

Medicare Prescription Payment Plan (M3P)

M3P Effective January 1, 2025

Beginning January 1, 2025, under the Inflation Reduction Act (IRA), Elevate Medicare Advantage will offer enrollees the option to manage their prescription drug costs with capped monthly payments rather than paying the full amount upfront at the pharmacy. This is a significant change aimed at helping members better manage their out-of-pocket medication expenses.

How It Works

When a member opts into the Medicare Prescription Payment Plan, they will no longer need to pay for covered medications at the pharmacy (including mail order and specialty pharmacies). Instead, they will receive a monthly bill from Elevate Medicare Advantage for their out-of-pocket prescription costs. Although the member does not pay for the drugs at the time of purchase, they are still responsible for the costs.

Who Is Likely to Benefit

This program is designed to help members with higher out-of-pocket medication costs, particularly those who:

- Incur **\$2,000 or more** in prescription drug costs in a year.
- Spend **\$600 or more** on a single medication.

How Members Will Be Notified

From October to December 2024:

Elevate Medicare Advantage will identify members who are likely to benefit in 2025—those who have incurred \$2,000 in out-of-pocket costs for covered drugs through September 2024. These members will receive a **“Medicare Prescription Payment Plan Likely to Benefit Notice”** prior to **December 7, 2024**.

From January to September 2025:

If a member fills a high-cost prescription that triggers a pharmacy Point-of-Sale (POS) notification, Elevate Medicare Advantage will send a **“Medicare Prescription Payment Plan Likely to Benefit Notice”** to the member.

The POS notification will be triggered when a member’s out-of-pocket costs exceed a pre-set threshold, prompting the pharmacy to provide the member with the notification.

When This Program May Not Be the Best Option

This plan may not be beneficial for members who:

- » Have **low yearly drug costs**.
- » Have **consistent, predictable monthly drug costs**.
- » Sign up for the payment option **late in the calendar year** (after September).
- » Prefer not to change how they pay for their prescriptions.
- » Receive or are eligible for **Extra Help** from Medicare or a **Medicare Savings Program**.
- » Receive assistance from other organizations, such as a **State Pharmaceutical Assistance Program (SPAP)**, **coupon programs**, or other health coverage.

Key Takeaway

Members should contact Elevate Medicare Advantage to determine if the Medicare Prescription Payment Plan is the right option for them. In some cases, there may be opportunities to reduce medication costs rather than simply spreading out the payment. Contact our Health Plan Services at [303-602-2111](tel:303-602-2111) or toll-free at [1-800-956-2111](tel:1-800-956-2111). TTY users should call [711](tel:711). Our hours of operation are 8 a.m. – 8 p.m., seven days a week.

For more information, visit:

DenverHealthMedicalPlan.org/medicare-prescription-payment-plan

If you have questions about the program:

Contact the Elevate Medicare Advantage Team at MedicareDHMP@dhha.org