



STATE OF WISCONSIN
BOARD ON AGING AND LONG -TERM CARE

MEDIGAP HELPLINE SERVICES

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Medicare and the COVID-19 Vaccination

Over the past several months, pharmaceutical companies have successfully created and received FDA approval on vaccinations for the SARS-CoV-2 virus. Manufacturers are distributing the COVID-19 vaccine to federally and state-approved locations to start the vaccination of priority groups. Each state has its own plan for deciding who they will vaccinate first and how residents can get vaccines.

Medicare Coverage of the Vaccine

- Beneficiaries pay **nothing** for the COVID-19 vaccine if enrolled in either Original Medicare or a Medicare Advantage plan. There will be no deductible, copayment or coinsurance and the provider cannot charge an administration fee to administer the vaccine.
- When scheduled for a vaccine, beneficiaries need to bring their red, white, and blue Medicare card to the appointment so the health care provider or pharmacy may bill Medicare. The Medicare card will be required even if enrolled in a Medicare Advantage Plan (HMO, PPO or HMO-POS). In filling out the form to receive the vaccine, the insurer's group number may be requested, however if the beneficiary has Medicare Part B, leave this field blank or write "N/A."
- Medicare also covers COVID-19 tests, COVID-19 antibody tests, and COVID-19 monoclonal antibody treatments at no cost to the beneficiary.
- Remember, do not share personal or financial information if receiving a call or email promising access to the vaccine for a fee. Medicare covers the vaccine at no cost, thus if asked for a Medicare Number to get early access to the vaccine, it is likely a scam.

To see if you are eligible for the COVID-19 vaccine or to locate more information on eligibility and/or the vaccine itself, Wisconsin residents may visit <https://www.dhs.wisconsin.gov/covid-19/vaccine-about.htm> or call the *DHS toll-free hotline* at **1-844-684-1064**.

For questions on Medicare coverage and benefits, insurance counselors are available to assist from the *Medigap Helpline* with the Board on Aging and Long Term Care toll-free at **1-800-242-1060**.

Hannah Luckasson
Medigap Helpline Counselor