

## **New Special Medicare-Approved Drug Discount Cards for People who use Pharmacies Operated by Indian Health Programs**

You may have already heard that in 2004 and 2005, people with Medicare can sign up to get a Medicare-approved drug discount card, and that those with low incomes can also sign up for a \$600 credit available for each year. The drug discount card and the \$600 credit can help you save money on your prescriptions. You can choose from any of the Medicare-approved drug discount cards in the area where you live. There are also two special cards available if you get your prescriptions through pharmacies operated by an Indian health program, that is, the Indian Health Service, a Tribe, a Tribal organization, or an urban Indian organization.

### **You qualify for any Medicare-approved drug discount card if:**

- You have Medicare AND
- You do not have outpatient prescription drug coverage from Medicaid

### **You qualify for the \$600 credit and will not have to pay the enrollment fee if:**

- Your monthly income in 2004 is no more than \$1,048 for a single person or no more than \$1,406 for a married couple. (If you live in Alaska, your monthly income limits are no more than \$1,309 if you are single or no more than \$1,757 if you are married.) AND
- You do not receive outpatient prescription drug coverage from certain other sources such as TRICARE, group health insurance, or Federal Health Benefits Plans (FEHBP)

### **Special cards for use at pharmacies operated by Indian health programs**

If you meet all of the conditions above, and you obtain prescriptions from a pharmacy operated by an Indian health program, you may want to consider one of two special Medicare drug cards specially designed for use at I/T/U pharmacies:

<b>Card Name</b>	<b>Card Sponsor</b>	<b>Telephone Number</b>
Criterion Advantage	Computer Sciences Corporation	1-877-646-5309
Pharmacy Care Alliance (Option 1)	Pharmacy Care Alliance	1-800-722-7015

You can use these special drug cards and the \$600 credit at any retail or mail order pharmacy in the card sponsor's network. However, if you use one of these cards at an I/T/U pharmacy, your whole community benefits. The I/T/U pharmacy can use your \$600 credit from Medicare to pay for the prescriptions it provides you, so that it has more money to provide other services in your community. Check with your local I/T/U pharmacy to see if it accepts either or both cards.

Enrolling in any drug card is your choice. To get a Medicare-approved drug discount card and the \$600 credit:

- Call the company offering one of these cards and ask for an enrollment form, OR speak with your local I/T/U pharmacist or patient benefits coordinator about cards for use at I/T/U pharmacies,
- Fill out the enrollment form for the card and \$600 credit, and
- Send the signed enrollment form to the card sponsor.

Once your enrollment form has been processed and accepted, the card sponsor will send you its Medicare-approved drug discount card. If you already have a Medicare-approved drug discount card, and you would like to change to a card that can be used in I/T/U pharmacies, contact your current card sponsor or your local patient benefits coordinator for information on how to switch. You can also get enrollment forms and information about any Medicare-approved drug discount card by calling 1-800-MEDICARE. TTY users should call 1-877-486-2048.