

Paying for Prescription Drugs: Discounts and Assistance

If you have no coverage from an insurance program or health plan, you may qualify for assistance from various programs or directly from the manufacturers of the drugs. If you have insurance, there are still some discount programs that let you pay a lower co-pay.

How does it work?

- There are discount cards in many states, supported by the government.
- Many stores (drugstores, grocery stores, department stores) offer discounts.
- For many medications, the drug companies offer assistance if you have no insurance.
- You have to sign up or get a card.
- You can do this yourself; you do not have to pay an agency to assist you.

Where do I start?

- Go to your pharmacy or grocery store and ask about discounts.
- Read both sides of this flyer for more information.
- Learn about assistance programs on the Internet, for example, at www.NeedyMeds.com.
- Need help? Ask your pharmacist or doctor.

ARIZONA: Discount Cards and Store Discounts

Arizona Copper Card

Free – Every Arizonan is entitled to a free CoppeRx® Card. This card was created by Governor Napolitano and is good at over 500 pharmacies throughout Arizona. Discounts range from 15 to 55 percent. More information:

On the Internet, go to www.rxamerica.com/az_discount_home.html

En español: <http://azgovernor.gov/coppercard/Documents/SpanishBrochures.pdf>.

To sign up: call (888) 227-8315 or sign up online at:

<https://butch.rxamerica.com/RxWeb/elWelcome.do?plan=0680>

NACo Prescription Drug Discount Card in Arizona Counties

Free, no application form – You can get a card at Public Libraries, the Public Health Department and WIC locations. Call toll free 1-877-321-2652 for assistance with the program.

To locate counties and pharmacies that are participants in the NACo Prescription Drug Discount Card Program, log onto <http://www2.caremark.com/naco/>.

In Maricopa County, you can send e-mail to: askmc@mail.maricopa.gov.

Drugstores, Department Stores, Grocery Stores

Many stores offer their own discount or prescription savings clubs. This includes Wal-Mart, K-Mart, Walgreens, Target, Fry's, Basha's and others. These stores offer several hundred prescription drugs for \$4 per month. Some medications cost \$10-12 for a 90-day supply. The stores also offer over-the-counter (OTC) drugs for \$4. These are drugs for which you do not need a prescription. Simply go to a store near you and ask at the pharmacy or at the cash register.

More information on other side

Drug Discounts and Assistance for Specific Medications

General Information about Drug Discounts and Assistance

Needy Meds (non-profit)

www.needymeds.com/

Good website with links and information on assistance from drug manufacturers, government programs, and discount cards. You can search for your medication. From here you can go to websites of other companies and programs to complete an application. The site has explanations and helps first time users. It has many useful tips for using and handling medications.

Medicare Part D

(800-633-4227)

www.Medicare.gov

If you qualify for Medicare, you also qualify for prescription drug coverage. Medicare Part D is a prescription drug insurance program with premiums, deductibles and benefits. There are private insurance prescription drug plans (PDP) and Medicare Advantage Prescription Drug plans (MA-PD). These plans often include brand-name and generic medications. They will cover a portion of the cost of your prescription medications. The Medicare Web site can describe the available options and assist you in selecting a plan that is appropriate for you.

Other Programs Sponsored by Drug Makers

Partnership for Prescription Assistance

1-888-4PPA-NOW (1-888-477-2669) (takes calls in English, Español and other languages)

www.pparx.org/Intro.php (English and Español)

PPARx is a partnership of pharmaceutical companies and helps low-income and uninsured persons to find more than 400 public or private programs. Some are government programs, some by pharmaceutical companies or other organizations. You can select your state and see partner organizations.

Together Rx

800-444-4106

www.togetherrxaccess.com (English and Español)

A free discount card for low-income individuals who have no prescription coverage at all. This program is sponsored by drug makers. If you qualify, you receive a card you can use at the pharmacy whenever you fill a prescription. Savings can be 25 to 40 percent on over 300 brand-name prescriptions and generic medications. This includes drugs to treat high cholesterol, blood pressure, diabetes, asthma and many other conditions.

Assistance from Specific Pharmaceutical Companies

You can contact the company that makes your medication directly. Most drug manufacturers have assistance programs. Ask your pharmacist, if you are not sure who makes the drug. You can find a company list at www.needymeds.com/company_list.taf.

*More information on other side
Visit www.hgamerica.org for more healthcare tips.*