

PLEASE READ! DO NOT THROW AWAY!

March 17, 2006

Recipient ID
PDAP Client's Name
Address
Address
Town/State/Zip

Dear "PDAP Member's Name":

You are currently eligible for both a Medicare Savings Program (QMB, SLMB, or QI'1) and the State's Prescription Drug Assistance Program (PDAP). Please, be aware your prescription drug coverage **IS CHANGING!** Starting May 1 2006, you will have new prescription drug coverage. The State of Wyoming will no longer be able to provide you prescription drug coverage under the PDAP, formerly known as the Minimum Medical Program (MMP).

In January, Medicare began providing Prescription Drug Coverage to individuals that qualify for Medicare. This benefit is also known as Medicare Part D.

Since you have PDAP and Medicare, you are eligible for Medicare's Prescription Drug Coverage. Wyoming's PDAP will continue to provide you with prescription drug coverage until April 30, 2006, or until you enroll in a Medicare Prescription Drug Plan. If you do not enroll in a Medicare Prescription Drug Plan prior to April 30, 2006, Medicare will automatically assign you to one.

The following list will provide you additional information about your changing prescription drug coverage:

- Beginning May 1, 2006 or when you enroll in a Prescription Drug Plan, Medicare will start paying for your prescription drugs. The State's PDAP will no longer cover your prescription drugs.
- The *last day* that the State's PDAP will pay for your prescription drugs is April 30, 2006 or when you enroll in a Medicare Prescription Drug Plan. Be advised, Medicaid will continue to pay for your Medicare premiums.
- In April 2006, Medicare will send you a letter indicating which plan it has picked for you, but you can still compare plans and choose another plan until April 30, 2006.
- If you have not joined a Medicare drug plan by April 30, 2006, Medicare will enroll you in the plan it has picked with coverage starting May 1, 2006 to make sure you do not become subject to a penalty or miss a day of coverage.

Brent D. Sherard, M.D., M.P.H., Director and State Health Officer

Governor Dave Freudenthal

- If you decide you want another plan, you can switch plans at any time without a penalty. If you do decide to change plans, it is suggested that you change plans before the 16th of the month to ensure a smooth transition.
- Medicare's plans may not pay for all the drugs that PDAP pays for now but the co-pays are significantly less and there is no monthly limit on the number of prescriptions. In addition, Medicare has procedures for helping you get the prescription drug coverage you need.
- You **WILL NOT** have to pay a monthly premium or annual deductible to join a Medicare Prescription Drug Plan if you enroll in a basic plan at or below the State benchmark. Due to your income, Medicare is providing you "extra help" by covering the monthly premium and annual deductible for a basic prescription drug plan. You **WILL** pay smaller co-payments than you currently pay under the State's PDAP for each prescription you fill through a Medicare Prescription Drug Plan.
- You can take advantage of the Medicare Prescription Drug Coverage now by comparing the available Prescription Drug Plans in Wyoming and enrolling in the plan that best meets your needs. The benefits of enrolling now instead of waiting are:
 - **Lower co-pays.** Medicare co-pays will range from \$1-\$5 per prescription where PDAP charges \$10 and \$25 per prescription.
 - **No monthly limit on prescriptions.** The number of prescriptions is not limited where PDAP limits coverage to 3 prescriptions per month.
- If you have been using a Medicare Prescription Drug Discount Card, please be aware that the discount drug card program will end on May 15, 2006 and the discount will no longer be valid.

For additional assistance in choosing an appropriate Medicare Prescription Drug Plan contact the following sources:

- Look at the "Medicare & You 2006" Handbook which Medicare mailed to you in October 2005. It includes information on the available plans in your area.
- Look at www.medicare.gov on the web and get personalized drug plan information.
- Call 1-800 Medicare (1-800-633-4227); TTY users should call 1-877-486-2048 for questions and assistance in enrolling in a plan.

Over the past few months, Medicare has sent you information about these plans. If you have any questions about this letter, or any letters you get about Medicare Prescription Drug Plans, call the **Wyoming State Health Insurance Information Program (WSHIIP) at 1-800-856-4398** for **FREE** personalized health insurance counseling. WSHIIP has volunteers throughout the State of Wyoming who can assist you with any questions you may have, including helping you to decide which prescription drug plan is best for you.



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If you have already enrolled in a Medicare Prescription Drug Plan, there is no additional action required on your part, and you can consider this letter just additional information.

Sincerely,

State of Wyoming Health Care Financing/ Office of Pharmacy Services