What Does Medicare Part B Cost?

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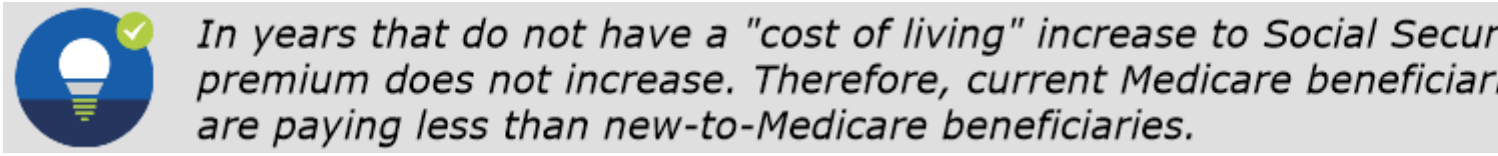
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Medicare Part B is the part of Medicare that covers doctorsâ?? visits and outpatient procedures. While Medicare Part A is premium-free (you pay for it through payroll deductions during your working life), Medicare Part B does have a premium. If you are turning 65 in the next 12 months, you may be curious â?? what does Medicare Part B cost?

The short answer is that it can vary. The standard Medicare Part B premium is currently **$202.90/month (for 2026)**. However, not everyone who has Medicare Part B is paying that amount.

Who Pays Less for Medicare Part B?

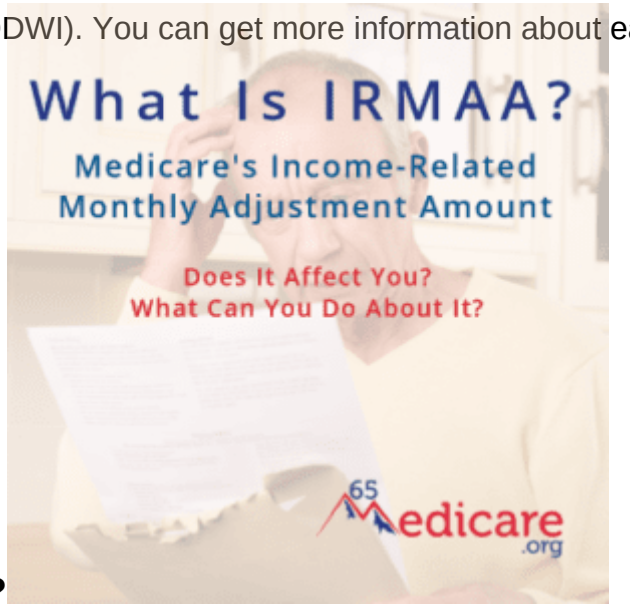
Medicare regulations include a â??hold harmlessâ?• provision, which mandates that there be no increase to your Part B premium if there is no â??cost of livingâ?• increase to Social Security income.



Eventually, once there IS a cost of living increase to Social Security, those people who are paying less for Part B now will be brought up to the standard premium amount. Premium costs will level out for most people on Part B.

That said, there are still some groups who pay a lower premium for Medicare Part B. The qualifications for lower premiums for Part B are based on income/assets, and they vary by state. There are four types of Medicare Savings Programs, including Qualified Medicare Beneficiary Program (QMB), Specified Low-Income Medicare Beneficiary (SLMB) Program, Qualifying Individual Program (QI), and Qualified

Disabled and Working Individuals Program (QDWI). You can get more information about each here: Medicare Savings Programs.



Who Pays More for Medicare Part B?

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While there are some groups that pay less for Medicare Part B premiums, there are also certain groups of beneficiaries that pay MORE for Medicare Part B. These groups of beneficiaries are based on income, and this is called the Income-Related Monthly Adjustment Amount or IRMAA.

So what does Medicare Part B cost for people with higher incomes? The determination for whether you will pay a higher amount for Part B premiums is based on the tax returns from two years ago. In other words, your 2026 IRMAA determination is based on your 2024 tax returns. The increased monthly premium start at $109,000 in individual modified adjusted gross income or $218,000 for joint modified adjusted gross income.

Hereâ??s the chart from Medicare.gov that shows these increased premium amounts (this is for 2026 and based on 2024 Modified Adjusted Gross Income):

Single, headâ??ofâ??household, or qualifying surviving spouse with dependent child tax filing status

If MAGI in 2024 (or 2023 if 2024 is not available) was:	Then the Part B Premium* is:	Prescription Drug Coverage Premium** is:
More than $109,000 but less than or equal to $137,000	$284.10	$14.50 + Plan premium

If MAGI in 2024 (or 2023 if 2024 isnot available) was:	Then the Part B Premium* is:	Prescription Drug Coverage Premium** is:
More than $137,000 but less than or equal to $171,000	$405.80	$37.50 + Plan premium
More than $171,000 but less than or equal to $205,000	$527.50	$60.40 + Plan premium
More than $205,000 but less than $500,000	$649.20	$83.30 + Plan Premium
Greater than or equal to $500,000	$689.90	$91.00 + Plan Premium

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Married filing jointly tax filing status

If MAGI in 2024 (or 2023 if 2024 is not available) was:	Then the Part B Premium* is:	Prescription Drug Coverage Premium** is:
More than $218,000 but less than or equal to $274,000	$284.10	$14.50 + Plan premium
More than $274,000 but less than or equal to $342,000	$405.80	$37.50 + Plan premium
More than $342,000 but less than or equal to $410,000	$527.50	$60.40 + Plan premium

If MAGI in 2024 (or 2023 if 2024 isnot available) was:	Then the Part B Premium* is:	Prescription Drug Coverage Premium** is:
More than $410,000 but less than $750,000	$649.20	$83.30 + Plan premium
Greater than or equal to $750,000	$689.90	$91.00 + Plan Premium

If you have questions about IRMAA or Medicareâ??s application of it, it is wise to contact Social Security. You do have appeal options if you feel you are assigned an IRMAA amount that is incorrect. If you call us about your IRMAA determination, we will try to help you with general information. However, we are an insurance brokerage and not authorized or equipped to handle your questions about your specific IRMAA situation. You should contact Social Security â?? either at 800-772-1213 or at a local SS office.

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Medigap Plans are NOT Medicare Part B

Often, we hear people confuse Medigap plans with Medicare Part B. Part B only comes through the Federal Governmentâ??s program. A plan that you sign up for to work with Medicare is NOT a Part B plan, it is a Medigap plan that is designed to work with Part B.

For more information about what Medicare Part B costs or anything else about going on Medicare, you can reach us online or at 877.506.3378.

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