# Government Versus Manufacturer Funded Programs

A resource guide for The Change Coalition | November 2026

Canadians living with invisible, hidden, or non-apparent disabilities may be able to obtain prescription cost assistance through manufacturer-funded programs and government-funded drug benefits. These programs differ in funding, eligibility, medication lists, and patient costs.

## Understanding the distinction

**Funding. Manufacturer-funded:** Pharmaceutical manufacturers. **Government-funded:** Public funding, sometimes with premiums or contributions.

**Purpose. Manufacturer-funded:** Savings or support for selected medicines. **Government-funded:** Drug coverage for eligible residents.

**Eligibility. Manufacturer-funded:** Specific drug and program terms. **Government-funded:** Residency, income, age, or other qualifying circumstances.

**Covered drugs. Manufacturer-funded:** Participating brands or products. **Government-funded:** Government formularies.

**Financial help. Manufacturer-funded:** Brand-price difference or product-specific assistance.
**Government-funded:** Coverage subject to deductibles and copayments.

**How to access. Manufacturer-funded:** Card, pharmacy, or prescriber enrollment.

**Government-funded:** Government application or automatic eligibility.

**Can they combine?**

**Manufacturer-funded:** Sometimes; check each program.
**Government-funded:** Coordination rules vary.

## Directory 1 — Manufacturer-funded savings and support

### Innovicares

Brand-name medication savings.

**Visit official website — Innovicares**

### RxHelp ONE

Savings on selected brand-name medicines.

**Visit official website — RxHelp ONE**

### Pfizer Originals

Savings on selected Pfizer medicines.

**Visit official website — Pfizer Originals**

### Novo Nordisk Care

Financial assistance for eligible patients.

**Visit official website — Novo Nordisk Care**

### AbbVie Care

Support for selected AbbVie medicines.

**Visit official website — AbbVie Care**

### Amgen Patient Support

Specialty medicine reimbursement assistance.

**Visit official website — Amgen Patient Support**

### Biogen Patient Support

Selected neurological treatments.

**Visit official website — Biogen Patient Support**

### Roche Patient Support

Selected oncology and specialty treatments.

**Visit official website — Roche Patient Support**

### Novartis Patient Support

Selected specialty medicines.

**Visit official website — Novartis Patient Support**

### Sanofi Patient Support

Selected chronic and specialty conditions.

**Visit official website — Sanofi Patient Support**

**These programs are not all general-purpose savings cards.** Assistance and enrollment may be product-specific, province-specific, or require a prescriber or specialty pharmacy.

## Directory 2 — Government-funded drug benefits

### British Columbia

BC PharmaCare / Fair PharmaCare

**Visit official government information — BC PharmaCare / Fair PharmaCare**




### Alberta

Alberta Drug Benefit Programs

**Visit official government information — Alberta Drug Benefit Programs**

### Saskatchewan

Drug Plan / Special Support

**Visit official government information — Drug Plan / Special Support**

### Manitoba

Manitoba Pharmacare

**Visit official government information — Manitoba Pharmacare**

### Ontario

Ontario Drug Benefit / Trillium

**Visit official government information — Ontario Drug Benefit / Trillium**

### Quebec

RAMQ Public Prescription Drug Insurance

**Visit official government information — RAMQ Public Prescription Drug Insurance**

### New Brunswick

New Brunswick Drug Plan

**Visit official government information — New Brunswick Drug Plan**

### Nova Scotia

Nova Scotia Pharmacare

**Visit official government information — Nova Scotia Pharmacare**

### Prince Edward Island

PEI Drug Programs

**Visit official government information — PEI Drug Programs**

### Newfoundland and Labrador

Prescription Drug Program

**Visit official government information — Prescription Drug Program**

### Yukon

Yukon Health Benefits

**Visit official government information — Yukon Health Benefits**

### Northwest Territories

NWT Health Benefits

**Visit official government information — NWT Health Benefits**

### Nunavut

Nunavut Health Programs

**Visit official government information — Nunavut Health Programs**

### Federal

Non-Insured Health Benefits (eligible First Nations and Inuit)

**Visit official government information — Non-Insured Health Benefits (eligible First Nations and Inuit)**

## Where to start

**Brand-name prescription is expensive:** Ask a pharmacist about Innovicares, RxHelp ONE, or the manufacturer's program.

**No insurance or high ongoing costs:** Check the provincial or territorial public drug benefit program.

**Expensive specialty medication:** Ask the prescribing specialist about manufacturer patient support and public coverage.

## Important limitations

**Being enrolled in multiple programs does not mean their benefits can be combined for the same prescription.** Medication eligibility, patient contributions, and program availability can change. Verify details directly before relying on a benefit.

## THE CHANGE COALITION — IMPORTANT DISCLAIMER

**Educational and referral purposes only.** The Change Coalition does not provide medical, pharmaceutical, legal, financial, or insurance advice; prescribe or recommend medications; determine program eligibility; or guarantee prescription coverage, reimbursement, discounts, or free medication.

**Program information can change.** Program participation, medication lists, provincial or territorial availability, income requirements, insurance coordination, and savings may change without notice. Listing a medication, manufacturer, or program does not establish current availability, approval for a particular condition, or eligibility for assistance.

**Verify information directly.** Confirm medication-specific coverage, costs, application requirements, and privacy practices with the official program administrator, pharmacist, insurer, or healthcare provider.




**Medication safety.** Do not start, stop, substitute, or change any prescribed medication based on this directory without consulting your prescribing healthcare professional.

**Protect your privacy.** Submit medical, insurance, and financial information only through verified, secure channels of the relevant program—not to The Change Coalition. The Change Coalition is not responsible for third-party program decisions or changes.