

# The Annual Election Period

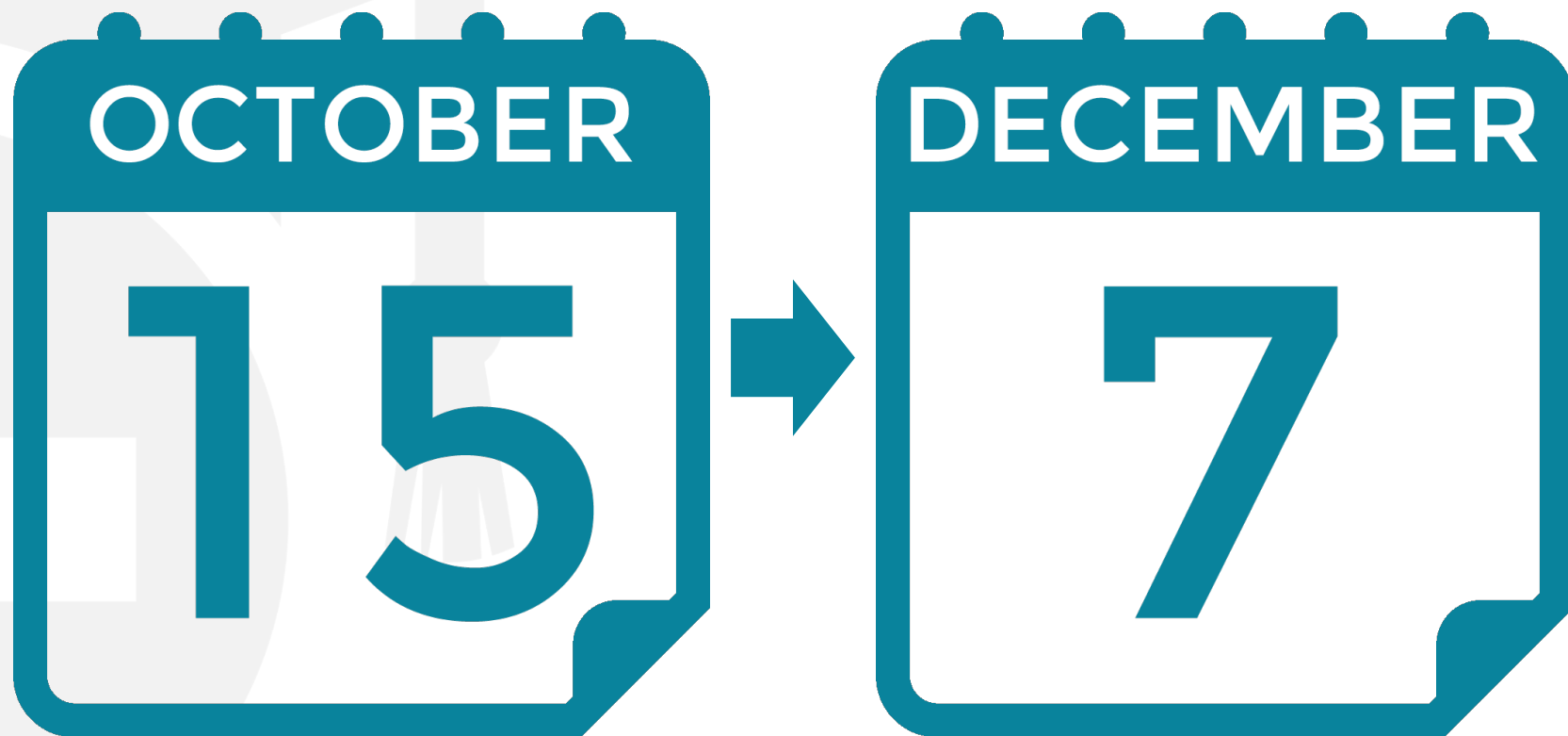
A Medicare Scholar Presentation

# The Annual Enrollment Period

There are specific times when you can sign up for a Medicare Advantage Plan (Part C) and/or a Prescription Drug Plan (Part D), or make changes to coverage you already have:

- **Initial Enrollment Period (IEP)** – when you turn 65 or first become eligible for Part A and/or Part B
- **Special Enrollment Period (SEP)** – based on specific situations
- **Annual Enrollment Period (AEP)** – once per year

# When is the AEP?



# What Can You Do?

- Original Medicare to a Medicare Advantage
- Medicare Advantage to Original Medicare
- Medicare Advantage to Medicare Advantage
- Join a Prescription Drug Plan
- Prescription Drug Plan to Prescription Drug Plan
- Drop your Prescription Drug Plan

# Important Dates

- October 1<sup>st</sup> – new plan information made available to the public
- Any changes during the AEP will not go into effect until the following January 1<sup>st</sup>
  - The last application you sign and submit during the AEP is the coverage that starts on January 1<sup>st</sup>.
  - Example – you submit an application with Plan A on October 15<sup>th</sup>, but send in another application with Plan B on November 20<sup>th</sup>, Plan B goes into effect January 1<sup>st</sup>.

# Annual Notice of Change

- For those already on a Medicare Advantage or Part D plan
- Received on or around October 1<sup>st</sup>
- Provides information about updates to your plan
- Side-by-side comparison of your benefits year over year

# The AEP Checklist

#1 – Review changes in your current coverage

- Copays
- Drug Costs
- Formulary
- Provider Network
- Pharmacy Network



# The AEP Checklist

#2 – Quote your  
prescription drugs





# The AEP Checklist

## #3 – Evaluate your healthcare needs

- How was your year?
- Did your utilization go up or down?
- Diagnosed with a new condition?
- Are you seeing new doctors?
- Was there something missing from your current coverage?



# The AEP Checklist

## #4 – Make a change, or stay put

- Only if it makes sense
- Applications must be signed by December 7<sup>th</sup>
- New plans take effect January 1st



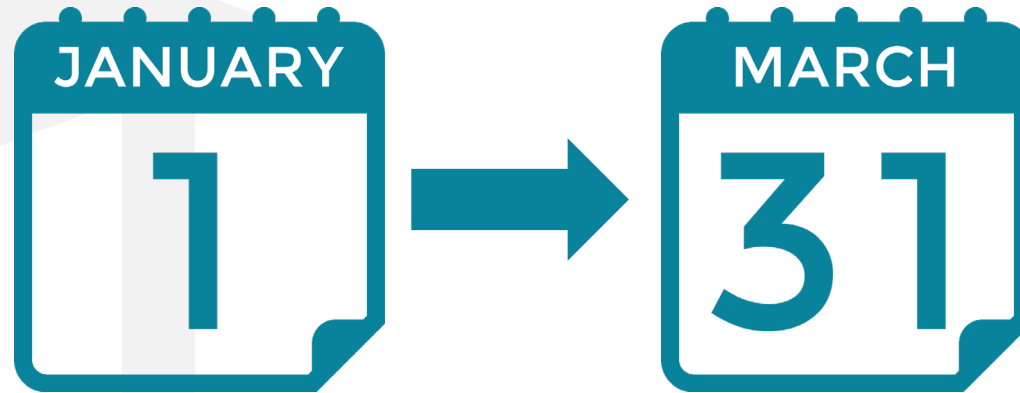


# What's Next?

December 8<sup>th</sup> – 31<sup>st</sup>

- If you made a change, your new plan ID cards and information will come in the mail
- If you didn't make a change, your plan will continue on for the following year

# Open Enrollment Period



- For Medicare Advantage beneficiaries only
- You can switch to another Medicare Advantage plan (with or without drug coverage)
- You can drop your Medicare Advantage plan to return to Original Medicare. You'll also be able to join a Part D plan.



# Questions?





Thank You for Attending!

# Sources

- <https://www.medicare.gov/sign-up-change-plans/joining-a-health-or-drug-plan>
- <https://www.medicare.gov/forms-help-resources/mail-you-get-about-medicare/plan-annual-notice-of-change-anoc>