

State of Idaho
DEPARTMENT OF INSURANCE

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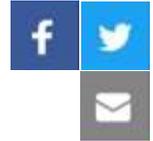
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Idaho Department of Insurance News Release

For immediate release: December 5, 2018

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Temporary Window to Add Medigap Plan for those under 65 Closes December 31
This window is separate from traditional eligibility enrollment periods

BOISE, ID – There is still time for Idahoans under the age of 65 on Medicare to take advantage of a temporary three-month time period to purchase a Medicare supplement plan. The additional time frame began October 1 and expires at midnight on December 31, 2018. Separate from Medicare's annual open enrollment period that runs October 15 to December 7, 2018, the three-month window allows those who qualified and enrolled for benefits under Medicare parts A and B to apply for or make changes to part D prescription drug plans and/or Medicare Advantage plans.

"Providing a second chance for our pre-65 consumers to enroll in a Medicare supplement, which closely aligns with the ability to purchase a standalone Medicare part D plan, is the right thing to do and in the best interest of those who qualify for this coverage," said Director Dean Cameron.

In accordance with the state's temporary rule change to IDAPA 18.01.54, effective October 1 through midnight December 31, 2018, carriers are required to accept Medicare Supplement applications from eligible individuals under the age of 65. Newly eligible beneficiaries under 65 may also buy a Medicare supplement policy within six months of qualifying for coverage, effective January 1, 2018.

The Department established the separate three-month window after finding that some current beneficiaries were unaware of the open enrollment period that expired on June 30, 2018, and that the January to June period did not align with the part D prescription open enrollment period.

Medicare beneficiaries with questions can contact the Senior Health Insurance Benefits Advisors (SHIBA) with the Idaho Department of Insurance at 800-247-4422.

About the Department of Insurance

The Idaho Department of Insurance has been regulating the business of insurance in Idaho since 1901. The mission of the Department is to serve and protect Idahoans by equitably, effectively and efficiently administering the Idaho Insurance Code and the International Fire Code. For more information, visit doi.idaho.gov.

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