What Is Extra Help With Medicare?
Medicare Part D’s prescription drug program offers Low-Income Subsidy (LIS) assistance (also called “Extra Help”) to eligible patients with an annual income of ≤150% of the Federal Poverty Level. Medicare beneficiaries receiving Extra Help get assistance in paying for their Part D monthly premium, annual deductible, coinsurance, and copay. Also, individuals enrolled in the Extra Help program do not have a gap in prescription drug coverage.
The amount of subsidy depends on the individual’s income compared to the Federal Poverty Level and resource limitations set by the Social Security Act.

Who Is Eligible to Receive Extra Help From Medicare?
Many people qualify for Medicare Extra Help savings and do not know it. You may qualify if:
• Your annual income and assets are below the eligibility thresholds. The Medicare Extra Help program eligibility limits may change from year to year. For the most up-to-date levels, visit www.ssa.gov
• Your annual income is higher than the eligibility limit, but you support other family members who also live in the same household

If you have Medicare and Supplemental Security Income (SSI) or Medicare and Medicaid, you automatically qualify for Extra Help and do not need to apply. You should receive a purple-colored notice from the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) informing you that you do not need to apply for Extra Help.

How Do I Apply for Extra Help With Medicare?
There are 3 ways to apply for Extra Help with Medicare:
1. Apply online at www.socialsecurity.gov/extrahelp
2. Call Social Security at 1-800-772-1213 (TTY 1-800-325-0778) and request an application be mailed to you or apply over the phone. Social Security representatives are available by phone Monday through Friday, from 7am to 7pm ET.
3. Apply in person at your local Social Security office

The Social Security Administration (SSA) encourages you to apply online because it helps you through the process step-by-step and you can apply at your own pace. After you submit your application, Social Security will review it and send you a notification in the mail if you are eligible. If you qualify for Extra Help and are not yet enrolled in a Medicare Part D Prescription Drug Plan, you can enroll in a plan at that time.
What Information Do I Need to Have for the Extra Help Application?

You will be asked to provide the following information for yourself and your spouse (if applicable):

- Demographic information including signatures. If you are unable to sign, a representative may sign for you.
- Name as it appears on your Social Security card.
- Attestation and value of savings, investments, and real estate. You do NOT need to count your home, vehicles, personal possessions, life insurance, burial plots, irrevocable burial contracts, or back payments from Social Security or Supplemental Security Income (SSI).
- Number of relatives living with you and depending on you for at least one-half of their financial support.
- Income from any of the following sources: Social Security, Railroad Retirement, Veterans Benefits, other pensions or annuities, other income including alimony, net rental income, workers compensation, unemployment, private or state disability payments.

Although the Social Security Administration won’t ask for proof to support the information you provide, they will match your information with data available from other government agencies, so it is important to provide information that is as accurate as possible.