

The Secure Choice

A Newsletter Published by ACBS Insurance Services "Our Customers are at the heart of everything we do!"

https://www.acbsinsuranceservices.com



Larry Adkins - CEO
I am passionate about selfimprovement and believe in the
motto "If you can dream it, you can

do it"

Elvis Rivera - CFO & Treasurer 35 years of financial accounting

ACBS INSURANCE SERVICES

As you are aware Secure Choices and Gardner and Company have merged with ACBS Insurance Services as of 4/1/2024. We are happy to report there have only been a handful of issues which have been sorted out. If you are experiencing any issues, please let us know. We want to make sure you continue to get the same great service you have in the past.

Meet Your Team! Matt, Kellie, Andrew, Rita, Debbie, Karen, Natalie, Bill, and Krystal. We have over 130 years of knowledge and experience.



Our office is located at: 6271 Dupont Station Court E. Jacksonville, FL 32217 904-737-3636 or 904-242-8893



At ACBS Insurance Services, we are a nationally recognized independent insurance agency dedicated to providing unbiased assistance and support to seniors and their families in selecting Medicare insurance plan options that best suits their needs and budget.

Our mission is to bring peace of mind to those entering retirement by simplifying the complex and often confusing process of securing quality, affordable healthcare. We understand that the array of healthcare options available through Medicare can be overwhelming, and the importance of adhering to specific timeframes and enrollment windows to retain crucial benefits cannot be overstated.

Seeing a gap in the insurance industry, ACBS Insurance Services was founded to offer a higher standard of service. As an independent agency representing a wide range of Medicare insurance plan options across the United States, we provide impartial guidance to help our clients choose the most appropriate coverage tailored to their unique situations. Through education, professional qualifications, and market analysis, we ensure our clients are well-informed and confident in their healthcare decisions.

Our independence means our loyalty lies solely with our clients, not any insurance company. Our goal is to empower individuals with the knowledge they need to make the best healthcare choices. We serve as a dedicated point of contact and advocate, guiding our clients through every step of the enrollment process and continually reassessing their coverage to adapt to changing needs, ensuring they always have the best possible insurance fit.

ANNUAL ENROLLMENT PERIOD

You will be receiving your "Annual Notice of Change" in late September or early October from your insurance company. This will have the benefit changes of your plan for 2025. It is important that you take the time to read this and if you are happy with your plan, it will auto roll over for next year.

We will be sending you a form mid-September, if you would like us to compare plans, please fill it out and send it back to us. If you are happy with your plan, you do not need to return the form.

Medicare rules allow us to start discussing 2025 plans October 1st and we will be calling to schedule appointments during this time.

The time to change will be October 15th – December 7th with an effective date of January 1st, 2025.

You will be bombarded with phone calls, emails, mailings, and commercials. Do not give them any personal information or even answer yes to questions they may ask you. This can trigger your enrollment in another plan. If a change is best for you, we will inform you.

PRESCRIPTION PLANS FOR 2025

- Annual deductible. You the enrollee pays 100% of their gross covered prescription drug costs until the <u>maximum</u> deductible of \$590 for 2025 is met.
- Initial coverage. You the enrollee pays up to 25% coinsurance OR a \$ amount Co-Pay for covered Part D drugs. The insurance plan typically pays 65% of the cost of applicable drugs and 75% of the cost of all other covered Part D drugs. The manufacturer, through the Discount Program, typically covers 10% of the cost of applicable drugs. This phase ends when You the enrollee has reached the annual OOP threshold of \$2,000 for 2025.
- Catastrophic. You the enrollee pays NO cost sharing for covered Part D drugs. Insurance plan typically pay 60% of the costs of all covered Part D drugs. The manufacturer pays a discount, typically equal to 20%, for applicable drugs. CMS pays a reinsurance subsidy equal to 20% of the costs of applicable drugs and equivalent to 40% of the costs of all other covered Part D drugs that are not applicable drugs.

Beginning January 1, 2025, each Medicare prescription drug plan, including Medicare Advantage plans with drug prescription programs, must give patients the option to pay for their out-of-pocket prescription costs in monthly installments, with a monthly limit on spending. Medicare recipients must sign up for option.

2025 INCOME RELATED MONTHLY ADJUSTMENT AMOUNT "IRMAA FOR PART D PRESCRIPTION PLANS"

IRMAA 2025 For Part D prescription plan premiums, Part B charges will be announced in late September:

Single	Couple MAGI	Part D
\$131,000 to \$163,000	\$262,000 to \$326,000	Premium + \$35.30
\$163,000 to \$196,000	\$326,000 to \$392,000	Premium + \$57.00
\$196,000 to \$500,000	\$392,000 to \$750,000	Premium + \$78.60
> \$500,000	> \$750,000	Premium + \$85.80



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Beware of Scams Targeting Older Adults

Older adults are often the target of scams. Scammers are savvy and convincing, and their scams are designed to catch people off guard. Don't be ashamed if you think you or someone you know has been a victim of a scam — it can happen to anyone. Common scams aimed at older adults include:

- Government impersonator scams, such as someone posing as a Medicare representative asking for account information
- <u>Fake prize, sweepstakes, and lottery scams</u>, in which you are asked to pay money or provide account information to claim winnings
- Computer tech support scams, in which a scammer tells you that your computer has a problem and wants you to pay for support services to fix it
- The grandparent scam, in which a caller pretends to be a grandchild or other relative in distress

What can you do?

Here are a few steps you can take to help protect yourself and your loved ones from scams:

- Don't give out sensitive personal information over the phone or in response to an email, social media post, or text message. Sensitive information includes your Social Security number, bank account information, credit card numbers, PINs, and passwords.
- Check incoming bills, credit card statements and bank statements for charges that you didn't authorize. Contact the credit card company, or bank if you see any charges you don't recognize.
- Protect your electronic accounts by keeping the security software on your computer and smartphone up to date and by using <u>multifactor</u> <u>authentication</u> when possible.
- Don't transfer money to strangers or to someone over the phone. Similarly, never buy a gift card to pay someone over the phone.
- If someone is trying to scam you, they may threaten you or pressure you to act immediately. If this happens to you, don't panic. Slow down and think about what the person is saying. If you suspect it's a scam, end the call and talk to someone you trust. One reason that scammers target older adults is that they are less likely to report suspected fraud. If you think that you or someone in your life has been the target of a scam, contact the National Elder Fraud Hotline at 833–372– 8311.



Seniors PAY IT FORWARD: Equipment Give-and-Take

This Jacksonville Facebook group is for the FREE exchange of adult therapy equipment, assistive devices and medical supplies. If you have items you no longer need please post a picture/description and a general idea of the area you are in. Please make sure all items are clean, gently used and suitable for continued use. If you have a need please post that need. All exchanges are handled privately between the parties. Our goal is to help Seniors get the items they need and to allow Seniors and their loved ones to pay it forward. You must join the group to participate. I Love This Group!!

https://www.facebook.com/groups/1429174434172043

EDUCATIONAL MEDICARE PRESENTATION FOR YOUR GROUP

We are excited to start offering our FREE Medicare Presentation again. If you belong or know of a group that would benefit from the program let us know and we can contact them. We offer this service to a wide variety of groups and facilities. These include Senior facilities, churches or any group that is interested.

"Everyone leaves with a greater understanding of Medicare."

We truly appreciate all the referrals you have given us!

Helpful Information

Medicare 1-800-633-4227 https://www.medicare.gov

Social Security 1-800-772-1213 https://www.ssa.gov

Medicaid 1-866-762-2237 <u>www.myflorida.com/accessflorida</u>

Patient Assistance Program http://www.rxassist.org

Elder Source 904-391-6100 https://myeldersource.org

This newsletter is circulated via email and provided by: Licensed Insurance Agents ACBS Insurance Services

The **BEST** benefits for the **LOWEST** cost

If you have time, please go to Google and leave a Review for Secure Choices Insurance Company or Gardner and Company. Thank you!!

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HTTPS://WWW.ACBSINSURANCESERVICES.COM

Please email nvarela@acbs-llc.com if you want to:

- Opt out of this mailing,
- Send us your insurance joke,
- Schedule a free seminar,
- Ask a question, or Make an appointment