



Connector Readiness: Transition to the OPERS Medicare Connector

In 2016, OPERS will introduce a Medicare Connector for Medicare retirees enrolled in Medicare Parts A and B. As a result, effective December 31, 2015, OPERS will no longer sponsor a group Medicare Advantage plan or Medicare D prescription plan for these retirees.

Instead, retirees will select a Medigap (Medicare Supplement) or Medicare Advantage plan and a Medicare D prescription drug plan on the individual Medicare market that best suits their personal needs, with individual coverage going into effect January 1, 2016. OPERS states that there are many affordable plans available on the individual market and the Medicare Connector, which will allow OPERS retirees access to more plan choices than ever before.



Not eligible for Medicare Part A? The Ohio legislature approved a provision that will allow participation in the OPERS Medicare Connector for OPERS retirees who do not qualify for premium-free Medicare Part A insurance. The Medicare Part A law will allow OPERS members who did not contribute to Medicare Part A during their careers to join the Connector.

Under the new plan, OPERS will reimburse the retirees' Medicare Part A premium as well as any applicable surcharges when the retiree enrolls in Medicare Part A and selects a plan through the OPERS Medicare Connector. These retirees would then receive an applicable allowance. OPERS also will reimburse a portion of the premium for retirees' spouses, as well as any applicable surcharges. [Read more...](#)

More information: Connector Readiness [Toolkit](#) and [Videos](#)