

Prescription Assistance: Extra Help

Medicare Part D Help For Medicare Beneficiaries



Extra Help Pays for:

- Medicare Part D Premiums
- Part D Deductibles
- Prescription Co-pays

Income Limit—Income must be below

\$1,459 monthly for an individual or \$1,966 monthly for a married couple

**Your income may be higher if you or your spouse:*

- Support other family members that live with you (i.e. grandchildren)
- Have earnings from still working

Resources Limit— Bank accounts, stocks, bonds and other investments cannot value more than \$13,440 for an individual or \$26,860 for a married couple.

NOT including your home, car or life/burial insurance

Must re-apply every 2 years. It is estimated to save qualifying persons an average of \$4,000/year.



Prescription & Medicare Premiums Assistance:

Medicare Savings Program

Medicare Part A & B Help for Medicare Beneficiaries

There are 3 levels.

If you qualify for any Medicare Savings Program, you will automatically be enrolled in Extra Help.

1. Qualified Medicare Beneficiary (QMB)

Income limit* - \$993 monthly for an individual or \$1,331 for a married couple

QMB Pays for

- Medicare Part A Premiums
- Medicare Part B Premiums
- Part A& B Deductibles, coinsurance and co-pays

2. Specified Low-Income Medicare Beneficiary (SLMB)

Income limit* - \$1,187 monthly for an individual or \$1,593 for a married couple

SLMB Pays for—Medicare Part B Premiums - only

3. Qualifying Individual (QI) - must re-apply for QI every year

Income limit* - \$1,333 monthly for an individual or \$1,790 for a married couple

QI Pays for—Medicare Part B Premiums

Resource limit for QMB, SLMB, and QI— Bank accounts, stocks, bonds and other investments cannot value more than \$7,160 for an individual or \$10,750 for a married couple. NOT including your home/car.

*Income may be higher if supporting other family members in your home or income from still working.

**To Apply or for Information call, the Area Agency on Aging:
713-627-3200 or 1-800-437-7396**



Prescription Assistance: Pharmacy Discount, Pharmaceutical Co. Patient Assistance and Non-Profits



1) Pharmacy Discount List. Check with your pharmacy to see if any of your prescriptions are on their discount list. Ask that any prescriptions on that list not be charged to your Medicare, so not to count against you going in the donut hole.

2) By Pharmaceutical Company. Call or look on the website of the manufacturer of your prescription to see if they have a patient assistance program. Find listing of pharmaceutical assistance programs at: www.needymeds.org or www.rxassist.org

3) Non-Profits By County:

***Houston-Galveston Area Agency on Aging (713)627-3200 or 1-800-437-7396**

Based on availability of funds and need. Must be age 60+ and live in Austin, Brazoria, Chambers, Colorado, Fort Bend, Liberty, Matagorda, Montgomery, Walker, Waller or Wharton counties.

Brazoria Co.

Salvation Army (979)233-5420 Emergency funds for medicine

Christian Helping Hands, Inc.—(281)485-9776 or www.christianhelpinghands.org Emergency funds for medicine of uninsured (\$25)

Chambers Co

Chambers Health Outreach and Assistance Program—(409)267-4126 or www.chambershealth.org at office in Bayside Hospital provides pharmacy assistance based on need.

Fort Bend

Fort Bend Social Services (281)403-8050 Medication assistance program

Rosenberg-Richmond Helping Hands, Inc. (281)232-4904 Short-term prescription medicine assistance

United Way Fort Bend Co. Service Ctr—(281)207-2500 emergency assistance with medications

Ft. Bend Family Health Center (281)342-4530 Discount prescriptions through pharmacy

Galveston Co.

Jesse Tree—(409)762-2233 Health Equipment Loan Program, Medical supplies distribution project (diabetes supplies), and Prescription Assistance Program (discount program).

Matagorda Co.

Matagorda Episcopal Health Outreach Program—(877)705-2008 or www.mehop.org Prescription Drug Patient Assistance Program for Matagorda County residents that qualify.

Montgomery Co.

Montgomery Co. Hospital District Prescription Discount Program—(936)523-5100 or www.mchd-tx.org

Discount card program that allows residents to get discounts on prescription drugs. Cardholders are eligible for higher discounts on a 3-month supply for some prescriptions through mail service. Discounts on pet prescriptions are also available. No income limits. Must live in Montgomery Co.

Montgomery Co. Emergency Assistance—(936)539-9211 Provides a 1-time voucher for a prescription

Interfaith of the Woodlands (281)367-123 Prescription drug assistance

Society of Samaritans—(281)259-8452 Offers prescription payment assistance for seniors and disabled.

Walker Co.

Brazos Valley Community Health Center (979)846-1100 The pharmacy has sliding scale prescription costs.

National

HealthWell Foundation—www.healthwellfoundation.org Short-term help with co-pays; funding varies



Medicare Part D Open Enrollment

October 15—Dec. 7 (every year) www.Medicare.gov Plan Finder

Shopping Medicare Part D Plans Helps Save Money!

Call Area Agency on Houston– Galveston Aging for help learning Plan Finder or they can do it for you over the phone 713-627-3200 or 1-800-437-7396

- 1) Medicare Part D Plans can change which medications they cover and at which level they cover the medication.** Most part D Plans have 3 tiers at which they cover certain medications and each tier is assigned a different co-pay cost. As an example, a drug that may have cost you \$10 could cost you \$60 if the drug was moved to another tier. The plan could also drop covering a drug and a drug you paid a co-pay to buy, you could end up paying full retail price. Also, your prescriptions may have changed.
- 2) Medicare's Plan Finder does the Math.** It is hard to add up the premiums, deductibles, co-pays and expected donut hole costs for all of your medications to compare each plan. After you input all of your prescriptions, the database computes your annual out-of-pocket cost for you. Plan ratings are posted.
- 3) Medicare's Plan Finder predicts the donut hole.** It will show you for each plan when you can expect to be in the donut hole so you can budget for those months. It also suggests generics for brand drugs.

Drug Costs & Coverage

Plan Ratings

First Health Part D Value Plus (PDP)

(S5768-145) Plan Type: PDP
Organization: First Health Part D

Members: 1-866-865-0662
711(TTY/TDD)
Non Members: 1-800-882-3822
711(TTY/TDD)

Coverage: Provides drug coverage only.
NOTE: Health Plan Benefits are based on Original Medicare

[View Plan Medication Therapy Management \(MTM\) program eligibility information](#)

N [Enroll](#)

AARP MedicareRx Enhanced (PDP)

(S5921-193) Plan Type: PDP
Organization: UnitedHealthcare

Members: 1-888-867-5575
711(TTY/TDD)
Non Members: 1-888-867-5564
711(TTY/TDD)

Coverage: Provides drug coverage only.
NOTE: Health Plan Benefits are based on Original Medicare

[View Plan Medication Therapy Management \(MTM\) program eligibility information](#)

N [Enroll](#)

Cost Component	First Health Part D Value Plus	AARP MedicareRx Enhanced
Monthly Drug Plan Premium [?]	\$31.10	\$92.60
Monthly Health Plan Premium [?]	N/A	N/A
Annual Drug Deductible [?]	\$0.00	\$0.00
Medicare costs at a glance		

Estimated Annual Drug Cost (Premium + Co-Pays + Deductible + Donut hole)

Cost at CVS PHARMACY	Cost at CVS PHARMACY
January Enrollment [?] \$12,408.22	January Enrollment [?] \$4,037.42
Enrollment Today [?] \$11,328.02	Enrollment Today [?] \$3,885.43

Cost at mail order pharmacy

Cost at mail order pharmacy	Cost at mail order pharmacy
This plan doesn't have mail order pharmacy coverage.	January Enrollment \$3,875.98

Example of person on Norvasc, Lunesta, Paxil and Soma; The best plan for you depends on YOUR list of prescriptions.

First Health Part D Value Plus

Monthly Drug Costs at Retail Pharmacies

[View Drug Cost Summary](#)

MILESTONES	MONTH	YOUR COST
	1st	\$1,029.82
	2nd	\$1,029.82
	3rd	\$1,029.82
	4th	\$1,029.82
	5th	\$1,029.82
	6th	\$1,029.82
	7th	\$1,029.82
	8th	\$1,029.82
	9th	\$1,029.82
	10th	\$1,029.82
	11th	\$1,029.82
	12th	\$1,080.20

Donut Hole reached (at 10th month)

AARP Medicare RX Enhanced

Monthly Drug Costs at Retail Pharmacies

[View Drug Cost Summary](#)

MILESTONES	MONTH	YOUR COST
	1st	\$262.59
	2nd	\$262.59
	3rd	\$332.14
	4th	\$594.12
	5th	\$594.12
	6th	\$594.12
	7th	\$594.12
	8th	\$195.66
	9th	\$151.99
	10th	\$151.99
	11th	\$151.99
	12th	\$151.99

Donut Hole reached (at 3rd month)

Monthly Drug Costs Estimator

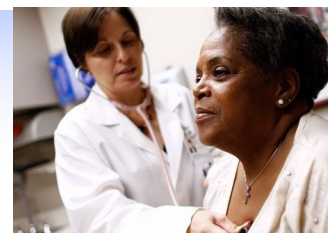
Click the thumbnail image to view monthly costs comparison charts.

[Click here for monthly drug cost details by selected drugs](#)

Starting January 1, 2011, if you reach the coverage gap (also called the "donut hole") in your Medicare prescription drug coverage, you will get approximately a 50% discount on covered brand drugs. Medicare has also increased its coverage of generic drugs for beneficiaries in the coverage gap so that beginning in 2011 you will pay less for generic drugs as well. The drugs eligible for the brand discount or the additional generic savings may change based on the information we have available.

Medicare Wellness & Preventives—Medicare Part B

“An ounce of prevention is worth a pound of cure.” - Ben Franklin



For 2013

Prevention/Wellness Visit	Frequency	Cost	Notes
Annual Wellness Visit	1x every 12 months	No cost (unless other services delivered during same visit)	Weight/Height/BMI Blood pressure, Cognitive impairment, Depression, Hearing, and Vision Screens; Ability to do activities of daily living; Fall risk; Discuss personal and family history
Abdominal Aortic Aneurysm Screening	1x a year	No cost	If determined at-risk by doctor
Alcohol Misuse Screening & Counseling	Screen: 1x a year Counseling: 4 sessions w/ doctor or qualified provider	No cost	Questionnaire
Bone Mass Measurement	Every 2 years if at-risk for osteoporosis	No cost	Test detects osteoporosis before bones break
Mammogram	1x a year	No cost	Breast cancer screening
Cardiovascular Screen	Blood test: 1x every 5 years Screening: 1x a year	Test and screening are no cost	Blood test: Cholesterol and Lipids Test Risk Screening: History
Pap Test & Pelvic Exam	Every 2 years or 1x a year for women w/ abnormal pap tests	No cost	Cervical and Vaginal Cancer Screenings
Colon Cancer Screening	Fecal blood test: 1x year <i>If at risk:</i> Flexible sigmoidoscopy every 4 yrs; Colonoscopy every 2 yrs; Barium Enema every 2 yrs	No cost for fecal blood test, flexible sigmoidoscopy and colonoscopy; 20% for barium enema	If during colonoscopy, the doctor finds and removes polyps, co-pays will apply since the screening becomes diagnostic and treatment.
Depression Screening	1x a year by primary doctor	No cost	Questionnaire
Diabetes Screening	2xs a year if at-risk	No cost	Fasting plasma glucose test
Glaucoma Test	1x a year if at-risk	20% and Part B deductible	Tests pressure & angle of eye
HIV Screening	1x a year	No cost	Blood test
Obesity Screening and Counseling	Screen: 1x a year Counseling: If BMI >30, Month 1: 1 counseling session every week Mos 2-6: 1 session per 2 weeks Mos 7-12: 1 session a month if continued weight loss	No cost	Screen: Body-mass index (BMI) is calculated using your height and weight
Prostrate Cancer Screening	1x every 12months	Blood test (PSA): No Cost Rectal Exam: 20% and Part B deductible	Prostrate Specific Antigen (PSA) Blood Test and Digital Rectal Exam
Shots	Flu—1x a year Hepatitis B—for at risk Pneumococcal —1x lifetime	No cost	Flu—in Fall or late winter Hep B— risks: hemophilia, ESRD or low resistance to infection
Smoking Cessation	8 counseling sessions	No cost	For any smoker
Medical Nutrition Therapy	Doctor refers to registered dietician. 1st year: 3 hrs of counseling; other years 2 hrs	No cost	For those with diabetes, renal disease or had a kidney transplant within 3 years

Part B covers Diabetes Self Management Class and Diabetes Supplies (strips, monitor, lancets and solution) for 20% and deductible.