



How do my Medicaid and Medicare drug coverage (Part D) work together?

If you have Medicare and Medicaid, you must get your prescriptions from a Medicare private drug plan (Medicare Part D).

Medicaid helps pay your health costs for doctor and hospital care, including your Medicare Parts A and B deductible and coinsurance. You will also get Extra Help—federal assistance that helps pay for your Medicare drug costs.

When you become eligible for Medicaid, you can choose a Medicare private drug plan or Medicare will automatically enroll you in one with your coverage starting the month that you became eligible for Medicaid (retroactive coverage). Make sure the plan you are enrolled in:

- covers the drugs you need
- works at the pharmacies you use regularly
- will not charge you a monthly premium (Extra Help pays the premium in full for certain plans)

If you are not satisfied with your coverage, you can switch drug plans once a month.

Use your Medicare prescription drug plan to get your prescriptions filled. Depending on your income, in 2008 you will pay either \$1.05 for generics and \$3.10 for brand-name drugs **or** \$2.25 for generics and \$5.60 for brand-name drugs (or the cost of the drug if it is less).

In addition, some state Medicaid programs will help pay for drugs that are not covered by your Medicare private drug plan.

You can get information about Medicare private drug plans in your area by:

- going to www.medicare.gov
- calling 800-MEDICARE (800-633-4227)
- calling the Medicare Rights Center hotline at 800-333-4114

Note: If you will lose your retiree or union coverage by enrolling in a Medicare private drug plan, you may not have to take Medicare drug coverage. Call your local Medicaid office to find out what to do if you may lose your retiree/union coverage.