



Lowering Prescription Drug Costs for North Carolina

President Biden’s lower cost prescription drug law, the Inflation Reduction Act, contains policies that lower prescription drug costs for seniors and people with disabilities across North Carolina:



Caps costs for covered insulin at \$35 per month for people with Medicare



Makes recommended vaccines available at no cost for people with Medicare Part D



Enables Medicare to negotiate prices for certain prescription drugs



Requires drug companies to pay a rebate to Medicare if they raise prices faster than the rate of inflation

In January 2024, two new cost-saving Medicare Part D benefits went into effect:



The Extra Help program is expanding to provide more benefits for qualifying enrollees with limited income and assets



Some enrollees now have their out-of-pocket drug costs capped at about \$3,500 in 2024, and in 2025, out-of-pocket costs will be lowered even more with a \$2,000 cap

Inflation Reduction Act Impact: North Carolina by the Numbers

50,000+

Medicare enrollees in North Carolina who use insulin could have an average savings of **\$449** per year

1.7 MILLION

Medicare Part D enrollees in North Carolina can receive free recommended preventive vaccines

\$132 MILLION+

expected savings for ~**542,000** Medicare Part D enrollees in North Carolina, thanks to 2024 policies limiting Part D out-of-pocket costs

MORE THAN 300,000

Medicare enrollees in North Carolina take drugs selected for negotiation including:



172,000+ take Eliquis or Xarelto, cardiovascular drugs to prevent blood clots



95,000+ take Type 2 Diabetes medications Jardiance, Januvia, or Farxiga



17,000+ take Entresto to treat heart failure or other cardiovascular conditions

