

MEDICARE-APPROVED DRUG DISCOUNT CARD INSTRUCTION SHEET FOR COMPLETING FORMS CMS-20016-A AND CMS-20016-B



This packet contains information about enrolling in a Medicare-approved prescription drug discount card. This discount card can help you save money on your prescription drugs. It is available to people with Medicare who meet the requirements described below. Call **1-800-MEDICARE** (1-800-633-4227) or visit *www.medicare.gov* to find out about the drug card companies available in your area. You will need this information to complete your enrollment form. TTY users should call 1-877-486-2048.

Am I eligible for the Medicare-approved drug discount card?

There are **no income restrictions** for the drug discount card. You **are eligible** to enroll in the Medicare-approved drug discount card if:

- You have Medicare Part A and/or Part B, and
- You **do not** have outpatient prescription drug benefits under your State Medicaid Program (*your State may call this Medical Assistance*).

Note: If you are enrolled in a State pharmacy assistance program (*not Medicaid*), you are still eligible.

To enroll in a Medicare-approved drug discount card, complete and send in an enrollment form CMS-20016-A (*Standard Enrollment Form For A Medicare-Approved Drug Discount Card*) to the sponsor you have selected. Your information will only be used for eligibility and/or payment purposes in a Medicare program.

Am I eligible for a credit of up to \$600 to help pay for my prescription drugs?

If your income is below a certain level, Medicare may also give you a credit of up to \$600 through your membership in a Medicare-approved drug discount card. If you qualify, you will be enrolled in the drug discount card and also receive a credit of up to \$600. The income amounts are different for single people and married couples. Please see the charts on the next page to see if you may qualify.

You may be eligible for a \$600 credit to help pay for your prescription drugs if:

- Your **monthly** income*, plus your spouse's income* (*if married*), is **no more** than the amount listed in the chart below.

State of Residence	Single Person Monthly Income	Married Person Monthly Income
48 Contiguous States	\$1,048	\$1,406
Alaska	\$1,309	\$1,757
Hawaii	\$1,204	\$1,616

These amounts are for the year 2004.

(*Income includes money that you receive through retirement benefits from Social Security, Railroad, the Federal or State governments, or other sources, and benefits you receive for a disability or as a Veteran, plus any other sources of the type that you would report for tax purposes.)

If you qualify for the credit, you will pay a coinsurance at the pharmacy for each prescription drug, until the credit of up to \$600 is used, based on your income level as follows:

State of Residence	Single Person Monthly Income	Married Person Monthly Income	Coinsurance you pay at the Pharmacy
48 Contiguous States	\$1,048 or less	\$1,406 or less	10% of the cost of the drug
	\$ 776 or less	\$1,041 or less	5% of the cost of the drug
Alaska	\$1,309 or less	\$1,757 or less	10% of the cost of the drug
	\$970 or less	\$1,301 or less	5% of the cost of the drug
Hawaii	\$1,204 or less	\$1,616 or less	10% of the cost of the drug
	\$892 or less	\$1,197 or less	5% of the cost of the drug

These amounts are for the year 2004.

Important note: If your State helps pay your Medicare Part A or Part B premiums, you may still qualify even if your income is above these amounts. Your coinsurance at the pharmacy would be 10% of the cost of the drug.

You are not eligible to get the \$600 credit toward your prescription drugs if you have any of the following:

- Outpatient prescription drug benefits under your State Medicaid Program
- TRICARE (*military health insurance*)
- FEHB (*health insurance for Federal employees or retirees*)
- Other health coverage that includes outpatient prescription drugs, such as employer or retiree plans.*
 (*However, if you have health coverage through a Medicare+Choice (M+C) plan, a Medigap policy (Medicare supplement insurance) or the Veteran's Administration (VA), you are still eligible.)

How can I become a member in a Medicare-approved drug discount card?

To become a member in a Medicare-approved drug discount card, you must complete the enrollment form CMS-20016-A, **Standard Enrollment Form For A Medicare-Approved Drug Discount Card**. When complete, you must return the enrollment form *to the sponsor of the discount card you have chosen*. *If you don't send this form to the sponsor, your enrollment will be delayed.*

How can I get a credit of up to \$600 to help pay for my prescription drugs?

If you think you might qualify for the \$600 credit, you must complete Form CMS-20016-B, **Standard Enrollment Form For A Medicare-Approved Drug Discount Card and a Credit to Help Pay For Your Prescription Drugs**. When complete, please sign and *return this form to the sponsor of the discount card you have chosen*. *If you don't send this form to the sponsor, your enrollment will be delayed.*

If I apply for a Medicare-approved drug discount card, when does enrollment begin?

Your Medicare-approved drug discount card (including the \$600 credit, if you qualify) will be effective the first day of the month following the month the sponsor receives your completed enrollment form.

If you apply early in the month, you may receive your Medicare-approved drug discount card before the first of the following month. If you apply late in the month, you may not receive your card by the first of the month due to mailing time. The sponsor will tell you when you may begin to use your discount card (and the \$600 credit, if it applies to you). Generally, you must have your card to use it for drug discounts (and the \$600 credit, if you qualify).

Why are there two different enrollment forms?

Anyone can apply for a Medicare-approved drug discount card. Some people might choose to also apply for a credit of up to \$600. If this is the case, they need to use Form CMS-20016-B, **Standard Enrollment Form For A Medicare-Approved Drug Discount Card and a Credit to Help Pay For Your Prescription Drugs**, to answer additional questions about their income.

How can I get more information?

- Visit www.medicare.gov on the web. Select “Prescription Drug and Other Assistance Programs.”
- Call 1-800-MEDICARE (1-800-633-4227). TTY users should call 1-877-486-2048.
- Call your State Health Insurance Assistance Program (SHIP). To find the telephone number for your SHIP, call 1-800-MEDICARE (1-800-633-4227). TTY users should call 1-877-486-2048. You can also find the number at www.medicare.gov on the web. Select “Helpful Contacts.”
- Contact the Medicare-approved drug discount card sponsor you have selected.