



PO Box 327
Seattle, WA 98111

11/11/1911

Addressee Name
Addressee Addr1
Addressee Addr2
Addressee Addr3
City, ST XXXXX-XXXX

About the following notice: You are receiving this notice because our records indicate that you are/or will be eligible for Medicare in the next 12 months.

**Important Non-Creditable Coverage Notice From Premera Blue Cross
About Your Prescription Drug Coverage and Medicare**

Please read this notice carefully and keep it where you can find it. This notice has information about your current prescription drug coverage with Premera Blue Cross and about your options under Medicare's prescription drug coverage. This information can help you decide whether or not you want to join a Medicare drug plan. Information about where you can get help to make decisions about your prescription drug coverage is at the end of this notice.

There are three important things you need to know about your current coverage and Medicare's prescription drug coverage:

- 1. Medicare prescription drug coverage became available in 2006 to everyone with Medicare. You can get this coverage if you join a Medicare Prescription Drug Plan or join a Medicare Advantage Plan that offers prescription drug coverage. All Medicare 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. Premera Blue Cross has determined that the prescription drug coverage offered by your health plan is, on average for all plan participants, NOT expected to pay out as much as standard Medicare prescription drug coverage pays. Therefore, your coverage is considered Non-Creditable Coverage. This is important because, most likely, you will get more help with your drug costs if you join a Medicare drug plan, than if you only have prescription drug coverage from Premera Blue Cross. This also is important because it may mean that you may pay a higher premium (a penalty) if you do not join a Medicare drug plan when you first become eligible.**

3. **You can keep your current coverage from Premera Blue Cross. However, because your coverage is non-creditable, you have decisions to make about Medicare prescription drug coverage that may affect how much you pay for that coverage, depending on if and when you join a drug plan. When you make your decision, you should compare your current coverage, including what drugs are covered, with the coverage and cost of the plans offering Medicare prescription drug coverage in your area. Read this notice carefully - it explains your options.**
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When Can You Join A Medicare Drug Plan?

You can join a Medicare drug plan when you first become eligible for Medicare and each year from October 15th through December 7th.

However, if you decide to drop your current coverage with Premera Blue Cross, and it is an employer/union sponsored group coverage, you will be eligible for a two (2) month Special Enrollment Period (SEP) to join a Medicare drug plan; however you also may pay a higher premium (a penalty) because you did not have creditable coverage under Premera Blue Cross.

If you are losing creditable prescription drug coverage under Premera Blue Cross you are also eligible for a two (2) month Special Enrollment Period (SEP) to join a Medicare drug plan.

When Will You Pay A Higher Premium (Penalty) To Join A Medicare Drug Plan?

Since the coverage under Premera Blue Cross is not creditable, depending on how long you go without creditable prescription drug coverage, you may pay a penalty to join a Medicare drug plan. Starting with the end of the last month that you were first eligible to join a Medicare drug plan but didn't join, if you go 63 continuous days or longer without prescription drug coverage that's creditable, your monthly premium may go up by at least 1% of the Medicare base beneficiary premium per month for every month that you did not have that coverage. For example, if you go nineteen months without creditable coverage, your premium may consistently be at least 19% higher than the Medicare base beneficiary premium. You may have to pay this higher premium (penalty) as long as you have Medicare prescription drug coverage. In addition, you may have to wait until the following October to join.

What Happens To Your Current Coverage If You Decide to Join A Medicare Drug Plan?

If you decide to join a Medicare drug plan, your current Premiera Blue Cross coverage will not be affected. You can keep your current coverage, but we will coordinate benefits with your Medicare Part D coverage so as not to duplicate payments. If your current coverage pays for other health expenses in addition to prescription drugs, you and your covered dependents will also still be eligible to keep your current health coverage.

If you do decide to join a Medicare drug plan and drop your current Premiera Blue Cross coverage, be aware that you and your dependents may not be able to get this coverage back.

For More Information About This Notice Or Your Current Prescription Drug Coverage...

For further information, call the Customer Service number on the back of your ID card.

NOTE: You'll get this notice each year. You will also get it before the next period you can join a Medicare drug plan, and if this coverage through Premiera Blue Cross changes. You also may request a copy of this notice at any time.

For More Information About Your Options Under Medicare Prescription Drug Coverage...

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

- Visit **www.medicare.gov**
- Call your State Health Insurance Assistance Program (see the inside back cover of your copy of the "Medicare & You" handbook for their telephone number) for personalized help
- Call 1-800-MEDICARE (1-800-633-4227). TTY users should call 1-877-486-2048.

If you have limited income and resources, extra help paying for Medicare prescription drug coverage is available. For information about this extra help, visit Social Security on the web at **www.socialsecurity.gov**, or call them at 1-800-772-1213 (TTY 1-800-325-0778).

Notice of availability and nondiscrimination 800-722-1471 | TTY: 711

Call for free language assistance services and appropriate auxiliary aids and services.

Llame para obtener servicios gratuitos de asistencia lingüística, y ayudas y servicios auxiliares apropiados.

呼吁提供免费的语言援助服务和适当的辅助设备及服务。

呼籲提供免費的語言援助服務和適當的輔助設備及服務。

Gọi cho các dịch vụ hỗ trợ ngôn ngữ miễn phí và các hỗ trợ và dịch vụ phụ trợ thích hợp.

무료 언어 지원 서비스와 적절한 보조 도구 및 서비스를 신청하십시오.

Звоните для получения бесплатных услуг по переводу и других вспомогательных средств и услуг.

Tumawag para sa mga libreng serbisyo ng tulong sa wika at angkop na mga karagdagang tulong at serbisyo.

Звертайтеся за безкоштовною мовною підтримкою та відповідними додатковими послугами.

សូមហៅទូរសព្ទទៅសេវាជំនួយភាសាដោយឥតគិតថ្លៃ ព្រមទាំងសេវាផ្សេងៗ ដើម្បីជួយចំណាត់ថ្នាក់ដល់សមាស្ស័យផ្សេងៗ។

無料言語支援サービスと適切な補助器具及びサービスをお求めください。

ለነፃ የቋንቋ እርዳታ አገልግሎቶች እና ተገቢ ድጋፍ ሰጪ አጋዥ ሙሴያዎችን እና አገልግሎቶችን ለማግኘት በስልክ ቁጥር

Tajaajiloota deeggarsa afaan bilisaa fi gargaarsaa fi tajaajiloota barbaachisaa ta'an argachuuf bilbilaa.

ਮੁਫਤ ਭਾਸ਼ਾ ਸਹਾਇਤਾ ਸੇਵਾਵਾਂ ਅਤੇ ਉਚਿਤ ਸਹਾਇਕ ਚੀਜ਼ਾਂ ਅਤੇ ਸੇਵਾਵਾਂ ਵਾਸਤੇ ਕਾਲ ਕਰੋ।

Fordern Sie kostenlose Sprachunterstützungsdienste und geeignete Hilfsmittel und Dienstleistungen an.

ໂທເພື່ອຮັບການບໍລິການຊ່ວຍເຫຼືອດ້ານພາສາ ແລະ ການບໍລິການ ແລະ ການຊ່ວຍເຫຼືອພິເສດທີ່ເໝາະສົມແບບບໍ່ເສຍຄ່າ.

Rele pou w jwenn sèvis asistans lengwistik gratis ak èd epi sèvis oksilyè ki apwopriye.

Appelez pour obtenir des services gratuits d'assistance linguistique et des aides et services auxiliaires appropriés.

Zadzwonń, aby uzyskać bezpłatną pomoc językową oraz odpowiednie wsparcie i usługi pomocnicze.

Ligue para serviços gratuitos de assistência linguística e auxiliares e serviços auxiliares adequados.

Chiama per i servizi di assistenza linguistica gratuiti e per gli ausili e i servizi ausiliari appropriati.

اتصل للحصول على خدمات المساعدة اللغوية المجانية والمساعدات والخدمات المناسبة.

برای خدمات کمک زبانی رایگان و کمک‌ها و خدمات امدادی مقتضی، تماس بگیرید.

Discrimination is against the law. Premera Blue Cross (Premera) complies with applicable Federal and Washington state civil rights laws and does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, age, disability, or sex, including sex characteristics, intersex traits, pregnancy or related conditions, sexual orientation, gender identity, and sex stereotypes. Premera does not exclude people or treat them less favorably because of race, color, national origin, age, disability, sex, sexual orientation, or gender identity. Premera provides people with disabilities reasonable modifications and free appropriate auxiliary aids and services to communicate effectively with us, such as qualified sign language interpreters and written information in other formats (large print, audio, accessible electronic formats, other formats). Premera provides free language assistance services to people whose primary language is not English, which may include qualified interpreters and information written in other languages. If you need reasonable modifications, appropriate auxiliary aids and services, or language assistance services, contact our Civil Rights Coordinator. If you believe that Premera has failed to provide these services or discriminated in another way on the basis of race, color, national origin, age, disability, sex, sexual orientation, or gender identity, you can file a grievance with: Civil Rights Coordinator — Complaints and Appeals, PO Box 91102, Seattle, WA 98111, Toll free: 855-332-4535, TTY: 711, Fax: 425-918-5592, Email AppealsDepartmentInquiries@Premera.com. You can file a grievance in person or by mail, fax, or email. If you need help filing a grievance, our Civil Rights Coordinator is available to help you. You can also file a civil rights complaint with the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Office for Civil Rights, electronically through the Office for Civil Rights Complaint Portal, available at <https://ocrportal.hhs.gov/ocr/portal/lobby.jsf>, or by mail or phone at: U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, 200 Independence Ave SW, Room 509F, HHH Building, Washington, D.C. 20201, 1-800-368-1019, 800-537-7697 (TDD). Complaint forms are available at <http://www.hhs.gov/ocr/office/file/index.html>. You can also file a civil rights complaint with the Washington State Office of the Insurance Commissioner, electronically through the Office of the Insurance Commissioner Complaint Portal available at <https://www.insurance.wa.gov/file-complaint-or-check-your-complaint-status>, or by phone at 800-562-6900, 360-586-0241 (TDD). Complaint forms are available at <https://fortress.wa.gov/oic/onlineServices/cc/pub/complaintinformation.aspx>.