

Over 14 million limited income individuals will be eligible for additional assistance from Medicare in the new prescription drug benefit. Here are some key facts about the limited income subsidy for pharmacists:

- Medicare eligible patients who are currently receiving state Medicaid benefits will not need to fill out the SSA application form. **Medicaid coverage for Medicare eligible beneficiaries will end December 31, 2005.**
- Other limited income beneficiaries should fill out the application form to qualify for assistance starting July 1, 2005.
- The SSA applications are not enrollment applications to participate in any particular Medicare plan. The SSA application form is only the first step. Once a beneficiary receives approval from SSA for the limited income assistance, they will still need to choose a Medicare plan for 2006.
- If a limited income beneficiary does not choose a plan by May 15, 2006, they will likely be auto-enrolled into a qualified plan. However, once a beneficiary is automatically assigned into a plan, they can switch out of that plan if desired.

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What you need to know ...

Have limited income?
Social Security can help
with prescription costs.

Find out if you are eligible.
Call 1-800-772-1213 (TTY 1-800-325-0778)
and ask for "help with
Medicare prescription costs."
Complete your application for help today.
www.socialsecurity.gov



The new Medicare Prescription Drug, Improvement and Modernization Act of 2003 (P.L. 108-173), enacted December 8, 2003, requires the Social Security Administration (SSA) to undertake a number of additional Medicare-related responsibilities. SSA and the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) are working together to provide persons with limited income and resources extra help paying for their prescription drugs. Social Security is also in this partnership to help the public understand how they may qualify and apply.

Apply Online:

- [See if you qualify](#) for help with Medicare prescription drug costs.
- [Apply for help](#) with Medicare prescription drug costs.

SSA-1020

Sample: [Application for Help with Medicare Prescription Drug Plan Costs](#), SSA-1020- instruction sheets are available in 15 different languages to help you understand the English application. The instructions are to be used as guides and cannot be used as applications. [Arabic](#), [Armenian](#), [Chinese](#), [Farsi](#), [French](#), [Greek](#), [Haitian-Creole](#), [Italian](#), [Korean](#), [Polish](#), [Portuguese](#), [Russian](#), [Spanish](#), [Tagalog](#), [Vietnamese](#)

The actual applications are available only in English and Spanish. You must complete either an English or Spanish scannable paper application or you can [apply online \(English only\)](#).