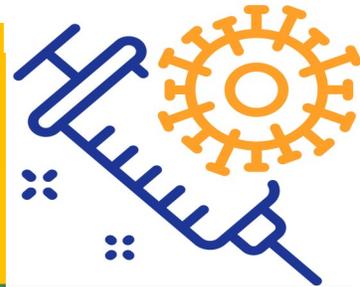


SMP Scam Alert

COVID-19 Vaccines & You



Important Information for Medicare Enrollees

Medicare covers FDA-approved COVID-19 vaccines.

Pharmaceutical manufacturers are now working to distribute the vaccine to federally- and state-approved locations to start the vaccination of priority groups. State governments will handle the distribution of COVID-19 vaccines. Look for updates from local state leaders as more doses of the vaccine become available for additional priority groups. Learn more about New Mexico's vaccine rollout and register to receive the vaccine here: <https://cv.nmhealth.org/covid-vaccine/>

If you need assistance with COVID-19 vaccine registration, contact the Aging & Disability Resource Center (ADRC) at **1-800-432-2080**.

Be alert for scammers.

Medicare covers the vaccine at no cost to you, so if anyone asks you to share your Medicare Number or pay for access to the vaccine, you can bet it's a scam.

Here's what you need to know:

- ⇒ You likely will not need to pay anything out of pocket to get the vaccine during this public health emergency.
- ⇒ You cannot pay to put your name on a list to get the vaccine.
- ⇒ You cannot pay to get early access to the vaccine.
- ⇒ No one from Medicare or the Health Department will contact you.
- ⇒ No one from a vaccine distribution site or health care payer, like a private insurance company, will call you asking for your Social Security number or your credit card or bank account information to sign you up to get the vaccine.
- ⇒ Beware of providers offering other products, treatments, or medicines to prevent the virus. Check with your health care provider before paying for or receiving any COVID-19-related treatment.
- ⇒ If you get a call, text, email — or even someone knocking on your door — claiming they can get you early access to the vaccine, **STOP. That's a scam.**

Report Medicare Related Fraud by calling the New Mexico Senior Medicare Patrol (SMP) at

1-800-432-2080

The New Mexico SMP is ready to provide you with the information you need to PROTECT yourself from Medicare fraud, errors, and abuse; DETECT potential fraud, errors, and abuse; and REPORT your concerns. We also provide information and educational presentations.

Protect Your Medicare

The New Mexico SMP recommends that you:

- ⇒ Contact your own doctor if you are experiencing potential symptoms of COVID-19.
- ⇒ Do not give out your Medicare number, Social Security number, or personal information in response to unsolicited calls, texts, emails, home visits, or booths at health fairs and other public venues. If your personal information is compromised, it may be used in other fraud schemes as well.
- ⇒ Be suspicious of anyone going door-to-door to offer free coronavirus or COVID-19 testing, supplies, treatments, or vaccines.
- ⇒ Beware of providers offering other products, treatments, or medicines to prevent the virus. Check with your health care provider before paying for or receiving any COVID-19-related treatment.
- ⇒ Carefully review your Medicare Summary Notice (MSN) or Explanation of Benefits (EOB), looking for errors or claims for products or services that weren't received.
- ⇒ Follow the instructions of your state or local government for other actions you should be taking in response to COVID-19.
- ⇒ Contact the New Mexico SMP for help at **1-800-432-2080**. Your local SMP staff is trained to empower and assist Medicare beneficiaries, their families, and caregivers to prevent, detect, and report health care fraud, errors, and abuse.

SHIP & SMP Program Volunteering: Learn more about Medicare and ways to better serve the public by contacting us about available SHIP SMP volunteer opportunities at **1-800-432-2080**. We provide training on Medicare content, & can work with your schedule. We can serve more people together!

