

### **If you enroll in a Medicare Prescription Drug Plan**

- Your former employer is not required to reimburse you for the monthly premium for Medicare prescription drug coverage, as is required for the premium for Medicare Part B medical coverage.
- Your prescription drug coverage under The Empire Plan will become secondary to your Medicare prescription drug coverage.
- You will continue to be billed your full share of The Empire Plan monthly premium, which includes the cost of prescription drug coverage.

**EXCEPTION:** If you are approved for extra help with the cost of the Medicare prescription drug coverage and wish to enroll in a Medicare Prescription Drug Plan, you may be permitted to drop your Empire Plan prescription drug coverage and pay a lower monthly premium. Ask your former employer if this option is available to you and how to apply for it. If you have Empire Plan family coverage, you and all covered dependents must be eligible for the extra help and enrolled in a Medicare Prescription Drug Plan to drop your Empire Plan prescription drug coverage. If you decide to drop your Empire Plan prescription drug coverage, you may reenroll without a waiting period by contacting your former employer.

### **How do I get more Information?**

- For information about your Empire Plan prescription drug coverage, refer to your plan documents or contact The Empire Plan Prescription Drug Program at 1-877-7-NYSHIP (1-877-769-7447).
- If you have questions about your Empire Plan prescription drug benefits and Medicare prescription drug coverage, please call your former agency.
- If you have questions about your Medicare benefits, call Medicare at 1-800-MEDICARE (1-800-633-4227) or visit [www.medicare.gov](http://www.medicare.gov), or refer to the *Medicare and You* handbook sent to you each year. (TTY 1-877-486-2048)
- If you have questions about getting extra help to pay for the cost of Medicare prescription drug coverage and how to apply, call Social Security at 1-800-772-1213 or visit [www.socialsecurity.gov](http://www.socialsecurity.gov). (TTY 1-800-325-0778)