

# IMPORTANT 2021 MEDICARE DATES

**January 1-March 31, 2021**

**Annual Medicare Advantage Open**

**Enrollment Period:** Members of Medicare Advantage plans have an opportunity to return to Original Medicare and a Stand-alone Medicare Part D plan. They can also switch Advantage plans, if they are already enrolled in one.

JAN 1-  
MAR 31



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**January 1 – March 31, 2021**

**General Enrollment Period:** This is when people can enroll in Medicare Parts A & B if they didn't use their 7 month initial enrollment period surround their 65<sup>th</sup> birthday. As of now, this enrollment will be effective 7/1/2021. However, the recently passed BENES Act will change how this enrollment is processed in the future.

**September, 2021**

**Annual Notice of Change:**

Private Medicare Part C & D plans are required to send notice each fall of any changes in cost, coverage or service area. The changes would go into effect in January of the next year.

SEPT 1



**October 1, 2021**

Medicare Part D Prescription Drug plan Marketing Activities can begin for the next year's plan. At this time you will be able to once again gather information and evaluate the various Part D plan alternatives.

OCT 1



**Oct 15, 2021- December 7, 2021**

**Annual Open Enrollment Period:**

This is the period that you can enroll in 2022 coverage; this is your chance to join a Medicare Advantage plan or Medicare Part D plan for the new plan year (however your plan will not take effect until January 1st of the new year). If you already have an Advantage or Medicare Part D plan, this is your time to look back over year and make another decision for your coverage for next year. You can also switch back to Original Medicare from an Advantage plan. If you make no decision, you will remain in the same plan as you elected this year. There is no enrollment required to renew your present coverage. (If you do not enroll during this period, your next chance for coverage is January of the year after next.)

OCT 15-  
DEC 7



DEC 8,  
2021 –  
NOV 30,  
2022



**December 8, 2021-November 30, 2022**

**Five Star Special Enrollment Period:**

For people who live in an area with a five-star Medicare Advantage or Part D plan, they can switch to that five-star plan if they choose to.

JAN 1,  
2022



**January 1, 2022**

This is the date your Annual Enrollment Period selected plans will be effective; your new Medicare Part D plan becomes effective and you will be able to begin using your Part D benefits (your old plan will automatically be discontinued).