

Go to <http://medicare.gov/> to access the “Plan Finder”

HOW TO USE THE MEDICARE.GOV PART D PRESCRIPTION DRUG PLAN FINDER

In order to use the Medicare Plan Finder prepare a list of the drugs that you take including information on brand/generic, dose (e.g., 10 mg), frequency (e.g. 1 per day), form (capsule/tablet/cream or drops).

- Click on “Find Health and Drug Plans”



- Choose the option General Search: Enter your zip code then click “Find Plans”

A screenshot of the Medicare.gov "General Search" form. The form has a green border and a light beige background. At the top, it says "General Search" in orange. Below that, it says "A general plan search only requires your zip code." and "ZIP Code:" followed by a white input field. At the bottom, there is a line of text: "By selecting this button you are agreeing to the terms and conditions of the [User Agreement](#)". Below this text is a large orange button with the text "Find Plans" and a small white icon of a document with a checkmark.

Step 1 of 4 on the Plan Finder: Enter Information

- Determine if you have original Medicare or a Medicare Managed Care Plan i.e. HMO, or PPO
- Determine if you get help from Medicare to pay your prescription drug costs - Extra Help/LIS. Click “Continue to Plan Results”

How do you get your Medicare coverage?

Original Medicare [?]

Medicare Health Plan (such as an HMO, PPO, or Private-Fee-for-Service plan) [?]

I don't have any Medicare coverage yet

I don't know what coverage I have

Do you get help from Medicare or your state to pay your Medicare prescription drug costs?

I get help from Medicaid [?]

I get Supplemental Security Income [?]

I belong to a Medicare Savings Program (MSP) [?]

I applied for and got Extra Help through Social Security

I don't get any Extra Help [?]

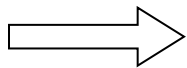
I don't know

[Go Back](#)

[Continue to Plan Results ▶](#)

Step 2 of 4 on the Plan Finder: Enter Your Drugs

- Enter name of your first drug and hit “find drug”
- Remember: over-the-counter drugs are not included on the Plan Finder
- Choose the drug that you are taking from the list and click on “Add drug” when you find it
- Enter the dosage, quantity, frequency
- Indicate whether you take generic or brand name drugs
- Repeat these steps for all of the drugs that you take
- Once all drugs are entered, click on “My drug list is complete”



Type the name of your drug:

Or Browse A-Z:

A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L	M
N	O	P	Q	R	S	T	U	V	W	X	Y	Z

[Help with common drug abbreviations](#)
[Hints on how to enter drug information](#)
[Why can't I find my drug?](#)

Retrieve My Saved Drug List:

Your personal information cannot be accessed using your drug ID list. Medicare doesn't share the drug information you enter.

Drug List ID: What is this?

Password Date: What is this?
Sep | 11 | 2014

My Drug List (Maximum 25 Drugs)

Total Drugs in My Drug List: 0

MEDICINE NAME	QUANTITY	FREQUENCY & PHARMACY	GENERIC OPTIONS	ACTION
You haven't added any drugs to your list. Search for drugs above or retrieve your previously saved drug list.				

Step 3 of 4 on the Plan Finder: Select Your Pharmacy

- Click on pharmacies that you use
- When done, click on “Continue to Plan results”

We found **23** pharmacies within miles of 20902

[Search New Location or by Pharmacy Name](#) [Show/Hide Pharmacy Map](#)

Your Selected Pharmacies

Giant Pharmacy
2900 University Boulevard West
Wheaton, MD 20902
1-301-692-4181
[Remove Pharmacy](#)

CVS Pharmacy
2321 University Blvd West
Wheaton, MD 20902
1-301-942-4009
[Remove Pharmacy](#)

Available Pharmacies

Add to Selected Pharmacies

Apex Pharmacy LLC 11412 Georgia Ave Silver Spring, MD 20902 1-301-933-2801 Add Pharmacy	Costco Pharmacy #1124 11160 Veirs Mill Road Silver Spring, MD 20902 1-301-692-1330 Add Pharmacy	CVS Pharmacy 11190 Viers Mill Rd Wheaton, MD 20902 1-301-942-1791 Add Pharmacy
CVS Pharmacy 1301 Lambertson Drive Silver Spring, MD 20902 1-301-649-3500 Add Pharmacy	CVS Pharmacy 3715 W University Blvd Kensington, MD 20895 1-301-962-8092 Add Pharmacy	Gonzalez Medical Offices, Llp 2311 Arcola Ave Silver Spring, MD 20902 1-301-933-6644 Add Pharmacy

Step 4 of 4 on the Plan Finder: Refine and Analyze Your Results

- Click on “Prescription Drug Plans with (Original Medicare)” and continue to Plan results
- Review the Prescription Drug Plans generated by the Plan Finder. Drug plans are listed from *least to highest total annual cost*. Information shown will include :
 - monthly premiums, deductibles
 - copays and coinsurance
 - drug formularies and restrictions (such as quantity limits, prior authorization and step therapy),
 - quality (star) rating by company
- * The “Sort by” option allows users to sort results in different ways, e.g. showing plans with mail order, with some coverage in the gap, or with drug restrictions

Note: The plan with the lowest premium may not be your best option or lowest annual cost alternative.

Step 4 of 4: Refine Your Plan Results My Current Profile Update Search

Zip Code: 20902
Current Coverage: Original Medicare
Current Subsidy: No Extra Help [?]
Important Coverage Information

This is a summary of the types of plans available in your area. Use the checkboxes to select the types of plans you'd like to view. You may also use the filters on the left to narrow your search. Using filters may eliminate some options, including plans with the lowest estimated annual costs.

Refine Your Search

[Update Plan Results](#)

- [Limit Your Monthly Premium](#)
- [Limit Your Annual Drug Deductible](#)
- [Select Drug Options](#)
- [Select Star Ratings](#)
- [Select Coverage Options](#)
- [Select Special Needs Plans](#)
- [Change Health Status](#)
- [Select Plans By Company](#)

[Update Plan Results](#)

Summary of Your Search Results
There are a total of 47 plans available in your area including Original Medicare. Please select one or more plan types to continue.

Select	Available Plans Based On Your Filters	Number of Plans Available: 46
All		
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Prescription Drug Plans (with Original Medicare)[?]	34 plan(s) available
<input type="checkbox"/>	Medicare Health Plans with drug coverage[?]	7 plan(s) available
<input type="checkbox"/>	Medicare Health Plans without drug coverage[?]	5 plan(s) available

[Continue To Plan Results](#)

Before exiting the program:

1. Record your **Drug List ID** and **password date**. You can then log in to review your options or make changes to your drug list at a later date.



The screenshot shows the Medicare.gov website interface. At the top, there are links for 'Español', 'Print', 'About Us', 'FAQ', 'Glossary', 'CMS.Gov', and 'MyMedicare.gov Login'. The main navigation bar includes buttons for 'Sign Up / Change Plans', 'Your Medicare Costs', 'What Medicare Covers', 'Drug Coverage (Part D)', 'Supplements & Other Insurance', 'Claims & Appeals', 'Manage Your Health', and 'Forms, Help, & Resources'. Below this is a search bar and a secondary navigation bar with 'Learn More About Plans', 'Help', 'A-Z Glossary', and 'FAQ'. The breadcrumb trail reads: 'Home → Enter Information → Enter Your Drugs → Select Your Pharmacies → Refine Your Plan Results → Your Plan Results'. The main heading is 'Your Plan Results'. A 'Return to previous page' button is visible. The 'My Current Profile' box, which is circled in red, contains the following information: 'Zip Code: 20902', 'Current Coverage: Original Medicare', 'Current Subsidy: No Extra Help [?]', 'Drug List ID: 4408695104', and 'Password Date: 10/25/2012'. Below this box is a link for 'Important Coverage Information'.

2. Identify and/or print out information on the plans of greatest interest by clicking on the name of the plan in the Plan Results list.
3. Review plan restrictions (e.g., step therapy, prior approval, quantity limits) that apply to your drugs.
4. When you are ready, click on “Enroll”. Either follow the prompts, or call the company or Medicare to begin the enrollment process.

SHIP Can Help You Choose a Drug Plan.....

- If you have already entered your drug list into the Plan Finder and would like SHIP to review the results prior to enrolling into a plan, send your Drug List ID, password date, and zip code to the SHIP address listed below.
- If you prefer the SHIP program can run the Plan Finder on your behalf, and make a drug plan recommendation. To request this analysis, complete SHIP's Medicare Part D Plan Comparison Questionnaire and mail it to:

**SHIP – State Health Insurance Assistance Program
18410 Muncaster Road, Derwood, MD 20855
301-590-2819**

The SHIP analysis is based on use of retail pharmacies, not mail order, because some of the plans don't offer a mail order option. You can check with the Prescription Drug Plan and see if your drugs are available at a lower cost by mail order.

Drug Restrictions Definitions

Quantity Limits – Plan may limit the amount of drugs they will pay for in a specified time period.

Prior Authorization – Approval by the prescription drug plan before prescription drug cost is paid by the plan. Your doctor must contact the plan and show it is medically necessary for you to use this particular drug.

Step Therapy – Plan may require you to first try another drug before they will pay for the drug prescribed by your doctor.

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