

# Your New Medicare Card

Information for  
People With  
Medicare

2018



# What does the new Medicare Card look like?

- It has your
  - Name
  - New Medicare number
  - Dates that Medicare Part A and Medicare Part B coverage started
- It doesn't have your
  - Signature
  - Social Security Number
  - Gender



# When will I get my new Medicare Card?

- Medicare starts mailing new cards in April 2018
  - Everyone who had Medicare before April 2018 will get a new card with instructions in the mail
    - Mailing will take several months
    - If you retired from a railroad, the Railroad Retirement Board will mail you your new card
  - People new to Medicare in April 2018 or later
    - Get the new card when they are enrolled
- Mailing everyone a new card will take some time
  - Your card might arrive at a different time than your friend's or neighbor's
- Visit [go.Medicare.gov/NewCard](https://www.go.Medicare.gov/NewCard) and sign up for email updates, or like us at [facebook.com/medicare](https://www.facebook.com/medicare)

# Only your Medicare card and number are changing

- Your Medicare benefits stay the same
- **Your Social Security Number stays the same**
- Any enrollments in Medicare Advantage, Part D prescription plans, and Medigap (Supplemental) policies don't change—keep those plan cards



**Keep your Social Security Card in a safe place**

# When do I start using my new Medicare Card?

- Start using your new card as soon as you get it
- Beginning January 1, 2020, you can only use the new Medicare card and new number



# What if I belong to a Medicare health plan (like an HMO), or a Medicare drug plan?

- You'll still get, and should keep the new Medicare card
- Be sure to destroy your old red, white, and blue Medicare card, but **don't destroy your plan's card**
- You should continue to use your health or drug plan's card when you get health care or fill a prescription

Destroy your old Medicare Card, but not your plan's card

# How can I protect myself and Medicare from fraud?

- Don't share your Medicare card with anyone—treat it like a credit card
  - Don't carry it unless you need it
  - Keep it in a safe place
- Scam artists may try to get personal information by contacting you about your new card
- If someone asks you for your information, for money, or threatens to cancel your health benefits if you don't share your personal information, hang up

