

What Are My Medicare Options?

Original Medicare

Part A - Hospital | Part B - Medical

Fee-for-service coverage under which the government pays your health care providers directly for your Part A and/or Part B benefits.

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Medicare Supplement

(Secondary) Insurance

Sold by private insurance companies to fill “gaps” in Original Medicare coverage.

Others may have coverage through a retirement health plan or Medicaid.

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Prescription Drug Coverage

Part D

Private companies approved by Medicare run these plans. All plans have different costs and cover different drugs.

OR

Medicare Advantage Plans

(HMOs and PPOs)
Part C

Offered by private companies that contract with Medicare to provide Part A and Part B benefits.

Plan types include health maintenance organizations (HMOs), preferred provider organizations (PPOs), private fee-for-service plans and more.

These plans take the place of Original Medicare and most include the Part D prescription drug benefit.

How Do I Compare Part D Plans?

Ohio Department of Insurance:
800-686-1578

Medicare: 800-MEDICARE



50 West Town Street
Suite 300
Columbus, Ohio 43215

800-686-1578
insurance.ohio.gov/oshiip
email: oshiipmail@insurance.ohio.gov

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January 2025



Medicare Part D

Prescription Drug Costs
2025 - 2026

THE ‘EXTRA HELP’ PROGRAM

Ohio Senior Health Insurance Information Program (OSHIIP)

800-686-1578

insurance.ohio.gov/oshiip

Important Dates:

October	Announcement of Part C and Part D plans for the upcoming year. Visit medicare.gov to compare plans
	Medicare open enrollment begins October 15
December	Medicare open enrollment ends December 7
January	New plans and plan changes take effect January 1

The Ohio Senior Health Insurance Information Program (OSHIIP) is a division of the Ohio Department of Insurance that provides free information and education to people covered by Medicare and their caregivers.

What is Medicare Part D?

Part D is Medicare's comprehensive prescription drug coverage benefit and is available to anyone eligible for Medicare Part A or Part B.

People with Medicare may enroll in Part D coverage through either a stand-alone plan or a Medicare Advantage plan. People on Medicare who choose not to enroll and have no other drug coverage may pay more for late enrollment.

What Does Part D Cost?

Each Medicare drug plan has its own formulary. Many plans place drugs into different "tiers" on their formularies. Drugs in each tier have a different cost; drugs in a lower tier will generally cost you less than those in a higher tier.

Monthly Premiums: \$0 - \$124.00

Annual Deductible: \$0 - \$590.00

Copays or Coinsurance: 25% or flat amount - depends on plan

New: Maximum out-of-pocket - \$2,000.00 for covered drugs

How Do I Choose a Part D Plan?

Each year you should review your plan options and look for three things:

Convenience: know what pharmacies are in network and if the plan has preferred pharmacies

Cost: know all possible out-of-pocket expenses

Coverage: make sure all your current prescription medications are included

For help comparing prescription drug plans and to learn about other programs that may help you pay drug costs, call OSHIIP:

800-686-1578

What is the 'Extra Help' Program?

Extra Help is a Medicare program that helps people with limited income and resources pay Medicare prescription drug costs. You may qualify for Extra Help, also called low-income subsidy (LIS), if your annual income and total resources are below these limits this year.

Single Person	Married Person
Monthly Income: \$1,976	Monthly Income: \$2,664
Resources: \$17,600	Resources: \$35,130

For help applying for Extra Help benefits, contact the the Ohio Department of Insurance at 800-686-1578.

What Counts as Income and Resources?

Resources include money in a checking or savings account, stocks, bonds, mutual funds, and Individual Retirement Accounts (IRAs). Resources don't include your home, car, household items, burial plot, burial expenses (up to \$1,500 per person), or life insurance policies. Income includes any money received from social security, pensions, employment, interest and more.

If you qualify for Extra Help, Medicare will pay:

- All or most of the monthly premium
- All of your annual deductible
- Most of your copayments/coinsurance
- Full coverage during the donut hole

In 2025, drug costs for most people who qualify will be no more than \$4.90 for each generic drug and \$12.15 for each brand name drug. Look on the Extra Help letters you get, or contact your plan to find out your exact costs.

NOTE: All people with Medicare should review their drug options EVERY year and choose the plan that's best for them!