

## Medicare Rebate Program

When you, or a spouse, become eligible for Medicare, whether it is by reaching the Age of 65 or by receiving Social Security Disability; you must accept Medicare Part “B” And must be paid for on a monthly basis. As soon as you are in possession of the Medicare Card, which will indicate both Part A (Hospital Coverage) and Part B (Doctor Coverage), **you must make a copy of it; include on the same piece of paper a brief statement “I request to be included in the Medicare Rebate Program” also include your Social Security Number;** and mail it to the **NYC Health Benefits Program — Attention – Medicare Unit — 22 Cortlandt Street, 12th floor — New York, NY 10007.**

If you are not in a Medicare Advantage Plan (i.e., Aetna HMO, PPO, etc.) Medicare becomes your primary coverage and your Health Plan (GHI, Blue Cross, etc.) becomes your secondary coverage. Annual deductibles may apply.

The reasoning of the rebate’s dates back many years to when it first came into being. The City realized that once the retiree enrolled in Medicare, the rate to the City for the Health Plan that became the secondary was sharply reduced saving the City a considerable amount of money. A decision was made by the Mayor who was then in office, John Lindsay, that the fair thing to do would be to pass on some of the savings to the retiree, thus the rebate program was instituted. Rebates are made for the retiree and spouses.

Many of our members are not aware that the spouse is included in the program and will fail to submit them for the Rebate Program. **If this oversight occurs, the City will accept a request for retroactive reimbursement for up to no more than three years.** The member must submit the same documentation as when they initially registered themselves.

Rebate checks **are now** issued annually during April. The April rebate checks include the months that you were covered for in the previous calendar year; April **2020** check for the Months covered in **2019**. If both you and your spouse are covered by Medicare, there will only be one rebate check forwarded including the rebate for you and your spouse, with the check issued to the retiree.

It is necessary that you notify the Health Benefits Program of any changes to the address where you receive your mail. The check comes in a computer-generated format and is sometimes mistaken for junk mail, so please be cautious in reviewing your mail during the rebate period.

**NOTE: You also need to notify the Health Benefits Program in the event that your spouse passes away and to request affidavits for the purpose of filing for benefits by surviving spouses/beneficiaries upon deaths of members.**

Retiree Inquiries Only—Phone: (212) 513-0470

Office hours: 8:30 am - 5:00 pm

**Note to Retiree:** The reimbursement amount is based on the number of months you and/or your eligible dependent(s) were enrolled in Medicare Part B and enrolled in a health plan offered through the Health Benefits Program through a retiree contract. The reimbursement check covers the period January through December of the previous year.

**YOU MUST CONTACT THE HEALTH BENEFITS PROGRAM IN WRITING IF YOUR ADDRESS CHANGES, OR IF ANY RECIPIENT DIES.**

**IF YOU MOVED AND FAILED TO MAKE THE PROPER NOTIFICATION IN WRITING AND DO NOT RECEIVE YOUR REIMBURSEMENT CHECK IN A TIMELY FASHION DURING THE NORMAL EXPECTED PERIOD - YOUR CHECK MAY HAVE BEEN RETURNED TO THE OFFICE OF LABOR RELATIONS. IN THAT EVENT PLEASE CALL KAREN RUSSO AT 212-306-7359**

**MAKE SURE TO INCLUDE A COPY OF YOUR MEDICARE CARD. IF YOU'RE ENROLLING YOUR DEPENDENT, BE SURE TO INCLUDE COPIES OF BOTH YOURS AND YOUR DEPENDENTS' MEDICARE CARD.**

**IF YOUR DEPENDENT DIES, AGAIN, BE SURE TO INCLUDE COPIES OF BOTH YOURS AND YOUR DEPENDENTS' MEDICARE CARD.**

**SPECIAL NOTE: DUE TO THE ISSUANCE OF NEW MEDICARE CARDS LACKING SOCIAL SECURITY NUMBERS – YOU MUST STILL INCLUDE APPLICABLE SOCIAL SECURITY NUMBERS IN ALL CORRESPONDENCE WITH CORTLANDT STREET.**

The following, is the website you should copy and paste into your browser setting, if you and/ or your eligible dependent paid more than the standard Medicare Part “B” monthly premium during **2019**, as you may be entitled to an additional reimbursement (surcharge for late enrollment does not qualify as an amount that is eligible for additional reimbursement).

**ACCESSING THE WEBSITE WILL BRING YOU TO THE APPROPRIATE DOCUMENTS - FOR THE **2019** IRMAA – AND FOR THE APRIL 2020 REIMBURSEMENT SHORTFALLS OF THE **2019** MEDICARE PART “B” PAYMENTS.**

<http://www.nyc.gov/html/olr/downloads/pdf/healthb/IRMAA2019.pdf>

**OR GO TO OUR CLUB WEBSITE: [bc1013club.org](http://bc1013club.org)**