Chapter Five

Medicare Part D
(Prescription Drug Coverage)

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Chapter Five: Medicare Part D

Medicare Part D

Medicare Part D provides prescription drug coverage. Benefits are provided by many different private drug plans that contract with Medicare. People who get their Medicare health benefits through original Medicare can get Medicare Part D through a stand-alone Prescription Drug Plan, referred to as a PDP. California has 32 of these plans available in 2020. Those who get their health benefits through a Medicare Advantage plan can get their prescription drug benefit as part of that managed care plan. Medicare Advantage plans that include Part D coverage are referred to as MA-PDs. Their availability varies by county.

Enrollment

All Medicare beneficiaries, including those who are only enrolled in Part A or only enrolled in Part B, are eligible for the program. Dual eligible recipients (those with both Medi-Cal and Medicare coverage) are automatically enrolled in the program. All others who receive the Low Income Subsidy (“Extra Help”), including individuals in Medicare Savings Programs, have enrollment facilitated into a Part D plan.

Most participants in Medicare Part D can only switch Part D plans during the annual open enrollment period, from October 15 to December 7. Special Enrollment Periods (SEPs) provide some exceptions, such as when a person is new to Medicare, or moves out of state, or loses an alternative source of prescription drug coverage. Dual eligibles and other people who get the Low Income Subsidy or “Extra Help,” have a SEP that allows them to switch plans once each quarter during the year. Individuals living in institutions such as nursing homes can change plans at any time. A list of SEPs is attached in the Supplemental Materials section at the end of this chapter.

COVID-19 ALERT: CMS expanded an existing SEP for natural disasters to extend to individuals who had an enrollment period available on March 1 or later and did not make a change. They may make one change before July 1. This SEP applies primarily to people in MA plans who did not use their MA-OEP, but also is available to people who had their IEP or another SEP during the covered period.

Late Enrollment Policy

Beneficiaries who do not enroll in Part D when they first become eligible potentially face increased monthly premiums if they sign up later. The late enrollment penalty, which is based on the national average premium, is $.31 in 2020 for each uncovered month. The penalty is permanent and continues for as long as the person has Part D coverage. The penalty does not apply to people with other drug coverage that is at least as good as Part D coverage. This is called “creditable coverage.” Employers, unions, the Veterans Administration and others operating those plans are required to send notices to their members with Medicare and tell them whether the drug coverage in their plan is at least as good as Part D coverage. People who do not sign up for Part D because of other coverage should keep those notices to prove that the penalty does not apply to them. The penalty is waived for people who qualify for the Low Income Subsidy.

Note: People with incomes above $87,000 for an individual or $174,000 for a couple will be required to pay a monthly surcharge to their Part D premium called the Income-Related Monthly Adjustment Amount, (IRMAA).
Part D Costs

Medicare beneficiaries have a number of out-of-pocket costs associated with Part D. People with low incomes are subsidized for many of these out-of-pocket costs. Premium amounts vary widely depending on the plan: the cheapest monthly PDP premium in California in 2020 is $13.70, and the most expensive is $118.40. Without a subsidy, beneficiaries also may need to make significant co-payments. Beneficiaries with higher incomes who pay a higher Part B premium will also pay a higher Part D premium; this affects those with incomes of at least $87,000 for an individual, and $174,000 for a couple.

Plans are permitted to impose a deductible of up to $435. Once the deductible is met, beneficiaries must still pay co-payments for each medication they receive. Plans typically have up to five co-payment tiers. Co-payment amounts can also vary depending on whether a beneficiary uses a preferred or non-preferred pharmacy or uses a mail order option.

**Note** - In recent years, plans have increased their use of tiers with co-payments that are a percent of the drug price, rather than set amounts like $30 per 30-day prescription.

Most Part D plans also have a coverage gap, referred to by many as the “donut hole.” Once a beneficiary’s drug costs reach about $4,020 in 2020 (this amount may vary depending on the plan), the beneficiary is in the “donut hole.” Although in the past the beneficiary paid all costs while in the “donut hole,” health care reform laws have changed this and now the donut hole has closed. This means that plans can only charge 25% of covered drug costs. Once these out-of-pocket costs exceed $6,350, Part D catastrophic coverage begins, and co-pay liability may be reduced (if the plan has lower cost sharing outside of the donut hole). Enrollees must continue to pay premiums even when they are in the donut hole.

Beneficiaries needing a drug on a non-preferred tier can file a “tiering exception” if they can show that a similar drug is available on a lower cost tier, but that the lower-priced drug will not work as effectively for them. They can then get the lower co-payment. Tiering exceptions are not available if the needed drug is on a “specialty tier.”

**Note** - The Plan Finder at www.medicare.gov is the best tool available to help individuals decide on a Part D plan. The Plan Finder shows whether a plan covers particular drugs and if any restrictions apply. It also estimates total costs based on a combination of premiums, deductibles and co-payments for the drugs the individual lists, allowing for comparisons among plans.
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Low Income Subsidy

A Low Income Subsidy program for Part D (also called “Extra Help”) provides subsidies automatically for beneficiaries who are dual eligibles receiving Medi-Cal benefits (including Medicare Savings Program enrollees). People who do not receive Medi-Cal benefits but who have incomes at or below 150% of the poverty level also can receive the Low Income Subsidy, but they must apply. For 2020, the threshold for 150% of the poverty level is $19,380 in annual income for an individual and $26,100 for a couple (including $20/mo. income disregard); asset value may not exceed $14,610 and $29,160, respectively.

They can apply through the Social Security Administration. Individuals are divided into categories based on their income and asset levels. Those who apply based on income will pay either no premium or a reduced premium. They will pay no deductible or a low deductible. They will have lower co-pays and they will not face the donut hole.

Dual eligible beneficiaries receive prescription drugs with no cost for premiums, no deductibles and no donut hole. Co-pays for each prescription filled range from $1.30 to $8.95, depending upon their income, and whether the drug is generic or brand name. Dual-eligible residents of nursing homes have no co-pays and have additional protections. Most dual eligibles receiving home and community-based services in the community also are eligible for zero co-pays.

Only certain Part D plans, those with monthly premiums below a “benchmark” amount, are available to people receiving the full Low Income Subsidy with zero premium. They can choose to enroll in plans with higher premiums, but they must pay the difference between the benchmark amount and the monthly premium. Plan premiums change every year, and the “benchmark” amount also changes. This means that every year some dual eligibles must face the choice of either changing plans or having to pay some premium. For 2020, the benchmark amount in California is $32.01. Eight California PDP plans are below the benchmark.

Problems can arise for Medi-Cal recipients who start to qualify for Medicare on the basis of age or disability. Once they qualify for Medicare, most of their Medi-Cal prescription drug coverage stops immediately and they must get their drug coverage through Medicare Part D. For these new dual eligible beneficiaries, the transition of prescription drug coverage from Medi-Cal to Medicare Part D can be hard. The “Limited Income Newly Eligible Transition Program” (LI-NET), currently contracted to Humana, functions as a safety net during the transition.
Medication Choice

Every Part D plan has its own formulary, a list of drugs that the plan covers. A plan formulary can also contain restrictions, such as requirements that one drug be tried before another can be approved (“step therapy” or “fail first”), or limits on the number of doses of a medication. Part D plans tend to be more restrictive than Medi-Cal in covering various medications. Though not every drug is covered, plans are required to have at least two drugs within each pharmaceutical category. If a patient needs medication not covered by the plan, the patient or prescribing doctor may file for an “exception.” Plans are required to make exception decisions within 24 or 72 hours of receipt of a supporting statement by the prescriber, depending on medical urgency. Five subsequent levels of appeal are available if beneficiaries are unsatisfied with the result of their initial appeal.

Note- Plans must follow specific rules in authorizing opioids in order to reduce misuse. Rules, for example, limit first-time opioid prescriptions to a 7-day supply. For more information, see https://www.cms.gov/Outreach-and-Education/Medicare-Learning-Network-MLN/MLNMattersArticles/Downloads/SE18016.pdf.

For prescription coverage, medication must be purchased in the United States. Only drugs that are approved by the Food and Drug Administration are covered. When a drug is prescribed for an off-label use not specifically approved by FDA, it can only be covered if the use is supported by a citation in a compendium such as DRUGDEX. Drugs brought in from Mexico, Canada, or elsewhere are not covered, nor do expenditures on such medicines count towards a beneficiary’s deductible or out-of-pocket expenses. Over-the-counter drugs also generally are not covered. These choice restrictions may not be appealed.

Note- Transitions between plans can cause disruption. - A plan must provide a 30-day supply (unless fewer are prescribed) within the first 90 days of membership in the new plan. Transition supplies also are available when a plan changes its formulary at the start of a plan year. Special transition protections apply to nursing home residents and people changing care settings, for example, someone returning to the community after a nursing home stay. For details, see “Medicare Part D-2017 Transition Rights” at www.justiceinaging.org

COVID-19 ALERT: Plans must allow 90-day refills at the pharmacy and must relax “refill-too-soon edits” during the emergency. Plans must ensure enrollees have access to covered drugs at out-of-network pharmacies when enrollees cannot reasonably be expected to use in-network pharmacies. Plans also are allowed to, but not required to, relax many other restrictions.
Medicare Beneficiary Isn’t Enrolled in a Part D Plan

**Problem:** Medicare beneficiaries may think that they have prescription drug coverage, but the pharmacist is unable to find a record of enrollment in a particular plan.

**Solution:** Most Medicare beneficiaries (other than dual eligibles and other low-income individuals) must take affirmative action to sign up for Medicare Part D. They can sign up by calling 1-800-MEDICARE, by using the “Plan Finder” on www.medicare.gov, by calling the plan, or by contacting their local HICAP (contact information for HICAPs is at the end of this chapter). In general, Medicare participants can only sign up during the annual open enrollment period (October 15 - December 7) or during a “Special Enrollment Period” (SEP) (for instance, after losing other creditable drug coverage). Low income beneficiaries have more options for enrollment. Medicare will automatically enroll dual eligible beneficiaries and other recipients of the Low Income Subsidy who are not already in a drug plan. The LI-NET program will assist these individuals in getting immediate coverage and provides retroactive coverage for dual eligibles (see Supplemental Materials for more on LI-NET).

These individuals may also pick their own plan via 1-800-MEDICARE or www.medicare.gov, by calling a plan, or with assistance from HICAP.

Dual eligible beneficiaries and Low Income Subsidy recipients who go to the pharmacy and learn that they are not in a plan can get immediate temporary coverage at the pharmacy through LI-NET. They will remain in LI-NET for two months and then be auto-enrolled in a benchmark plan unless they affirmatively choose a plan.
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Low Income Subsidy Doesn’t Show Up at Pharmacy

**Problem:** Sometimes a Medicare beneficiary who is already enrolled in a plan will go to the pharmacy and be charged full cost-sharing (e.g., a deductible or 25% of the drug cost) because the pharmacist does not have current Low Income Subsidy information.

**Solution:** The beneficiary should contact the Part D plan and provide evidence showing current eligibility for either Medi-Cal or the Low Income Subsidy. Evidence could be a Medi-Cal card, a letter from the Social Security Administration, or contact information for a Medi-Cal caseworker who can verify that the individual is eligible for Medi-Cal. Sometimes the pharmacist can help to forward the information, so that the beneficiary can get needed drugs right away. Part D plans are supposed to accept evidence that a person is entitled to the Low Income Subsidy. If a plan still refuses to update its system with current Low Income Subsidy status, beneficiaries or advocates should file a complaint with 1-800-MEDICARE or the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) Regional Office.

Individuals who cannot provide the required evidence of Medi-Cal eligibility can contact the plan and ask for assistance. The plan is required to contact the Regional Office, which will contact Medi-Cal to confirm the individual’s Medi-Cal eligibility. If a plan refuses to provide this assistance, advocates should file a complaint.

In some cases, dual eligible beneficiaries and other Low Income Subsidy recipients who overpaid for drugs can get retroactively reimbursed. Beneficiaries should save their receipts and contact the Part D plan about reimbursement. If there are long delays, they should contact HICAP or a local advocacy office for help.

**Note -** Beneficiaries should tell their plan that they are calling about “best available evidence” of Low Income Subsidy status. Using that term will help ensure that their call is handled properly.
Plan Refuses to Pay for a Drug

**Problem:** Part D plans will refuse to pay for specific drugs that are not on the plan’s formulary, its list of covered drugs. Plans may also refuse to pay for a drug because the prescription does not meet the plan’s special restrictions. For instance, a plan may have a dosage limitation that limits covered drugs to a certain number of doses per month.

**Solution:** The beneficiary should talk to the prescribing doctor to decide whether to switch to a different medication that is on the plan’s formulary. If the doctor and beneficiary decide that switching would not be appropriate for the beneficiary’s health, then the beneficiary can file an exception with the plan, requesting coverage for the drug. The doctor must provide a supporting statement showing that the requested drug is “medically necessary.” If the plan denies the request, there are several levels of appeal. The denial letter will explain why coverage was denied and how to ask for reconsideration. To be successful in an appeal, beneficiaries need the cooperation of their doctor.

If the beneficiary is new to the plan and has already been taking a drug, the beneficiary may be entitled to a 30-day transition supply of the drug. If a current member is taking a drug and the plan takes the drug off its formulary for a new plan year, the member also is entitled to a 30-day transition supply. Nursing home residents are entitled to 90-day transition supplies. For newly prescribed drugs, plans are not required to give transition supplies. Again, nursing home residents have more protections.

**Note**—Some drugs are not covered by Part D, but instead are covered by Part B. As a general rule, Part B covers prescription drugs that cannot be self-administered. At times, confusion can arise at the pharmacy when Part B drugs are being sought. Contact a local HICAP for assistance in these instances.

Because people who qualify for the Low Income Subsidy (including dual eligible beneficiaries) have the right to change plans once in each quarter, they often find that the simplest way to get the drugs they need is to move to another plan that covers their prescribed medications. Advocates can help the beneficiary choose a different plan using the Plan Finder at www.medicare.gov, by calling 1-800-MEDICARE, or by contacting their local HICAP. Plan enrollment changes are effective the first day of the month following the date of the request, except that changes made in the fourth quarter are effective January 1.

Medi-Cal will cover some drugs for dual eligibles, including certain over-the-counter drugs, that Medicare Part D does not cover. Also, some drugs that are not covered by Medicare Part D are covered by Medicare Part B.

Detailed information on how to appeal a plan’s denial of prescription drug coverage is available at www.medicareadvocacy.org/medicare-info/medicare-part-d/#Appeals_and_Grievances
Filing a Medicare Part D Complaint

The Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS, the agency that administers Medicare Part D) recommends that beneficiaries try first to fix problems directly with their plan. If they are unsuccessful, they should file a complaint with 1-800-MEDICARE. When filing a complaint, it's important to explain if a beneficiary has little or no medication left, stating the number of days of medication the beneficiary has remaining, because urgent complaints are given higher priority.

Sometimes people have trouble reaching the 1-800-MEDICARE number, experience long wait times, or receive incorrect information. If you receive information that sounds wrong to you, or if you are unable to get a response, hang up and call again. Whenever possible, write down the time you called and the name of the person with whom you spoke.

If calling 1-800-MEDICARE does not resolve a complaint, Justice in Aging also recommends sending complaints to CMS in writing. This provides proof of when the complaint was made. Complaints can be filed online with CMS using a complaint form available at www.medicare.gov. You can also file complaints with the CMS regional office. The email address for Region 9 (which includes California) is Part-DComplaints_RO9@cms.hhs.gov, and the mailing address is CMS Region 9, 90 Seventh Street, Suite 5-300 (5W), San Francisco, CA 94103-6706. The phone number for the regional office is 415-744-3605. Complaints are worth filing because they provide CMS with important information about problems faced by beneficiaries.

Note - Complaints, also referred to as “grievances,” are different from appeals of decisions to deny drug coverage because a drug is not on the plan formulary or because a utilization management requirement has not been met. Complaints cover such things as a plan not following its own procedures, rude service, inability to reach a representative, and similar matters.
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Consumer Information

• CMS - (Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services) 1-800-MEDICARE, www.medicare.gov
• Justice in Aging, www.justiceinaging.org
• HICAP – (Health Insurance Counseling and Advocacy Program) 1-800-434-0222
• Medicare Rights Center, www.medicarerights.org
• California Health Advocates 916-231-5110, www.cahealthadvocates.org
• Legal Services Programs (Bet Tzedek, local legal aid organization)
• Center for Medicare Advocacy, www.medicareadvocacy.org
• Kaiser Family Foundation, www.kff.org/medicare

Legal Citation, Reference

Statute

Regulations, Program Manuals
42 C.F.R. § 423 et. seq.

20 C.F.R. § 418.3001 (Low Income Subsidy Regulations)

POMS HI 03001.001, HI 03001.015, HI 03050.005 (POMS is the Social Security Administration's Program Operations Manual System, the manual used by Social Security Administration employees to administer its programs.)

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Supplemental Materials

Center for Medicare Advocacy, Special Enrollment Periods

CMS, Medicare’s Limited Income NET Program

National Council on Aging, Part D LIS/Extra Help Eligibility and Coverage Chart
Information partners can use on:

**Medicare’s Limited Income NET Program**
for people at the pharmacy counter

**Medicare’s Limited Income NET Program**
Medicare's Limited Income NET provides immediate prescription drug coverage for people with Medicare who are at the pharmacy counter and qualify for Extra Help, but aren't enrolled in a Medicare Prescription Drug Plan. Medicare's Limited Income NET Program covers all Part D covered drugs, and there are no network pharmacy restrictions during the time period covered by this program. The person will be charged the reduced copayment based on the level of Extra Help they get.

Medicare's Limited Income NET Program also covers prescriptions that eligible people filled within the last 30 days. See “Medicare's Limited Income NET Program for People with Retroactive Medicaid & SSI Eligibility” tip sheet in the “Publications for Partners” section on cms.gov for more details about how Medicare's Limited Income NET Program works.

**How does the pharmacist know if a person is eligible?**
If a pharmacy has reasonable assurance that a person is eligible for Medicaid or Extra Help (and they have no other Part D drug coverage), the pharmacy can submit the claim to Medicare's Limited Income NET Program.
How does the pharmacist know if a person is eligible? (continued)

A pharmacy can confirm if a person qualifies for Extra Help either through an EI query to Medicare’s online eligibility/enrollment system (TrOOP Facilitator), or with one of these:

- A copy of the person’s Medicaid card that includes his/her name and effective eligibility date
- Documentation that shows Medicaid status, such as a copy of a state document, a printout from the state electronic enrollment file, or a screen print from the state’s Medicaid system
- A copy of one of these Extra Help letters from Social Security:
  - “Notice of Award”
  - “Notice of Change” indicating an award increase
  - “Notice of Planned Action” indicating an award reduction
  - “Notice of Important Information” indicating no change to the person’s award

What if a person’s eligibility can’t be confirmed?

If Medicare’s Limited Income NET Program can’t confirm if a person is eligible for Medicaid or Extra Help through a Medicare system, they’ll send a notice to the person asking for proof of eligibility. Proof of Medicaid or Extra Help eligibility can be faxed to Medicare’s Limited Income NET Program at 1-877-210-5592. A state or county Medicaid staff person can also call Medicare’s Limited Income NET Program on behalf of a person with Medicare at 1-800-783-1307 to verify the person qualifies for Medicaid or Extra Help.

If the person fails to provide proof, then the person (not the pharmacy) will have to pay out-of-pocket for the prescription.

For more information

- To learn more about Medicare’s Limited Income NET Program, call 1-800-783-1307. TTY users should call 711. Someone will be available to take your call from 8 a.m. – 8 p.m. in each U.S. time zone (may be different in Alaska and Hawaii).
- Call 1-800-MEDICARE (1-800-633-4227) to get the phone number for your State Medical Assistance (Medicaid) office. TTY users should call 1-877-486-2048. Or, visit Medicare.gov/contacts.
## Chapter Five: Medicare Part D

### Full Low-Income Subsidy (LIS)/Extra Help (2020) - 48 STATES + DC

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Beneficiary Group</th>
<th>Annual Income Eligibility Requirement</th>
<th>Monthly Income Eligibility Requirement</th>
<th>Asset Eligibility Requirement</th>
<th>Need to apply for LIS?</th>
<th>Monthly Premium</th>
<th>Annual Deductible</th>
<th>Copay/Coinsurance Plan’s Formulary Drugs</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Full-Benefits Duals: Institutionalized or receiving Home and Community-based Services</td>
<td>Meet State Medicaid/MSP financial eligibility</td>
<td>Meet State Medicaid/MSP financial eligibility</td>
<td>Meet State Medicaid/MSP financial eligibility</td>
<td>No, receive it automatically</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>None</td>
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<tr>
<td>Full-Benefit Duals: income ≤ 100% FPL</td>
<td>Meet State Medicaid/MSP financial eligibility</td>
<td>Meet State Medicaid/MSP financial eligibility</td>
<td>Meet State Medicaid/MSP financial eligibility</td>
<td>No, receive it automatically</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>Copay: $1.30 generic /$3.90 brand Catastrophic Copay: $0</td>
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<tr>
<td>Full-Benefit Duals: income &gt; 100% FPL</td>
<td>Meet State Medicaid/MSP financial eligibility</td>
<td>Meet State Medicaid/MSP financial eligibility</td>
<td>Meet State Medicaid/MSP financial eligibility</td>
<td>No, receive it automatically</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>Copay: $3.60 generic/$8.95 brand Catastrophic Copay: $0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Non-duals: income ≤ 135% FPL AND lower asset levels</td>
<td>Single: $17,226/$17,466* Couple: $23,274/$23,514*</td>
<td>Single: $1,436/$1,456* Couple: $1,940/$1,960*</td>
<td>Single: $7,860/$9,360** Couple: $11,800/$14,800**</td>
<td>No, if receiving SSI; otherwise, yes</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>Copay: $3.60 generic/$8.95 brand Catastrophic Copay: $0</td>
</tr>
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### Partial Low-Income Subsidy (LIS)/Extra Help (2020) - 48 STATES + DC

<table>
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<th>Monthly Income Eligibility Requirement</th>
<th>Asset Eligibility Requirement</th>
<th>Need to apply for LIS?</th>
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<td>Non duals with income ≤ 135% FPL AND assets between lower and higher limits</td>
<td>Single: $17,226/$17,466* Couple: $23,274/$23,514*</td>
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<td>Single: between $7,860/$9,360 - $13,110/$14,610** Couple: between $11,800/$14,800 - $26,160/$29,160**</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>$89</td>
<td>Copay: 15% Catastrophic Copay: $3.60 generic/$8.95 brand</td>
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<tr>
<td>Non duals with income between 135-150% FPL</td>
<td>Single: $19,140/$19,380* Couple: $25,860/$26,100*</td>
<td>Single: $1,595/$1,615* Couple: $2,155/$2,175*</td>
<td>Single: $13,110/$14,610** Couple: $26,160/$29,160**</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Yes, Sliding scale</td>
<td>$89</td>
<td>Copay: 15% Catastrophic Copay: $3.60 generic/$8.95 brand</td>
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</table>

* Income amounts reflect threshold without/with the $20 monthly income disregard (annually = $240); income is rounded to the nearest whole dollar.

** Asset limits include amount without/with $1,500/person burial allowance.

Income Levels Source: [https://aspe.hhs.gov/poverty-guidelines](https://aspe.hhs.gov/poverty-guidelines)

Asset/Resource Levels: [https://secure.ssa.gov/poms.nsf/lnx/0603030025](https://secure.ssa.gov/poms.nsf/lnx/0603030025)


Updated January 2020
### Full Low-Income Subsidy (LIS)/Extra Help (2020) - ALASKA

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<th>Income Eligibility Requirement*</th>
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<th>Asset Eligibility Requirement**</th>
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</table>
| Full-Benefit Duals: income ≤ 100% FPL | Meet State Medicaid/MSP financial eligibility | Meet State Medicaid/MSP financial eligibility | Meet State Medicaid/MSP financial eligibility | No, receive it automatically | No | No | Copay: $1.30 generic /$3.90 brand  
Catastrophic Copay: $0 |
| Full-Benefit Duals: income > 100% FPL | Meet State Medicaid/MSP financial eligibility | Meet State Medicaid/MSP financial eligibility | Meet State Medicaid/MSP financial eligibility | No, receive it automatically | No | No | Copay: $3.60 generic/$8.95 brand  
Catastrophic Copay: $0 |
| Non-duals: income ≤ 135% FPL AND lower asset levels | Single: $21,533/$21,773*  
Couple: $29,093/$29,333* | Single: $1,794/$1,814*  
Couple: $2,424/$2,444* | Single: $7,860/$9,360**  
Couple: $11,800/$14,800** | No, if receiving SSI; otherwise, yes | No | No | Copay: $3.60 generic/$8.95 brand  
Catastrophic Copay: $0 |

### Partial Low-Income Subsidy (LIS)/Extra Help (2020) - ALASKA

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Couple: $2,424/$2,444* | Single: between $7,860/$9,360 - $13,110/$14,800**  
Couple: between $11,800/$14,800 - $26,160/$29,160** | Yes | No | $89 | Copay: 15%  
Catastrophic Copay: $3.60 generic/$8.95 brand |
| Non duals with income between 135-150% PL | Single: $23,925/$24,165*  
Couple: $32,325/$32,665* | Single: $1,994/$2,014*  
Couple: $2,694/$2,714* | Single: $13,110/$14,610**  
Couple: $26,160/$29,160** | Yes | Yes, Sliding scale | $89 | Copay: 15%  
Catastrophic Copay: $3.60 generic/$8.95 brand |

* Income amounts reflect threshold without/with the $20 monthly income disregard (annually = $240); income is rounded to the nearest whole dollar.  
** Asset limits include amount without/with $1,500/person burial allowance.  
Income Levels Source: [https://aspe.hhs.gov/poverty-guidelines](https://aspe.hhs.gov/poverty-guidelines)  
Asset/Resource Levels: [https://secure.ssa.gov/poms.nsf/lnx/0603030025](https://secure.ssa.gov/poms.nsf/lnx/0603030025)  
Updated January 2020
## Chapter Five: Medicare Part D

### Full Low-Income Subsidy (LIS)/Extra Help (2020) - HAWAI'I

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Beneficiary Group</th>
<th>Income Eligibility Requirement</th>
<th>Monthly Income Eligibility Requirement</th>
<th>Asset Eligibility Requirement</th>
<th>Need to apply for LIS?</th>
<th>Monthly Premium</th>
<th>Annual Deductible</th>
<th>Monthly Income Eligibility Requirement*</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Full-Benefits Duals: Institutionalized or receiving Home and Community-based Services</td>
<td>Meet State Medicaid financial eligibility</td>
<td>Meet State Medicaid financial eligibility</td>
<td>Meet State Medicaid financial eligibility</td>
<td>No, receive it automatically</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>None</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Full-Benefit Duals: income ≤ 100% FPL</td>
<td>Meet State Medicaid/MSP financial eligibility</td>
<td>Meet State Medicaid/MSP financial eligibility</td>
<td>Meet State Medicaid/MSP financial eligibility</td>
<td>No, receive it automatically</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>Copay: $1.30 generic/$3.90 brand</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Full-Benefit Duals: income &gt; 100% FPL</td>
<td>Meet State Medicaid/MSP financial eligibility</td>
<td>Meet State Medicaid/MSP financial eligibility</td>
<td>Meet State Medicaid/MSP financial eligibility</td>
<td>No, receive it automatically</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>Copay: $3.60 generic/$8.95 brand</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Non-duals: income &lt; 135% FPL AND lower asset levels</td>
<td>Single: $19,819/$20.059*</td>
<td>Single: $1,652/$1,672*</td>
<td>Single: $7,860/$9,360**</td>
<td>No, if receiving SSI; otherwise, yes</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>Copay: $3.60 generic/$8.95 brand</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Couple: $26,771/$27,011*</td>
<td>Couple: $2,231/$2,251*</td>
<td>Couple: $11,800/$14,800**</td>
<td>No</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Partial Low-Income Subsidy (LIS)/Extra Help (2020) - HAWAI'I

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Beneficiary Group</th>
<th>Income Eligibility Requirement</th>
<th>Monthly Income Eligibility Requirement</th>
<th>Asset Eligibility Requirement</th>
<th>Need to apply for LIS?</th>
<th>Monthly Premium</th>
<th>Annual Deductible</th>
<th>Monthly Income Eligibility Requirement*</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Non-duals with income ≤ 135% FPL AND assets between lower and higher limits</td>
<td>Single: $19,819/$20.059*</td>
<td>Single: $1,652/$1,672*</td>
<td>Single: between $7,860/$9,360 - $13,110/$14,610**</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>$89</td>
<td>Coinsurance: 15% catastrophic Copay: $3.60 generic/$8.95 brand</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Couple: $26,771/$27,011*</td>
<td>Couple: $2,231/$2,251*</td>
<td>Couple: between $11,800/$14,800 - $26,160/$29,160**</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Non-duals with income between 135-150% FPL</td>
<td>Single: $22,020/$22,260*</td>
<td>Single: $1,835/$1,855*</td>
<td>Single: $13,110/$14,610**</td>
<td>Yes, sliding scale</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>$89</td>
<td>Coinsurance: 15% catastrophic Copay: $3.60 generic/$8.95 brand</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Couple: $29,745/$29,985*</td>
<td>Couple: $2,479/$2,499*</td>
<td>Couple: $26,160/$29,160**</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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** Asset limits include amount without/with $1,500/person burial allowance.

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