

Introduction to the Loss of Deemed Low Income Subsidy (Extra Help) Status Notice

What's the purpose of this notice?

The purpose of this notice is to inform some people with Medicare that they no longer automatically qualify for Extra Help for the following year, and encourage them to apply for Extra Help to see if they'll continue to qualify.

Who gets this notice?

Some people with Medicare won't automatically qualify for Extra Help in 2013 because they no longer qualify for Medicaid, no longer belong to a Medicare Savings Program (help from their state Medicaid program to pay Medicare Part B premiums), or no longer get Supplemental Security Income (SSI).

When do people get this notice?

The notice (on grey paper) and an application for Extra Help are scheduled to be mailed in September.

What should people do next?

People who have limited income and resources may still qualify for Extra Help, but they must apply to find out. If they apply and qualify, they'll continue to get Extra Help in 2013. They should apply as soon as possible so there will be no gap in the help they get with their prescription drug costs.

An application for Extra Help is included with the notice. People should fill it out and mail it to Social Security in the enclosed postage-paid envelope. If they have questions about the notice or about Medicare prescription drug coverage, they can:

- Visit www.medicare.gov.
- Read the "Medicare & You" handbook.
- Call 1-800-MEDICARE (1-800-633-4227). TTY users should call 1-877-486-2048.
- Call their State Health Insurance Assistance Program (SHIP) for free personalized health insurance counseling. People should visit www.medicare.gov/contacts, see the "Medicare & You" handbook, or call 1-800-MEDICARE for their phone number.

People can reference CMS Product No. 11198 if they call Medicare or their SHIP with questions.



<BENEFICIARY FULL NAME>
<ADDRESS>
<CITY STATE ZIP>

HICN <1234>
September 2012

Please keep this notice for your records.

You no longer automatically qualify for Extra Help

You currently get Extra Help paying for Medicare prescription drug coverage. Starting January 1, 2013, you'll no longer get this Extra Help automatically for one of these reasons:

- You no longer qualify for Medicaid.
- You no longer belong to a Medicare Savings Program (help from your state Medicaid Program to pay your Medicare Part B premiums).
- You no longer get Supplemental Security Income (SSI).

This means your costs for Medicare prescription drug coverage may increase.

You must apply to see if you still qualify

You may still be able to get Extra Help in 2013, but you need to apply. Please complete the enclosed application and mail it back in the postage-paid envelope.

You can also apply online at www.socialsecurity.gov. To apply by phone, call Social Security at 1-800-772-1213. TTY users should call 1-800-325-0778. You can also call your State Health Insurance Assistance Program (SHIP) at <SHIP phone number> for help.

Don't delay. Apply as soon as possible to make sure that, if you qualify, you'll continue to get Extra Help as of January 1, 2013.

What if your situation changes?

In the coming months your situation may change so that you again qualify for Medicaid, belong to a Medicare Savings Program, or get SSI. If this happens, you'll again automatically qualify for Extra Help. We'll send you another notice on purple paper to let you know you qualify.



Here's how you can still qualify

You may still qualify for Extra Help if you meet these income and resource limits:

- Your yearly income isn't more than \$16,755 for an individual or \$22,695 for a married couple living together. Even if your yearly income is higher, you could still qualify if you meet one of these conditions:
 - You or your spouse support other family members who live with you.
 - You or your spouse have earnings from work.
 - You live in Alaska or Hawaii.
- Your resources are limited to \$13,070 for an individual or \$26,120 for a married couple living together. Resources include your savings and stocks, but not your home or car or the value of any life insurance you may have.

The above amounts are for 2012 and may change in 2013. If your income and resources are slightly higher, you should still apply.

Where to get more information

If you have questions about how to apply for Extra Help, visit www.socialsecurity.gov, or call Social Security at 1-800-772-1213. TTY users should call 1-800-325-0778.

If you have questions about this notice or Medicare prescription drug coverage, here's what you can do:

- Visit www.medicare.gov.
- Call 1-800-MEDICARE (1-800-633-4227). TTY users should call 1-877-486-2048.
- Read your "Medicare & You" handbook.
- Call your State Health Insurance Assistance Program (SHIP) for free personalized health insurance counseling at <SHIP phone number>.

If you think you got this notice by mistake, call 1-800-MEDICARE.

Para obtener información en español, llame GRATIS al 1-800-MEDICARE (1-800-633-4227). Los usuarios con teléfono de texto (TTY) deben llamar al 1-877-486-2048.