



# TAKE ADVANTAGE OF THE **Medicare Prescription Payment Plan** **to help manage your prescription costs**

Learn about the Medicare Prescription Payment Plan

## WHAT IT IS

**Under Medicare Part D, your out-of-pocket costs are capped at \$2100.**

**The Medicare Prescription Payment Plan is an optional program to help manage your out-of-pocket drug costs by spreading them out over the year.**

### Medicare Prescription Payment Plan “Smoothing”



## HOW IT WORKS

### 1 Contact your plan to sign up



- or -



**Complete and submit a participation request form, available on your plan's website**



**Call your plan and request to participate**

### 2 Pay nothing up front

### 3 Pay monthly installments to your plan

You will only be billed for what you spend toward the \$2100 out-of-pocket cap



# Frequently Asked Questions

## ► Am I eligible to participate in the Medicare Prescription Payment Plan?

Anyone with a Medicare Part D prescription drug plan (including Medicare Advantage plans with drug coverage) is eligible to opt in to the Medicare Prescription Payment Plan. This program is optional and you must opt in to participate.

## ► How do I know if the Medicare Prescription Payment Plan is right for me?

While this program is available to anyone with Medicare Part D, it may be particularly helpful if you use medications with high out-of-pocket costs (such as branded or specialty drugs) and are likely to reach the \$2100 out-of-pocket spending cap earlier in the year.

## ► What will change for me if I opt in to the Medicare Prescription Payment Plan?

Instead of paying the pharmacy for your prescriptions, you will pay your plan over the year in capped monthly installments. Your maximum monthly payments will be calculated based on what you have spent toward the \$2100 out-of-pocket limit and the number of remaining months in the plan year. Visit [medicare.gov/prescription-payment-plan/will-this-help-me](https://medicare.gov/prescription-payment-plan/will-this-help-me) to see if this payment option is right for you.

## ► Do I need to sign up during open enrollment?

You can opt in anytime during the year, but opting in early is recommended as enrolling later in the year may result in higher monthly payments since there are fewer months left in the year to spread out your out-of-pocket costs.

## ► What if I do not reach the \$2100 out-of-pocket cap?

You will only be billed for what you spend toward the out-of-pocket cap and do not have to reach or pay the full \$2100 limit as a condition of participating in the program.

## ► Are there any costs or fees to participate?

There is no cost to participate in the Medicare Prescription Payment Plan.

## ► What medications are included in this program?

All drugs covered by your Part D plan (including specialty, branded, and generic) qualify toward your annual out-of-pocket costs and will be billed as part of your monthly installment benefit until you reach the \$2100 spending cap.

## ► How does this program differ from the Low Income Subsidy “Extra Help” program?

The Extra Help program reduces qualifying members’ total out-of-pocket drug costs, whereas the Medicare Prescription Payment Plan helps “smooth” these costs into more manageable monthly payments instead of a lump sum early in the year. For more information about the Extra Help program, please call 1-800-772-1213 or visit [ssa.gov/extrahelp](https://ssa.gov/extrahelp).

### Where can I find more information about the Medicare Prescription Payment Plan?

To learn more, please call your plan or visit your plan’s website. Additional information, including a preview of your estimated monthly and annual costs, can be found at [medicare.gov/prescription-payment-plan](https://medicare.gov/prescription-payment-plan) or by calling **1-800-MEDICARE (1-800-633-4227)**. TTY users can call 1-877-486-2048.

**OPT IN EARLY** to get the maximum benefit

