

What You Need To Complete The Application For Help With Medicare Prescription Drug Plan Costs

2008



Social Security and the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services are working together to get you extra help with your prescription drug costs. To determine if you could be eligible for this extra help, Social Security will need to know your income and the value of your savings, investments and real estate (other than your home). To qualify for extra help:

- Your annual income must be limited to \$15,600 for an individual (\$21,000 for a married couple living together).
Even if your annual income is higher, you still may be able to get some help with your monthly premiums, annual deductibles and prescription co-payments. Some examples where your income may be higher include if you or your spouse:
 - Support other family members who live with you;
 - Have earnings from work; or
 - Live in Alaska or Hawaii; and
- Your resources must be limited to \$11,990 for an individual (\$23,970 for a married couple living together). Resources include such things as bank accounts, stocks and bonds. We **do not** count your house and car as resources.

What you need to know

Identify the things you own by yourself, with your spouse or with someone else, but do not include your home, vehicles, burial plots or personal possessions.

Review all your income.

Gather your records in advance to save time.

Remember that this worksheet is **not** an application. This worksheet can assist you in completing the actual application for extra help.

Documents that will help you prepare in advance include:

- Statements that show your account balances at banks, credit unions or other financial institutions;
- Investment statements;
- Life insurance policy statements;
- Stock certificates;
- Tax returns;
- Pension award letters; and
- Payroll slips.

How you can get more information

For more information about getting extra help with your Medicare prescription drug plan costs, visit www.socialsecurity.gov or call Social Security at **1-800-772-1213** (TTY **1-800-325-0778**).

You can apply online for extra help at www.socialsecurity.gov. To apply by phone or get an application, call Social Security at **1-800-772-1213** (TTY **1-800-325-0778**) and ask for the *Application for Help with Medicare Prescription Drug Plan Costs* (SSA-1020). Social Security representatives are available to help you complete your application.

To learn more about the Medicare prescription drug plans and special enrollment periods, visit www.medicare.gov or call **1-800-MEDICARE** (**1-800-633-4227**; TTY **1-877-486-2048**). Medicare also can tell you about agencies in your area that can help you with Medicare prescription drug plans.

Please continue to the opposite side of the page to complete the worksheet.

(over)

We need to know information about your (and your spouse's, if you are married and living together) income and resources:

Resources	Value
Bank accounts, including checking, savings and certificates of deposit	\$ _____
Stocks, bonds, savings bonds, mutual funds, individual retirement accounts (IRAs) or other investments	\$ _____
Cash at home or anywhere else	\$ _____
Life insurance policies for you (and your spouse, if married and living together)	\$ _____
<i>NOTE: Social Security needs to know how much money you would get if you cashed in your life insurance policies today. Check with your insurance company or agent to get the exact cash value. This probably will be less than the amount you are insured for.</i>	
Any real estate other than your home	\$ _____

Income	Monthly Amount
Social Security benefits	\$ _____
Railroad Retirement benefits	\$ _____
Veterans benefits	\$ _____
Other pensions or annuities	\$ _____
Alimony	\$ _____
Net rental income	\$ _____
Worker's compensation	\$ _____
Other income	\$ _____
Help from other people to pay for household expenses, such as food, mortgage or rent, heating fuel or gas, electricity, water and property taxes	\$ _____
	Annual Amount
Wages	\$ _____
Net earnings from self-employment	\$ _____

You may choose to have someone help you when you do business with Social Security. We will work with that person, just as we would work with you.



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