



Medicare Easy Pay Program (for Part B payments)

Medicare Easy Pay Program is an electronic payment option for beneficiaries who are directly billed for their Medicare premiums by the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS). This payment option allows beneficiaries to have their Medicare premiums automatically deducted from either their savings or checking account free of charge each month.

If you receive a monthly Social Security benefit check with your Basic Medicare Part B premium deducted, you do not need to participate in the Medicare Easy Pay Program.

BENEFITS OF THE PROGRAM

By using the Medicare Easy Pay Program, you can:

- Have a safe, easy, more convenient way to make timely payments
- Save postage costs and spend less time writing checks
- Be sure your Medicare premium is paid even when you are away from home or on vacation
- Keep a more accurate payment history
- Stop worrying that your Medicare coverage will end due to late or lost payments*

* LACERS Medicare Requirement

You and your dependent(s) must enroll in and maintain those parts of Medicare for which you and your dependent(s) are eligible (Parts A and B or Part B only) in order to receive a LACERS medical plan premium subsidy and to continue your LACERS medical plan coverage (Los Angeles Administrative Code §4.1103.2 and LACERS Board Rule HBA10.0).

WHEN AND HOW DO I SIGN UP?

If you and your dependents are billed the Basic Medicare Part B premium directly by CMS, you can sign up for the program at any time. To sign up, complete and mail the form entitled "Authorization Agreement for Preauthorized Payments" to:

**Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services
Medicare Premium Collection Center
P.O. Box 979098
St. Louis, MO 63197**

To obtain the form, please contact Medicare at (800) 633-4227.

This form provides CMS with the information needed to set up electronic deductions and permits the Medicare Premium Collection Center to deduct a monthly premium from your savings or checking account.

Do not mail your completed form to LACERS – we are unable to enroll you in the Medicare Easy Pay Program.

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

Do both my dependent and I need to complete a separate form for the Medicare Easy Pay Program?

Yes. You and your dependents must each complete a separate "Authorization Agreement for Preauthorized Payments" form to participate.

What if I do not have enough funds in my account to pay the Medicare premium?

If you do not have enough money in your bank account, CMS will receive an insufficient funds notice from your bank. This will cause you to be non-compliant with LACERS Medicare Requirement and jeopardize your LACERS medical plan coverage.

CMS will only make one attempt

to automatically deduct the premium payment from your account.

Will I continue to receive a paper billing statement for my Medicare premiums?

No. If you sign up for the program you will receive a monthly Notice of Medicare Premium Payment Due (CMS-500) that will show the amount of the deduction. The automatic deduction will also appear on your monthly bank statement as an Automated Clearing House (ACH) transaction.

FOR MORE INFORMATION

For questions about the program, call (800) 633-4227. For questions about Medicare premium payments, call your local Social Security office. For questions about your bank account, call your bank directly.

A sample Medicare Health Insurance card for Jane Doe. The card includes the following information:

| MEDICARE HEALTH INSURANCE | |
|---|-------------------------------------|
| 1-800-MEDICARE (1-800-633-4227) | |
| NAME OF BENEFICIARY JANE DOE | |
| MEDICARE CLAIM NUMBER 000-00-0000-A | SEX FEMALE |
| IS ENTITLED TO HOSPITAL (PART A) | EFFECTIVE DATE 07-01-1986 |
| MEDICAL (PART B) | 07-01-1986 |
| SIGN HERE — <i>Jane Doe</i> | |

LACERS Health Benefits Administration

202 W. First Street, Suite 500
Los Angeles, CA 90012-4401

(800) 779-8328

E-mail: LACERS.health@lacers.org

Website: www.LACERS.org



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