

Turning-65 Checklist

Every key Medicare deadline in one simple, printable page — so you never miss a window or pay a penalty.

Your Turning-65 Checklist

A simple, printable checklist so you hit every Medicare deadline and never pay a penalty you didn't have to. Work through it in order.

6+ months before 65

- ☐ Mark your **Initial Enrollment Period**: the 3 months before your birthday month.
- ☐ Decide whether you'll take Medicare now or delay (if you have employer coverage).
- ☐ Make a list of the doctors you want to keep.
- ☐ Make a list of your prescriptions (name + dose).

3 months before 65 — your window opens

- ☐ Enroll in **Part A** (usually \$0) — and **Part B** unless you're delaying with employer coverage.
- ☐ Confirm whether your employer coverage lets you delay Part B penalty-free.
- ☐ Compare your path: **Medicare Advantage** vs. **Supplement + Part D**.
- ☐ Check that your doctors are in-network (Advantage) or accept Medicare (Supplement).
- ☐ Run your medications against each plan's drug list.

Your birthday month

- ☐ Finalize and enroll in the plan that fits your doctors, drugs, and budget.
- ☐ If choosing a Supplement, use your one-time **6-month Medigap open enrollment**.
- ☐ Add a stand-alone **Part D** drug plan if your plan doesn't include drugs.

Every year after (Oct 15 – Dec 7)

- ☐ Review your plan during the **Annual Enrollment Period** — plans change yearly.
- ☐ Re-check your doctors and prescriptions are still covered.
- ☐ Make sure you're not quietly overpaying.

Don't-miss penalties

Part B: ~10% added for each 12 months you delay (for life). **Part D:** a lifelong penalty for going without drug coverage. When in doubt, ask before the deadline passes.

Want a free, no-pressure Medicare Game Plan?

A 20–30 minute 1-on-1 where we check your doctors and prescriptions and compare 30+ carriers — built around you.

No cost. No obligation. Education first, pressure never.

lyons.life/medicare-resources

We do not offer every plan available in your area. Any information we provide is limited to the plans we do offer in your area. Please contact Medicare.gov, 1-800-MEDICARE (TTY 1-877-486-2048), 24/7, or your local State Health Insurance Assistance Program (SHIP) to get information on all of your options. Lyons Life is an independent insurance agency and is not connected with or endorsed by the United States Government or the federal Medicare program.