

*Are your eligible patients getting*  
the **“Extra Help”** or  
**Low-Income Subsidy (LIS)**  
benefits they’re entitled to?

USE THIS QUICK GUIDE TO

- Learn about Extra Help/LIS program benefits
- Identify the two ways patients can receive Extra Help/LIS benefits
- Discover how you can help patients apply for Extra Help/LIS benefits

# Extra Help/LIS

## PROGRAM BENEFITS



### LIS recipients are entitled to

- **Branded prescription drugs at an affordable cost**—no more than **\$8.95/prescription**, which is a Medicare Part D benefit<sup>1</sup>



### No “donut hole” for these patients

Eligibility for **\$8.95 maximum prescriptions** for branded drugs is a **year-round benefit**.<sup>2</sup>



### Beneficiaries may receive full or partial subsidies<sup>3\*</sup>

\*For definitions, go to <https://secure.ssa.gov/poms.nsf/lnx/0603001005>.

# Eligible patients get Extra Help/LIS

## BENEFITS 2 WAYS

### 1 These patients are automatically enrolled into an Extra Help/LIS plan<sup>3</sup>:

- Patients who have Medicare Part A and/or Medicare Part B
- Patients already entitled to **Supplemental Security Income (SSI)**
- Patients eligible for **full Medicaid coverage**
- Patients covered under one of the **Medicare Savings Programs**<sup>†</sup> as a
  - Qualified Medicare Beneficiary
  - Specified Low-Income Medicare Beneficiary
  - Qualified Individual

### 2 Through Social Security, these patients can apply for Extra Help/LIS benefits<sup>4‡</sup>:

- A patient who has Medicare Part A and/or Medicare Part B
- A patient with combined savings, investments, and real estate (assets)



**Worth not more than \$29,160**, and if the patient is **married** and living with spouse<sup>§</sup>



**Worth not more than \$14,610**, and if the patient is **not married** and living with spouse<sup>§</sup>

<sup>†</sup>More information at <https://secure.ssa.gov/poms.nsf/lnx/0603001005>.

<sup>‡</sup>More information at <https://secure.ssa.gov/i1020/start>.

<sup>§</sup>The value of a home, vehicles, personal possessions, life insurance, burial plots, or irrevocable burial contracts; or back payments from Social Security or SSI DO NOT COUNT toward total worth.

# Help patients apply for EXTRA HELP/LIS BENEFITS

- If a patient is **automatically enrolled**, don't do anything. The patient can **take advantage of all Extra Help/LIS program benefits**
- If a patient is **not automatically enrolled**, and believes that they qualify based on income, they can apply for Extra Help/LIS benefits in one of **three ways**:



**Apply online at**  
[www.socialsecurity.gov/extrahelp](http://www.socialsecurity.gov/extrahelp)



**Call Social Security at**  
1-800-772-1213  
(TTY 1-800-325-0778)



**Apply in person at** the local  
Social Security Office

**References:** **1.** National Council on Aging. Medicare low income subsidy: get extra help paying for Part D. <https://www.ncoa.org/economic-security/benefits/prescriptions/lis-extrahelp/>. Accessed February 12, 2020. **2.** National Council of Aging (NCOA). Medicare Part D cost saving chart. <https://www.ncoa.org/resources/medicare-part-d-cost-sharing-chart/>. Accessed February 12, 2020. **3.** Social Security Administration. Program operations manual system (POMS). <https://secure.ssa.gov/poms.nsf/lnx/0603001005>. Accessed February 12, 2020. **4.** Social Security Administration. Extra help with Medicare prescription drug plan costs. <https://secure.ssa.gov/i1020/start>. Accessed February 12, 2020.



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