

What can you do?

- If you are in a Medicare Advantage plan, you can leave your plan and switch to Original Medicare.
- If you switch to Original Medicare during this period, you have until February 14 to join a Medicare Prescription Drug plan to add drug coverage to your benefits.

What can't you do?

- Switch from Original Medicare to a Medicare Advantage plan.
- Switch from one Medicare Advantage plan to another.
- Switch from one Medicare Prescription Drug plan to another.

Medicare Advantage Special Enrollment Period

If your 2020 Medicare Advantage plan did not renew its contract in your area or reduced its area for 2021, then you have a Special Enrollment Period beginning December 8, 2020 through February 28, 2021. Enrollment received in January will have an effective date of February 1, and those received in February will have an effective date of March 1, 2021.

What can you do?

- Join another Medicare Advantage plan in your service area.
- If you did not enroll in another Medicare Advantage plan by December 31, you were automatically enrolled in Original Medicare and, to avoid penalty, will need to enroll in a Medicare Prescription Drug Plan.

For more information contact SHIP, the Seniors' Health Insurance Information Program, at 1.855.408.1212, visit www.ncshiip.com or in Transylvania County call the NC Cooperative Extension at 8.8.884.3109 to arrange to speak with a counselor.

About SHIP

SHIP is a consumer information division of the North Carolina Department of Insurance that assists people with Medicare, Medicare Part D, Medicare supplement, Medicare Advantage and long term care insurance questions. SHIP also helps people recognize and prevent Medicare billing errors and possible fraud and abuse through the North Carolina Senior Medicare Patrol program.