

How to Calculate the Part B Late Enrollment Penalty

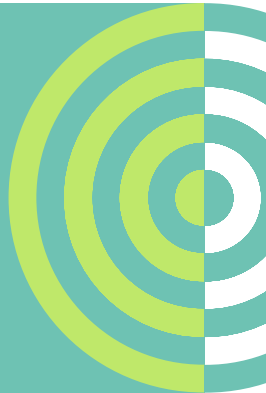
It's important to sign up for Medicare coverage during your Initial Enrollment Period unless you have other creditable coverage (like from an employer). If you don't, you may have to pay an extra amount, called a late enrollment penalty.

Late enrollment penalties:

- Are added to your monthly premium.
- Are not a one-time late fee.
- Are usually charged for as long as you have Medicare
- **Goes up the longer you wait to sign up** – 10% per year that the beneficiary went without qualifying creditable coverage.

Can the Penalty be Avoided?

The Late Enrollment Penalty can be avoid if the beneficiary is **eligible for a Medicare Savings Program (MSP)** or has **insurance coverage through their job or their spouse's job**. If a Medicare beneficiary intends to work past their 65th birthday and receives creditable coverage through an employer and the company has more than 20 employees, **their Part B enrollment can be delayed with no penalty**.



2026 Example

$$\begin{array}{r} 0.10 \\ \times \$202.90 \quad \text{2026 Standard Part B Premium} \\ \hline \$20.29 \\ \times \quad 5 \quad \text{\# of years} \\ \hline \$101.45 \quad \text{Monthly Penalty Amount} \end{array}$$

Your Turn

$$\begin{array}{r} 0.10 \\ \times \$ \quad \quad \quad \text{Current Standard Part B Premium} \\ \hline \$ \quad \quad \quad \\ \times \quad \quad \quad \text{\# of years} \\ \hline \$ \quad \quad \quad \text{Monthly Penalty Amount} \end{array}$$

Avoid facing costly penalties by enrolling in Medicare when first eligible or having creditable coverage through an employer.