



New York City Office of Labor Relations

Health Benefits Program

22 Cortlandt Street - 12th Floor
New York, NY 10007
nyc.gov/hbp



2019 Medicare Part B Premium Reimbursement

ANSWERS TO FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

The standard reimbursement amount for Calendar Year 2019 is **\$109.00 per person, per month**. For those newly enrolled in Medicare in 2019, currently, the standard amount is **\$135.50**. The reimbursements will be issued in April. If you are currently receiving your pension check through Electronic Fund Transfer (EFT) or direct deposit, your Medicare Part B reimbursement will be deposited directly into your bank account. This will be a separate payment from your pension payment. If you don't have EFT or direct deposit, you will receive a check in the mail in April.

Question: How do I enroll for the Medicare Part B reimbursement?

*Answer: Complete the [Medicare Part B Reimbursement Program Application](#) and return it with a copy of **your** Medicare card to the address listed above, Attention: Medicare Unit.*

Question: I am a City retiree. Is my spouse/domestic partner/Medicare-eligible dependent entitled to the Medicare Part B reimbursement?

*Answer: Yes. They are eligible if they are covered under your City health plan and enrolled in Medicare Part B Reimbursement and the health plan has the dependent in Medicare status. Complete the [Medicare Part B Reimbursement Program Application](#) and return it with a copy of **their** Medicare card to the address listed above, Attention: Medicare Unit.*

Question: I received the standard premium amount of \$109.00 per month for 2019 for the Medicare Part B reimbursement. However, I paid more than the standard amount. Can I be reimbursed for the difference?

Answer: Yes. If your 2019 monthly Medicare Part B premium was between \$110.00 and \$135.50, you may be eligible for an additional reimbursement amount referred to as a differential payment. In order to receive the differential payment, the retiree and/or dependent must submit a copy of proof of this additional payment (for example, the Form SSA-1099, bank statements, CMS-500 Notice of Medicare Payment Due) to our office for review. If approved, you will receive the differential payment during the first quarter of 2021. For further information and to download the Medicare Part B Differential Request form, visit our website at nyc.gov/hbp.

If, however, you are enrolled in Medicare Part B as of 2016, you should have received reimbursement of \$135.50 per month automatically and no action will be required on your part.

Question: Many people received their reimbursement and I didn't get mine yet. What should I do?

Answer: Medicare reimbursements were deposited directly into the same account that you use for your pension payment. Please check your bank statement.

Question: I don't have direct deposit for my pension payment and still have not received my Medicare reimbursement. What should I do?

*Answer: You should write to the address listed above, Attention: Medicare Unit. Please include your name, retiree spouse's name (if applicable) retiree's Social Security number, agency from which the retiree retired, current address, telephone number, and a **copy of your Medicare card/ your spouse's Medicare card (if applicable)**. This review process may take up to 8 weeks from receipt of the above information.*

Question: The reimbursement I received is not the correct amount. What should I do?

Answer: You should write to the address listed above, Attention: Medicare Unit. Include your name, Social Security number, current address and telephone number, and a copy of your Medicare card. State the reason you believe the amount is incorrect. This process may take up to 8 weeks from receipt of the information.

Question: The check that I received is torn/ripped and the bank will not cash it. What should I do?

Answer: You should return the check to the address listed above, Attention: Medicare Unit. Include your name and Social Security number. It may take up to 8 weeks for a replacement check to be issued.

Question: I am the retiree and received a reimbursement for my spouse/domestic partner/Medicare-eligible dependent who died during the reimbursement year. What should I do?

Answer: Contact the Health Benefits Program in writing. Include both the retiree's and deceased individual's name, both Social Security numbers, address, phone number and a copy of the death certificate. Mail the information to the address listed above, Attention: Medicare Unit.

Question: My spouse/dependent was a City retiree who died before the reimbursements were issued. How do I claim the reimbursement?

Answer: You should write to the address listed above, Attention: Medicare Unit. Include the retiree's name and Social Security number, your name, your address, phone number and a copy of the death certificate. Upon receipt of the death certificate, we will contact you if further documentation is required.

Question: Do I have to re-enroll every year for the Medicare Part B Reimbursement?

Answer: No, but if you change your address, or if one of the eligible Medicare Part B recipients dies, you must notify the Health Benefits Program, in writing.

Question: What if my bank account information changes?

Answer: Please notify your pension system directly of any bank account changes. The changes will be automatically used for the Medicare Part B reimbursements.

Question: I paid more than the standard premium for Medicare Part B. Am I entitled to the higher premium reimbursement (IRMAA)?

Answer: You may be entitled to the higher reimbursement through Income Related Monthly Adjustment Amount (IRMAA). Visit our website at nyc.gov/hbp for further information.