

The Medicare Map . . .

*Helping you and your clients
navigate the Medicare Maze*

Monthly Medicare Newsletter for Advisors
Published by: HealthCare Benefit Services - May 2021



Lowering Medicare Age To 60, Maybe 50

Within the \$4 trillion infrastructure bill is a proposal to move the Medicare eligibility age down to 60. There are various monetary and structural implications associated with this. Below are some talking points taken from a recent article in the *Daily Labor Report* and a study by *Kaiser Family Foundation (KFF)*:

- 77% of Americans favor letting adults age 50-64 buy into the Medicare program (January 2019 poll by the KFF)
- Lowering eligibility age to 60 expands Medicare coverage to 23 million people
 - Lowering to 50 could cover 63 million people
 - A group of 21 senators have reintroduced legislation to lower the eligibility age to 50
- Who makes up the 23 million "newly eligible" (numbers shown in millions)
 - 13.4 employer coverage
 - 3.8 Medicaid
 - 3.2 Individual market
 - 1.7 Uninsured
 - 600K TRICARE and VA
- Negotiating drug prices is a key factor in paying for this - by creating \$460 billion over 10 years
 - This bill allows Medicare to start negotiating Part D prescription drug pricing. If this is allowed some drug classes will no longer be covered. This could be problematic for some beneficiaries as their out of pocket costs would go up.
- Without expanded eligibility, Medicare is on course to nearly double its annual spending to \$1.5 trillion by 2029 (CBO projection)
 - Lowering the age to 60 would shift 13.4 million people from private employers to the federal budget causing taxes to increase (CBO projection)
- Shift from employer coverage to Medicare could exacerbate the financial challenges facing Medicare's Hospital Insurance Trust Fund (KFF)
 - President Biden proposed to finance the expansion through general revenues, rather than the Trust Fund

At this early stage . . . who knows how this will play out. We will continue to monitor related developments. Negotiating drug prices does seem to be a top priority.

REMINDER - Don't let your Colorado clients get stuck in their Plan F Medicare Supplement

Medicare is changing again! . . . for Colorado residents

[Click here](#) to find out why your clients may want to move their Plan F to Plan G.

NOTE: Guarantee Issue ends **JUNE 30, 2021**



In Case You Missed It

Learn How HBS Can Add Value To Your Practice

Referring Clients To HBS

Listen to this webinar replay about *our process* - how we work with you and your clients in determining the best Medicare plan for their situation.

[Click here](#) to watch

How We Support Advisors and Help Their Clients

Tammy Sullivan and her agency, HealthCare Benefit Services, have specialized in Medicare for more than 20 years. Tammy and her team work closely with advisors and their clients, helping them navigate the Medicare Maze.

- We represent all plans (Medicare Supplement, Drug Plans, and Medicare Advantage), and all major companies
- Our process is thorough, no obligation and no pressure
- We're available to conduct Medicare webinars for your clients
- We are NOT your competition - Medicare and Long Term Care are all we do

To learn more about our process: visit [our website](#), call our office or check out this [webinar recording](#) about how we work with you and your Medicare clients.

Feel free to forward The Medicare Map monthly newsletter to other advisors you think would benefit from the services of Tammy and her team.



HealthCare Benefit Services
6638 W Ottawa Ave Ste 120, Littleton CO
80128
(303) 973-6636 |
advisors@medicarehbs.com
www.medicarehbs.com



**HealthCare
Benefit Services**

This email was sent to {{ contact.EMAIL }}
You received this email because you are registered with HealthCare Benefit Services
Inc
For Advisors Only - NOT approved for client use.

[Unsubscribe here](#)



© 2021 HealthCare Benefit Services Inc