

# Medicare Part D Prescription Drug

**Medicare Part D helps pay for the cost of prescription drugs.** Part D is included in most Medicare Advantage plans or through a standalone Part D plan from a private insurance company.

## What does Medicare Part D cover?

Part D covers generic, brand-name, and specialty prescriptions. Each Medicare Prescription Drug plan has a Plan Formulary with a covered prescription drug list.

## How much does Medicare Part D cost?

- Part D plan monthly premium, *if applicable*.
- Prescription Drug out-of-pocket copays, coinsurance, and deductibles
- Medicare Beneficiaries without Drug coverage for 63 days may have a late enrollment penalty.

## Stages of Prescription Drug Coverage

- **Deductible Stage**  
Plans may or may not have a deductible. Plans may have a deductible for brand-name Drugs. Plans with higher monthly premiums may not have a deductible.
- **Initial Coverage Stage**  
In the Initial Coverage Stage, you may pay a copay or coinsurance until you reach the Coverage Gap Stage. Most people will not enter into the Coverage Gap Stage.
- **Coverage Gap Stage**  
You pay up to **25%** of the plan's cost for your prescription drugs. You remain in this Stage until your out-of-pocket costs and any manufacturer's discount payments provided for brand-name drugs reach the Catastrophic Stage.
- **[Catastrophic Stage is ending Jan. 1, 2024](#)**  
In 2023, you pay the greater of 5% or \$4.15 for generic drugs, and for all other medicines, the greater of 5% or \$10.35, whichever is higher.

## Am I eligible for Medicare Part D?

You must be enrolled in Original Medicare Parts A or B to enroll in a Part D Prescription Drug plan.

## How do I get Medicare Part D?

- Enroll in a Part D Standalone Prescription drug plan.
- Enroll in a Medicare Advantage plan with Part D Prescription drug coverage.

## Extra Help with prescription drug costs

You may qualify for Extra Help for Prescription Drug Coverage if you have limited income and resources. [Get Extra Help with prescription drug costs.](#)

**Request Free Help!**