

COBRA

<https://www.medicare.gov/supplements-other-insurance/how-medicare-works-with-other-insurance/cobra-7-important-facts>

<https://www.dol.gov/general/topic/health-plans/cobra>

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COBRA

If you have COBRA when you become Medicare eligible you may lose COBRA. COBRA is not creditable medical coverage so you could consider enrolling in Part B; additional qualifying events may assist in extended coverage, contact plan administrator.

- How long do you have on COBRA? <https://www.dol.gov/general/topic/health-plans/cobra>
- What is the premium/benefits? Some may find that Marketplace coverage is more affordable than COBRA until they reach their IEP.
- When COBRA ends will you be past your Medicare Initial Enrollment Period? If so, beneficiary will not get a Special Enrollment Period (SEP) to sign up for Part B and will have to wait for the next General Enrollment Period (Jan-Mar) (GEP) and coverage will start July 1st of that year. Beneficiary may also have a Part B premium penalty. <https://www.medicare.gov/supplements-other-insurance/how-medicare-works-with-other-insurance/cobra-7-important-facts>
- You may be able to elect COBRA dental coverage independent of COBRA medical coverage.

Other questions to ask:

- Are there dependents also on the plan that may lose coverage if the beneficiary drops it?
- Does the individual or dependents have high prescription costs? If so, COBRA/employer sponsored plans do not have a “donut hole” and they may want to keep COBRA to avoid having to take Part D and fall into the donut hole. If the COBRA drug coverage is considered creditable by Medicare, there would be no premium penalty.