

State Pharmacy Assistance Subsidy Programs and Discount Programs¹



State/Status (States with multiple subsidy programs have a listing for each program)	Pharmacy Assistance Subsidy Program							Discount Program/ Buyers' Club
	Income criteria (for individuals)	Copay	Deductible	Limit on amount of benefit	Limit on covered drugs	Other eligibility criteria	Other	
AZ	<\$17,180	50% of drug costs	Depends on income, either \$500 or \$1,000			Medicare beneficiaries; limited to residents of counties w/o Medicare HMO drug coverage	Not yet implemented; will be a two- year pilot program	
AR	<\$6,872; goes to 100% poverty (\$8,590 in 2001) after 6/30/03	\$10, generic; \$20, brand		2 scripts/mo		65+	Not yet implemented. Will have a \$25/yr fee	Aggregate buying program. Not yet implemented.
CA								Discount program for Medicare beneficiaries
CT	<\$15,100	\$12				65+; disabled 18+	\$25/yr fee. Required generic substitution	
DE Prescription Assistance Program	Seniors between \$12,500-\$16,488; disabled <\$16,488	Greater of \$5 or 25%		\$2,500		Medicare beneficiary	Catastrophic coverage for individuals above income threshold who spend 40% of income on drugs	
DE Nemours Health Clinic Pharmacy Assistance Program	< \$12,500	20%				65+		
FL	Incomes between \$7,517 and \$10,022	10%		\$80/mo		65+ Eligible for both Medicare & Medicaid		Discount program for Medicare beneficiaries
IL	<\$21,218	\$3/script; no copay if in \$5 fee category			Yes	65+; disabled 16+	20% copay after program pays \$2,000. Income-based fee, \$5 or \$25.	
IN	<\$11,280	50%		Income-based, \$1,000 max		65+	Structured as a refund program	

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IA								Buyers' club under development through CMS demonstration grant. Medicare eligibles
KS	<\$12,885	30%		\$1,200	Yes	67+	Not yet implemented	
ME Healthy Maine Program	A Medicaid expansion via 1115 waiver; includes former state subsidy program. Has two parts: Subsidy Program: <\$15,891; income threshold 25% higher if over 40% of income goes for drugs Discount Program: Up to \$25,770, eligible for reduced prices	Subsidy Program: Greater of \$2 or 20% Discount Program: Receive drugs at reduced prices			Subsidy Program: Brand drugs for certain diseases, all generics	Subsidy Program: 62+ or disabled 19+ eligible for subsidy Discount Program: Medicare beneficiaries	Program in litigation	Discount program for all residents. Discount based on state-negotiated manufacturer rebate. In litigation; program upheld at appellate court level, appealed to Supreme Court.
MD Maryland Pharmacy Assistance Program	<\$10,000, plus asset test	\$5				No age restrictions		Maryland Pharmacy Discount program is scheduled to begin in January 2002
MD Short-term subsidy program	< \$26,000	Varies by drug type from \$10, generic to \$30, non-preferred brand		\$1,000/yr		Medicare beneficiaries	Premium of \$10/month; limited to 30,000 people. Due to expire on 6/30/03.	
MA	<\$16,152	Varies by drug type	\$100 to \$500 depending on income			65+; disabled	Premium varies by income; out-of-pocket expenses capped at lesser of \$2,000 or 10% of income	
MI	<\$17,180	Varies by income and drug type				65+	\$25/year fee	Tax credit program to end 12/31/01 and enrollees to roll in subsidy program

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MN	<\$10,308 ; assets considered		\$35/month			65+	Will be expanded to disabled in 2002	
MO	2 categories: <\$12,000; \$12,000 - \$17,000	40% of drug cost	\$250 in lower-income bracket; \$500 in higher-income bracket	\$500		65+	\$25 fee for lower-income; \$35 fee for higher-income bracket. Not implemented. Passed the 2001 legislative session as a replacement for a tax credit program but may face a legal challenge.	
NV	<\$21,500	Depends on which private insurance plan selected	\$100	\$5,000		62+	State subsidy to offset cost of private drug-only insurance policy. Monthly premiums are \$74.76 for "Basic Plan" and \$98.31 for "Enhanced Plan"; difference is cost-sharing responsibility, which varies by private plan selected.	
NH								Discount Program. Persons 65+ receive discount through state-contracted PBM. No enrollment fees.
NJ Pharmaceutical Assistance for the Aged and Disabled	< \$19,238	\$5, generic; brand is \$5 plus difference between brand and generic				65+; disabled 18+		
NJ Senior Gold Prescription Discount Program	\$19,238 - \$29,238	\$15, plus 50% of difference between \$15 and "reasonable cost" of drug				65+; disabled 18+	Copay limited to \$15 per script once \$2,000 paid out of pocket for drugs	
NY EPIC Fee plan	<\$20,001	\$3 to \$20, varies by drug, capped				65+	Annual copayment costs are capped. Cap ranges from \$360 to \$1,160 depending on income. Annual enrollment fee depends on income, ranges from \$8-\$230	

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NY EPIC Deductible plan	\$20,001 - \$35,000	\$3 to \$20, varies by drug	\$530 to \$1,230, depending on income			65+	Annual copayment costs are capped. Cap ranges from \$1,050 to \$1,750 depending on income.	
NC	<\$12,885	\$6			Yes	65+		
OR	<\$15,891 and <\$2,000 in assets	50% of drug costs	\$2,000/yr			65+	\$50 annual enrollment fee. Program not yet implemented	
PA (PACE)	< \$14,000	\$6				65+		
PA (PACENET)	\$14,000 to \$16,001	\$8, generic; \$15, brand	\$500			65+		
RI	< \$35,000	Discounts ranging from 15% to 60%, depending on income			Yes	65+		
SC	<\$15,032	\$10, generic; \$21, brand	\$500			65+	10% discount while meeting deductible	
TX	Being developed					Medicare/Medicaid dual eligibles	Not yet implemented; scheduled to start in 2002	
VT VHAP	<\$12,885	\$1 or \$2, depends on price of drug			Medicaid covered drugs	Medicare beneficiaries		Discount program attempted through a Section 1115 Medicaid waiver, halted through litigation
VT V-SCRIPT	\$12,885-\$15,032	\$1 or \$2, depends on price of drug			Medicaid covered maintenance drugs			
VT V-SCRIPT Expanded	\$15,033-\$19,327	50%			Medicaid covered maintenance			

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WA								Buyers' club for those 55+; annual membership fee; stopped by court order in May 2001
WV								Discount program for individuals 65+ with incomes below \$25,050
WI	<\$20,616	\$5, generic; \$15, brand	\$500; no deductible if income <\$13,744			65+	\$20 annual fee. Program not yet implemented	
WY	<\$8,350; assets \$1,000 or less	\$25/script		Limit 3 scripts/mo		No age limit		

¹ Reflects program status as of October 2001. This captures only pharmacy assistance subsidy programs and discount or buyers' club programs, not bulk purchasing arrangements or Medicaid expansions, with the exception of Maine's Medicaid expansion, which incorporated its pharmacy assistance program. All income ranges, etc. are for an individual. Some states express eligibility in dollar terms while others use a percent of the Federal Poverty Level (poverty). For consistency, all eligibility ranges are expressed in annual income for an individual. Where states determine eligibility based on a percent of poverty, calculations were based on the poverty level for the contiguous United States in 2001: \$8,590 for an individual. Most programs have different income standards for a couple and some also have different income standards for larger families. Subsidy programs generally require that the individual have no other source of drug coverage.

Sources: National Conference of State Legislatures (www.ncsl.org); Kaiser Family Foundation State Health Facts (www.statehealthfacts.kff.org); Arkansas Senate Bill 932 accessed at (www.arkleg.state.ar.us); Maryland online program information (<http://dhhm.state.md.us/mma/mpap>); Massachusetts online program information (www.800ageinfo.com); Michigan online program information (www.stephenehardt.com/Epic.htm); Nevada online program information (www.nevadaseniorrx.com); New Jersey online program information (www.state.nj.us/health/seniorbenefits/paadapp.htm); New York online program information (<http://assembly.state.ny.us/Updates/Aging/20000526/epic.htm>); Oregon online program information (<http://www.leg.state.or.us/01reg/measures/sb0001.dir/sb0009.en.html>); the Rhode Island Department of Elder Affairs; South Carolina online program information (www.silvercard.com); Vermont online program information (<http://www.leg.state.vt.us/docs/2000/acts/ACT062.HTM>). When various sources had conflicting information on program criteria, the information on the state's Web site was used.