

Inflation Reduction Act: Lowering Rx Costs

U.S. Senator Bob Casey, Jr.

HOW MAINE BENEFITS

The Inflation Reduction Act has lowered health care and prescription drug costs for Maine families.

Reducing Health Care Premiums

Marketplace premiums have been reduced by hundreds of dollars per person, on average, for roughly 59,000 Mainers.¹



Capping Insulin at \$35/month

Out-of-pocket costs for insulin are now capped at \$35 per month for Medicare beneficiaries enrolled in Part D and Part B, lowering costs for nearly 6,000 Mainers.²



10 Initial Drugs for Negotiation

In 2023, the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services announced the first 10 drugs covered under Part D selected for negotiation. The following drugs will have capped maximum fair prices beginning in 2026, lowering the cost of these drugs.³



Making Approved Vaccines Free

Approved vaccines, including vaccines for shingles, flu, DTaP, and COVID-19, are free for Part D beneficiaries. This has helped to lower costs for more than 24,500 Mainers.⁴



Decreasing Out-Of-Pocket Costs

Reforms to the Part D program, including the \$2,000 cap on out-of-pocket costs, will lower prescription drug costs for nearly 126,900 Mainers. This will mean nearly \$38 million in savings for state residents in 2025.⁵

1. Eliquis, used by 21,000 state residents on Medicare
2. Jardiance, used by 7,000 state residents on Medicare
3. Xarelto, used by 6,000 state residents on Medicare
4. Januvia, used by 4,000 state residents on Medicare
5. Farxiga, used by 2,000 state residents on Medicare
6. Entresto, used by 1,000 state residents on Medicare
7. Enbrel, used by 300 state residents on Medicare
8. Imbruvica, used by 100 state residents on Medicare
9. Stelara, used by 200 state residents on Medicare
10. Fiasp/NovoLog, used by 4,000 state residents on Medicare

IRA IMPLEMENTATION TIMELINE

January 1, 2025

The \$2,000 cap on out-of-pocket costs for prescription drugs under Part D is implemented.

September 1, 2024

The negotiated maximum fair prices for the first 10 drugs under Part D are published.

January 1, 2026

Maximum fair prices negotiated for the first 10 drugs under Part D go into effect.

Ongoing Drug Negotiations

Additional drugs will be eligible for negotiation each year, with 15 drugs eligible in each 2027 and 2028, and 20 drugs eligible in 2029 and each following year.

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