



## **How to Get Help With Your Medicare Costs**

We are writing to let you know how you can get help paying your Medicare costs. You may be able to get help paying your Medicare prescription drug coverage costs and Medicare Part B (medical insurance) premiums and other medical costs. Some people also may get help with their Medicare Part A (hospital insurance) costs.

### **Extra Help with Medicare Prescription Drug Plan Costs**

The Extra Help program helps pay your Medicare prescription drug plan costs. If you have little income, few resources, and Medicare, you may be able to get Extra Help. To get Extra Help:

- Your yearly income should be less than \$17,505 if you are single, or \$23,595 if you are married and living together. Your income can be higher if you or your spouse works, other people who live with you rely on you for support, or you live in Alaska or Hawaii.
- Your resources (such as money in a bank, stocks, or bonds) should not total more than \$13,440 if you are single, or \$26,860 if you are married and living together. Certain things you own, like your house, car, life insurance, and up to \$1,500 per person in burial expenses do not count as resources.

### **To Apply for Extra Help or Ask Questions**

To apply for Extra Help or get more information, please contact the Social Security Administration. You can visit [www.socialsecurity.gov/i1020](http://www.socialsecurity.gov/i1020) to apply online and get more information. You also can call Social Security at 1-800-772-1213. TTY users may call 1-800-325-0778. To use Extra Help, you must enroll in a Medicare prescription drug plan. For more information on

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Medicare prescription drug plans, please call 1-800-MEDICARE (1-800-633-4227) or visit [www.medicare.gov](http://www.medicare.gov).

### **The Medicare Savings Programs**

The Medicare Savings Programs also can help with Medicare costs, like your monthly Part B premiums. To get this help, your State medical assistance (Medicaid) office may require information about your income and resources. To be eligible:

- Your monthly income should be less than \$1,333 if you are single, or \$1,790 if you are married and living together. Some States, such as Alaska and Hawaii, have higher income limits. Also, your income can be higher if you or your spouse works.
- Your resources (such as money in a bank, stocks, or bonds) should not total more than \$7,160 if you are single, or \$10,750 if you are married and living together. Some States allow you to have more. Also, your house, car, and up to \$1,500 per person in burial expenses do not count as resources.

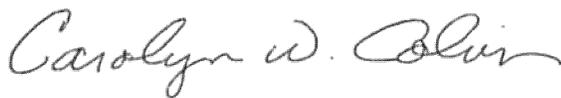
### **To Apply for the Medicare Savings Programs or Ask Questions**

When you file an application for Extra Help, you also start the application process for help under the Medicare Savings Programs. Social Security will send information to your State unless you tell us on your Extra Help application not to send it.

You also can call your State medical assistance (Medicaid) office to apply for the Medicare Savings Programs or get more information. You can find out how to contact your local Medicaid office at [www.medicare.gov](http://www.medicare.gov) by selecting your State in the “Find someone to talk to” box.

Your State Health Insurance Assistance Program (SHIP) can help answer Medicare questions. You can find information about your local SHIP office on the back of your Medicare handbook and at [www.medicare.gov](http://www.medicare.gov) under the “Find someone to talk to” box.

You also can get contact information for Medicaid and SHIP offices by calling 1-800-MEDICARE (1-800-633-4227); TTY users should call 1-877-486-2048.



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