting in 2025. This new payment option works with your current drug coverage, and it can help you manage your drug costs by spreading them across **monthly payments that vary throughout the year** (January – December). **This payment option might help you manage your expenses, but it doesn't save you money or lower your drug costs.**

SECTION 6 Questions?

Section 6.1 – Getting Help from Medical Associates SmartPlan

Questions? We're here to help. Please call Member Services at 1-866-821-1365. (TTY only, call 1-800-735-2942.) We are available for phone calls 8:00 am to 8:00 pm CST, 7 days a week. Calls to these numbers are free.

Read your 2025 Evidence of Coverage (it has details about next year's benefits and costs)

This *Annual Notice of Changes* gives you a summary of changes in your benefits and costs for 2025. For details, look in the *2025 Evidence of Coverage* for Medical Associates SmartPlan. The *Evidence of Coverage* is the legal, detailed description of your plan benefits. It explains your rights and the rules you need to follow to get covered services and prescription drugs. A copy of the *Evidence of Coverage* is located on our website at www.mahealthplans.com. You may also call Member Services to ask us to mail you an *Evidence of Coverage*.

Visit our Website

You can also visit our website at www.mahealthplans.com. As a reminder, our website has the most up-to-date information about our provider network (*Provider Directory*).

Section 6.2 – Getting Help from Medicare

To get information directly from Medicare:

Call 1-800-MEDICARE (1-800-633-4227)

You can call 1-800-MEDICARE (1-800-633-4227), 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. TTY users should call 1-877-486-2048.

Visit the Medicare Website

Visit the Medicare website (www.medicare.gov). It has information about cost, coverage, and quality Star Ratings to help you compare Medicare health plans in your area. To view the information about plans, go to www.medicare.gov/plan-compare.

Read *Medicare & You 2025*

Read the *Medicare & You 2025* handbook. Every fall, this document is mailed to people with Medicare. It has a summary of Medicare benefits, rights and protections, and answers to the most frequently asked questions about Medicare. If you don't have a copy of this document, you can get it at the Medicare website (<https://www.medicare.gov/Pubs/pdf/10050-medicare-and-you.pdf>) or by calling 1-800-MEDICARE (1-800-633-4227), 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. TTY users should call 1-877-486-2048.