

Healthcare Reform: What's New for Seniors in 2011



The new healthcare law continues to strengthen Medicare, fight waste, fraud and abuse in the Medicare program, and improve benefits for seniors.

As of January 1, 2011, the following new Medicare benefits will take effect:

- Free Medical Checkups: No co-pays for yearly medical checkups.
- Free Preventive Screenings: No more cost-sharing for recommended Medicare-covered preventive services, such as mammograms, bone mass measurements and colorectal cancer screenings.
- Discounts on brand-name and generic drugs: Seniors whose drug costs put them in the Medicare Part D "doughnut hole" will receive a 50 percent discount on the price of their brand-name drugs and a 7 percent government subsidy toward the cost of generic drugs.

With 2.2 million members in Canada, the United States and Puerto Rico, SEIU is the fastest-growing union in the Americas. Focused on uniting workers in healthcare, public services and property services, SEIU members are winning better wages, healthcare and more secure jobs for our communities, while uniting their strength with their counterparts around the world to help ensure that workers—not just corporations and CEOs—benefit from today's global economy.

