

Can I still change my Medicare Plan?

The 2011 Medicare Open Enrollment period ended on December 7, but there are still *a few changes you can make, if you qualify.*

For those with a **Medicare Advantage Plan**:

Between January 1 and February 14, you can leave your plan and switch to Original Medicare, but you cannot switch to another Medicare Advantage Plan. Your Original Medicare coverage will begin the first day of the following month. If you drop your Medicare Advantage plan during this period, you will be able to join a Medicare Prescription Drug Plan to add drug coverage. Your prescription drug coverage will begin the first day of the month after your enrollment. You may also add a supplement at this time.

For those with a **Tufts Medicare Prescription Drug Plan (drug coverage only) in 2011**:

If you did not select a different Medicare drug plan for 2012, then you are currently without drug coverage. You have until the end of February to enroll in a new Part D drug plan for 2012, which will begin the first of the month after your enrollment.

For those with **Prescription Advantage** or getting “**Extra Help**” paying for prescription drugs:

You can change your plan anytime during the year. Those with Prescription Advantage can do this only once each year. Those with “Extra Help” can change every month.

Trained SHINE (**S**erving **H**ealth **I**nformation **N**eeds of **E**lders) volunteers can help you! They offer free, confidential counseling on all aspects of health insurance to anyone on Medicare. Call your senior center and ask for a SHINE appointment. You can also call 1-800-AGE-INFO (1-800-243-4636), then press or say 3. Once you get the SHINE answering machine, leave your name and number. A volunteer will call you back, as soon as possible.