



# WisconsinCare

Prescription Drugs for Seniors and Persons with Disabilities

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**In April, the Bush Administration denied Governor Jim Doyle's request to continue SeniorCare, Wisconsin's successful prescription drug program for seniors. Now all Wisconsin seniors will have to enroll in Medicare Part D for prescription drug coverage.**

**Starting January 1, 2008, Governor Doyle is launching a new program to help Wisconsin seniors and people with disabilities afford the medicine they need. WisconsinCare, a new affordable prescription drug program for seniors and people with disabilities, will provide affordable prescription drugs without all the complications of Part-D and without the dreaded donut hole.**

## ***Who will be eligible for WisconsinCare?***

- All Wisconsin seniors who are: 1) enrolled in Medicare; 2) have an annual income of less than \$24,504 (\$32,856 for a married couple); and 3) are not getting Medicaid, will be eligible for WisconsinCare.
- All other Wisconsin residents under the age of 65 who are: 1) enrolled in Medicare; 2) have an income of less than \$16,336 (\$21,904 for a married couple); and 3) are not getting Medicaid, will be eligible for WisconsinCare.

## ***How do you enroll in WisconsinCare?***

- Everyone currently in SeniorCare, whose income is less than \$24,504 (\$32,856 for a married couple), will be signed up for WisconsinCare automatically.
- Everyone else can apply using a one-page form similar to the current SeniorCare application.
- There is no annual enrollment fee. Enrollees will need to renew each year using a one-page form.

All WisconsinCare participants will still need to choose a Medicare Part D prescription drug plan. Benefit specialists across the state will help find a plan that's right for each individual. All current SeniorCare participants who have not selected a Part D plan will be automatically enrolled in a Part D plan, but will be able to change plans if they need to.

## ***What benefits will you receive under WisconsinCare?***

### **WisconsinCare - Level 1**

For people with gross annual income of less than \$14,294 (\$19,166 for a married couple), WisconsinCare will pay all Medicare Part B premium (currently \$93.50 per month), deductibles and co-insurance, along with Medicare Part D premiums, deductibles, and drug costs in the "donut hole".

Individuals enrolled in Level 1 will have co-payments of \$2 for each generic prescription drug and \$5 for each brand name prescription drug.



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## **WisconsinCare - Level 2**

For people with gross annual income between \$14,295 and \$16,337 (between \$19,166 and \$21,904 for a married couple), WisconsinCare will pay all Medicare Part B premiums (currently \$93.50 per month), along with Medicare Part D premiums, deductibles, and drug costs in the “donut hole”.

Individuals enrolled in Level 2 will have co-payments of \$2 for each generic prescription drug or \$5 for each brand name prescription drug.

## **WisconsinCare - Level 3**

For people with gross annual income between \$16,337 and \$20,420 (between \$21,905 and \$27,380 for a married couple), WisconsinCare will help pay Medicare Part D premiums up to \$53 per month.

*Note: A limited number of Level 3 participants who are currently enrolled in SeniorCare will receive Level 2 benefits dependent on the availability of federal funds.*

## **WisconsinCare - Level 4**

For people with gross annual income between \$20,421 and \$24,504 (between \$27,381 and \$32,856 for a married couple), WisconsinCare will help pay Medicare Part D premiums up to \$22 per month.

*Note: Current SeniorCare participants not eligible for Medicare will be eligible for a special state-funded drug program. SeniorCare participants with incomes greater than \$24,504 (\$32,856 couple) will be assisted in the enrollment in Part D.*

## ***What should Wisconsin seniors do now?***

- All current SeniorCare participants should remain in SeniorCare. They will receive more information in the next few months about enrolling in WisconsinCare.
- Seniors who get a SeniorCare renewal form in the mail, should complete the renewal form and send it to SeniorCare with the \$30 enrollment fee.
- Seniors who are not currently enrolled in SeniorCare, can still sign up through December 2007.
- Seniors who are not enrolled in SeniorCare as of December 2007 will still be able to apply for WisconsinCare starting in January 2008.

## ***How can seniors learn more?***

Seniors can learn more about WisconsinCare at <http://WisconsinCare.wi.gov>, call the hotline at 1-800-657-2038 or contact a local aging agency. Anyone who wants to find out more about the Medicare drug plans in their area can visit the Medicare Part D website at <http://www.medicare.gov/pdphome.asp>

If you need help learning about drug plans, contact a Benefit Specialist by calling 1-866-456-8211 or visiting <http://dhfs.wisconsin.gov/aging/contacts/CNTYBNSP.HTM>