



Medicare Prescription Drug Coverage Extra Help with Costs

An Informational Fact Sheet



LOCAL HELP FOR PEOPLE WITH MEDICARE

1-800-963-5337

Florida Department of Elder Affairs, SHINE Program

154811

Medicare beneficiaries who are currently enrolled or preparing to enroll in a Medicare prescription drug plan may save on out-of-pocket costs (premiums, deductibles, and co-payments). **Extra Help** (also known as the low-income subsidy or LIS) is available for individuals who have limited annual incomes below \$16,335/individuals and \$22,065/couples. The table below represents the monthly income levels (based on 2011 Federal Poverty Levels) needed to become eligible for the extra help and shows the out-of-pocket costs related to each.

Out-of-Pocket Costs for 2011

| Monthly Income * and Resource Limits ** | Individual \$ 908 Res. \$ 8,180 or less Couples \$1,226 Res. \$13,020 or less | Individual \$1,226 Res. \$ 8,180 or less Couples \$1,655 Res. \$13,020 or less | Individual \$ 1,226 Res. \$12,640 or less Couples \$ 1,655 Res. \$25,260 or less | Individual \$ 1,362 Res. \$12,640 or less Couples \$ 1,839 Res. \$25,260 or less |
|--|--|---|---|---|
| Premium | \$ - 0 - | \$ - 0 - | \$ - 0 - | 25% to 75% of monthly premium (based on income) |
| Deductible (\$310 / year) | \$ - 0 - | \$ - 0 - | Up to \$ 63 | Up to \$ 63 |
| Coinsurance (up to \$4,550) | \$1.10 – 3.30 co-pay | \$2.50 – 6.30 co-pay | 15% Coinsurance | 15% Coinsurance |
| Catastrophic Limit (total drug costs of \$6,447) | \$ - 0 - | \$ - 0 - | \$2.50 – 6.30 co-pay | \$2.50 – 6.30 co-pay |

* Monthly Income (figures in bold) is based on the 2011 Federal Poverty Levels.

** The Resource Limits include a \$1,500 per person for burial expenses.

NOTE: If an individual has Medicare and Medicaid and is in a long-term care facility (i.e., nursing facility or skilled nursing facility), s/he will have \$ 0 out-of-pocket costs (i.e., no premium, deductible or co-pays).

TO APPLY ONLINE: Go to <http://www.benefitscheckup.org/florida> and you will find easy to understand instructions. If you do not have internet connection and would like assistance applying, please feel free to contact a **SHINE** counselor by dialing the number listed below.

ASSISTANCE: If you have further questions about Extra Help or other insurance-related issues, please feel free to contact the **SHINE** (Serving Health Insurance Needs of Elders) Program by calling the toll-free Elder Helpline at **1-800-96-ELDER (1-800-963-5337)** and asking for a SHINE counselor. Other insurance and Medicare information can be found on the SHINE website at: www.floridaSHINE.org.

*Information included in this fact sheet was obtained from the
Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) and the Social Security Administration*

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