

# Transitioning to the New Medicare Cards



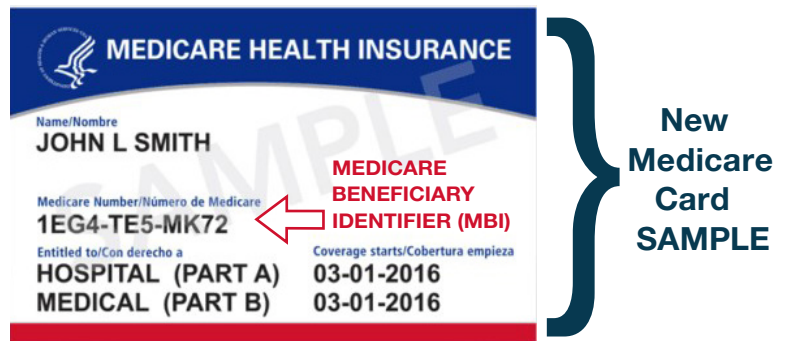
## Getting Started

The Law requires the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) to remove Social Security Numbers (SSNs) from all Medicare cards by April 2019. Starting April 2018, CMS began mailing new Medicare cards that include a new Medicare Number. A new Medicare Beneficiary Identifier (MBI) replaces the SSN-based Health Insurance Claim Number (HICN) on the new Medicare cards for Medicare transactions including billing, eligibility status, and claim status.

## What is changing?

Only your Medicare card and number are changing:

- Your Medicare benefits, stay the same
- You can start using your card as soon as you receive it in the mail
- Once you get your new card, destroy your old card. Protect yourself by making sure no one can get your personal information from your old Medicare card



## Why are the new Medicare cards important?

Medicare is removing your SSN from Medicare cards in order to prevent fraud and fight identity theft.



By replacing the SSN-based HICN on all Medicare cards, Medicare can better protect:

- Private health care & financial information
- Federal health care benefits & service payments



## Who will get a new MBI?

Under the new system, for each person enrolled in Medicare:

- You do not have to do anything to get your new card; Medicare will automatically mail a card to each person enrolled in Medicare
- Each Medicare beneficiary will be assigned a new MBI
- Each dependent will receive their own unique MBI
- Make sure your mailing address is up to date to receive the new card. If your address needs to be corrected, contact the Administrative Trust Funds Office and your local Social Security Office or go to <https://www.medicare.gov/>

**NOTE: “Keep your Medicare Advantage Card”:** If you’re enrolled in a Medicare Advantage Plan, (i.e., Kaiser Senior Advantage or United Healthcare Advantage Plan) your Medicare Advantage Plan ID card is your main card for Medicare - you should still keep and use it whenever you need care.

## Where can I get more information?

Visit New Medicare Card Home and Provider webpages for the latest details about the transition at [www.cms.gov/Medicare/New-Medicare-Card](http://www.cms.gov/Medicare/New-Medicare-Card) or call MedExpert at 1-800-999-1999.

### **\*\*Important Note\*\***

To correct/update your address you must contact BOTH entities identified below:

- SSA/CMS
- The Trust Fund Office

Call 1-800-999-1999  
Monday - Friday 6am - 7pm [PST]



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