

# To Participants, Spouses, and Dependents Eligible or Becoming Eligible for Medicare

## Important Notice Regarding Your HRA VEBA Plan Prescription Drug Coverage and Medicare Part D

Please read this notice carefully and keep it where you can find it. This notice contains information about prescription drug coverage provided by your health reimbursement arrangement (HRA) Plan referenced above and Medicare Part D prescription drug coverage available for everyone with Medicare. It also tells you where to find more information to help you make decisions about your prescription drug coverage.

### ► Medicare Part D prescription drug coverage became available in 2006

You may have heard about Medicare's prescription drug coverage and wondered how it will affect you. Medicare prescription drug coverage became available to everyone with Medicare in 2006. All Medicare Part D prescription drug plans provide at least a standard level of coverage set by Medicare. Some plans might also offer more coverage for a higher monthly premium.

### ► You might want to consider enrolling in Medicare prescription drug coverage

Prescription drug coverage provided by your HRA Plan is limited to your available account balance and is considered "non-creditable." In other words, coverage provided by your HRA Plan is, on average for all plan participants, NOT expected to pay out as much as the standard Medicare prescription drug coverage would pay. Your HRA Plan is required to give you this notice to ensure you carefully consider your options, including potentially enrolling in a Medicare prescription drug plan.

### ► If you don't enroll when first eligible, you may have to pay more and wait to enroll

Generally, you can enroll in a Medicare prescription drug plan when you first become eligible for Medicare and each year during Medicare's open enrollment, which is usually on or around October 15 to December 7. If, after becoming eligible for Medicare, you go 63 days or longer without creditable coverage (prescription drug coverage that is at least as good as Medicare's prescription drug coverage), your premium will go up at least 1% per month for every month that you did not have creditable coverage. You will have to pay this higher premium as long as you have Medicare prescription drug coverage. For example, if you go 19 months without creditable coverage, your premium will always be at least 19% higher than what many other people pay.

### ► If you or your spouse or qualified dependents are currently Medicare-eligible, you need to make a decision

The terms of your HRA Plan will not change if you choose to enroll in a Medicare prescription drug plan. Your HRA Plan will

continue to reimburse all qualified premiums and expenses, including prescription drug costs not payable under the Medicare prescription drug plan, subject to the terms of your HRA Plan and limited to your available account balance.

When making your decision whether to enroll, you should compare your current coverage, including which drugs are covered, with the coverage offered by the Medicare prescription drug plans in your area.

### ► Information resources

More detailed information about Medicare plans that offer prescription drug coverage is contained in the Medicare & You handbook from Medicare available online at [www.medicare.gov](http://www.medicare.gov). You may also be contacted directly by Medicare-approved prescription drug plans. To get additional information by:

1. Visiting [www.medicare.gov](http://www.medicare.gov) for personalized help;
2. Calling your State Health Insurance Assistance Program (refer to the Medicare & You handbook for telephone numbers); or
3. Calling 1-800-MEDICARE (1-800-633-4227; TTY 1-877-486-2048).

For people with limited income and resources, extra help paying for a Medicare prescription drug plan is available. Find out more by visiting the Social Security Administration online at [www.socialsecurity.gov](http://www.socialsecurity.gov), or by calling 1-800-772-1213 (TTY 1-800-325-0778).

NOTE: You might receive this notice at other times in the future such as before the next period you can enroll in Medicare prescription drug coverage and when necessitated by coverage changes. You may also request a copy at any time by calling your HRA Plan's Customer Care Center at the phone number below.

---

Date: January 1, 2021  
Name of Entity/Sender: HRA VEBA Plan  
Contact-Position/Office: Customer Care Center  
Address: PO Box 80587, Seattle, WA 98108  
Phone Number: 1-888-659-8828