

Key to Location Portion of Medicare Number

001-002	NH	425-428	MS	575-576	ILL
004-007	ME	429-432	AR	577-579	DC
008-009	VT	433-439	LA	580	VI
010-034	RI	440-448	OK	580-584	PR
040-049	CT	449-467	TX	586	GU
050-134	NY	468-477	MN	586	AS
134-158	NJ	478-485	IA	587-588	MS
159-211	PA	486-500	MO	589-595	FL
212-220	MD	501-502	ND	596-599	PR
221-222	DE	503-504	SD	600-601	AZ
223-231	VA	505-508	NE	602-626	CA
232-236	WV	509-515	KS	637-645	TX
237-246	NC	516-517	MT	646-647	UT
247-251	SC	518-519	ID	648-649	NM
252-260	GA	520	WY	650-653	CO
261-267	FL	521-524	CO	654-658	SC
268-302	OH	525,585	NM	659-665	LA
303-317	IN	526-527	AZ	667-675	GA
318-361	IL	528-529	UT	676-679	AR
362-386	MI	530-680	NV	681-690	NC
387-399	WI	531-539	WA	691-699	VA
400-407	KY	540-544	OR	750-751	HI
408-415	TN	545-573	CA	752-755	MS
416-424	AL	574	AK		

Important Tips:

- **Use your Medicare card only after the effective date.**
- **Keep your card available to show each time you receive a medical service. Be sure to safeguard its location to avoid identity theft.**
- **When writing to Medicare, use your complete Medicare number.**
- **Contact the Social Security Administration at 800-772-1213 if you have a lost card and need a new one.**
- **Never let anyone else use your Medicare card**
- **Never give your Medicare number to anyone other than your medical providers, Medicare or your supplemental insurance company.**



This brochure was adapted from a Kenosha County Benefit Specialist Program brochure as previously published by the Coalition of Wisconsin Aging Groups (CWAG)



Understanding the Medicare Card

MEDICARE		HEALTH INSURANCE	
1-800-MEDICARE (1-800-633-4227)			
NAME OF BENEFICIARY JANE DOE			
MEDICARE CLAIM NUMBER 000-00-0000-A	SEX FEMALE		
IS ENTITLED TO HOSPITAL MEDICAL	(PART A) (PART B)	EFFECTIVE DATE 07-01-1986	07-01-1986
SIGN HERE <i>Jane Doe</i>			

Your Passport to Health Care

Your Medicare Card

Your Medicare card is your passport to health insurance coverage. Like a passport, it is a very important document.

A Medicare card is issued to you when you become eligible for Medicare and contains essential information to be used by your health care providers.

Your Medicare card should be available to show each time you see a health care provider to assure that an insurance claim is submitted to Medicare. Be sure to safeguard your card's location to avoid identity theft.

This brochure is designed to explain the various parts of the Medicare card. A sample card is shown to the right. Your card has red, white and blue stripes across the top.

What Your Card Means

The sample card is for Jane Doe who is the "beneficiary." Claim number is 123-45-6789A. The claim number is also known as the Medicare number. It identifies the health insurance record with Medicare. All claim numbers consist of a 9-digit number, which is separated into 3 parts. Most claim numbers are a Social Security number with a letter at the end (for Social Security recipients) or a Social Security number with a letter before it (for Railroad recipients).

Your Medicare number may or may not be the

same as your Social Security number, it depends on how you are qualifying for benefits, either through yourself or a spouse.

The first three numbers identify the area (or state) in which the recipient lived when the number was assigned.

The second two numbers are referred to as the group number and range from 0-99.



The final four numbers run from 0001-9999 and are repeated after each change in the group number. Considering the above information, Jane Doe was the 6789th person in group 45 living in New York state to receive her number.

The letter after the 9-digit number identifies it as her health insurance claim number. The letter has some additional significance. For Social Security recipients, the letters used after the number are explained in the next column.

Some Commonly used Letter Codes:

A= Wage Earner (Self)

B= Wife

B1= Husband (B2-B9 identify the 2nd or 3rd claimants as well as divorced spouse)

C= Child

D= Widow

D5 = Widower

F= Parent (F1=Father, F2 =Mother)

M= Medicare Part B eligibility only

T = Medicare Part A & Part B but not eligible for Social Security Benefits

W= Disabled widow

W1 = Disabled widower.

For Railroad retirees the letters are used before the numbers and are: A= Wage Earner, MA= Spouse, WA = Widow, CA = Child

The Medicare card provides information on whether you are eligible for Medicare Part A and or Part B. This can be found after " is entitled to." The effective date for coverage is also listed. Each Medicare participant should show his or her own card when receiving medical services.

