

MEDICARE SAVINGS PROGRAM

What are Medicare Savings Programs (MSP)?

MSP are programs that help people with Medicare save money each year. For people with limited income and resources, MSP pays some or all of your Medicare premiums, deductibles and copayments.



Will the State Take My Home and Assets If I'm in a MSP?

No. The state will not take your home or assets.

Will MSP Help with My Part D Prescription Drug Costs?

Yes. Your prescription copays will be lower, and you won't have a Part D coverage gap (doughnut hole).

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How Do I Know If I Qualify for a MSP?

If you can answer YES to the following three questions, you should apply for MSP:

- Do you have Medicare Part A (hospital insurance)?
- Are your resources at or below \$9,090 for an individual or \$13,630 for a married couple? Resources include money in checking and savings accounts, CDs, stocks and bonds. Do not count the house you live in, your car or household items as resources
- Is your income at or below the income limits listed in the table below?



Medicare Savings Programs	Individual Monthly Income Limit	Married Couple Monthly Income Limit	MSP Pays or Lowers
Qualified Medicare Beneficiary (QMB)	\$1,215	\$1,643	Part A premiums; Part B premiums, deductibles, coinsurance and copayments
Low-Income Medicare Beneficiary (LMB)	\$1,458	\$1,972	Part B premium
Expanded Low-Income Medicare Beneficiary (ELMB)	\$1,640	\$2,219	Part B premium

Based on 2023 Federal Poverty Guidelines

Should I Apply?

Even if your income or resources are higher than the amounts listed in this flyer, you could qualify for MSP. If you are on a fixed income, the MSP could save you money.

How To Apply

Call the KanCare Clearinghouse at 1-800-792-4884. A paper application is also available for download at <http://www.kancare.ks.gov/consumers/apply-for-kancare>.

Senior Health Insurance Counseling for Kansas (SHICK)

If you need more information, trained SHICK counselors are available to help you navigate Medicare decisions. Counseling is free, unbiased, confidential and available to anyone with questions about Medicare. MSP benefits, resources, and income guidelines can change at any time. Please call a SHICK counselor to confirm current resource and income guideline amounts at 1-800-860-5260.

If You Have Medicare and Need Assistance with the Cost of Prescriptions, Extra Help is Available

Extra Help is a program administered by the Social Security Administration that assists with the cost of Medicare Part D drug plan premiums, co-pays, co-insurances and deductibles. It can even reduce the cost of your prescriptions to \$10.35 for name brand drugs and \$4.15 for generic drugs in 2023 if your income qualifies.

If you are eligible for Extra Help, you could save approximately \$4,000 per year and completely avoid the donut hole. You may be allowed to have more income if you have family that reside with you and you provide at least half your income to help support.

Extra Help Income and Assets Limits	Single	Married
Income Guidelines (includes Social Security, Veterans Pensions, work income and retirement pensions)	\$21,870/year or \$1,823/month*	\$29,580/year or \$2,465/month*
Asset Guidelines (includes checking, savings, and retirement accounts; IRAs and CDs)	Total no more than \$16,660**	Total no more than \$33,240**



*Based on 2023 Federal Poverty Guidelines
**Includes up to \$1,500 per person burial exclusion



How to Apply?

Call or visit your local Social Security Administration office. To apply online, visit www.ssa.gov/extrahelp. To find the Social Security office near you, call:

1-877-772-1213

When Can I Apply?

You can apply for *Extra Help* at any time during the year. You do not have to wait until open enrollment. When you apply, the Social Security Administration will automatically send your application information to the state to apply for a Medicare Savings Program unless you choose to opt out.

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