

Medicare Fee Schedule for 2010

Examine the following fee schedule changes for Medicare Part A and Part B starting January 1, 2010:

Hospital Insurance - Part A

If you (or your spouse) have worked ten or more years (40 quarters) and paid your FICA taxes, you are eligible for FREE Hospital Insurance (Part A). If you or your spouse have not worked ten or more years and paid FICA taxes, you must pay a monthly premium for Medicare Part A.

If you or your spouse have worked less than 30 quarters (7.5 years) and paid your FICA taxes, you must pay a \$461 monthly premium.

People who have worked more than 30 quarters but less than 40 quarters and paid their FICA taxes are required to pay a \$254 monthly premium.

Part A Deductible - \$1100 payable on the first day of each hospitalization at the start of each new Benefit Period. This payment allows one to stay in the hospital for a maximum of 60 days.

Part A Co-Pay - \$275/day for each inpatient day from 61-90.

Part A Co-Pay - \$550/day for each inpatient day from 91-150.

Skilled Nursing Facility (SNF) Co-Pay - \$137.50 each day from 20-100.

I know that many of you want to know if you will pay more for your outpatient visits during 2010. The simple answer is that it all depends upon how you have been paying your Part B monthly premiums. If you made Part B premium payments from social security income in 2009, there will be no increase in premiums for 2010. You will continue to pay \$96.40.

Medical Insurance – Part B

If you are a new Medicare beneficiary in 2010 or you did not pay Part B monthly premiums from social security income in 2009, you will pay a monthly premium of \$110.50 for 2010.

If you are single and earn >\$85,000 or married and earn >\$170,000, you will pay a greater monthly premium for Part B. Examine the following table for adjusted gross income and corresponding Part B fee schedule:

Part B Deductible- \$155.00

Income Based Part B Monthly Premium

Singles <\$85,000	Couples <\$170,000	Premium \$96.40 if paid from SS in '09 \$110.50 if not paid from SS in '09
\$85,001-\$107,000	\$170,001-\$214,000	\$154.70
\$107,001-\$160,000	\$214,001-\$320,000	\$221.00
\$160,001-\$214,000	\$320,001-\$428,000	\$287.30
>\$214,000	>\$428,000	\$353.60

Prescription Drug Plan – Part D

Part D Fee Schedule

\$310 maximum deductible

\$310 - \$2830

You pay 25% (\$630 maximum)

Plan pays 75%

\$2830 - \$6440 (doughnut hole)

You pay 100% (\$3610 maximum)

Plan pays 0%

>\$6440

You pay 5%

Plan pays 95%

Total = \$4550 before leaving doughnut hole