

No one likes surprises at the pharmacy

What to know about 2026 Medicare Part D deductibles and coinsurance

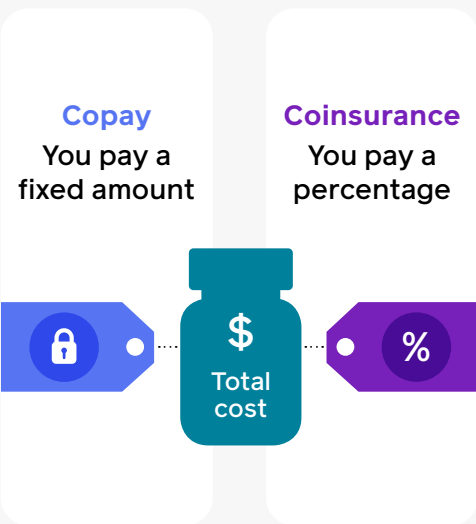
What's a deductible?

A set dollar amount you pay for covered prescriptions out of your own pocket **before** your health insurance starts to pay.

What's coinsurance?

How you and your health plan split the bill for covered prescriptions.

Unlike a copay (a fixed amount you pay, often far less than the total cost of the drug), coinsurance requires you to pay a percentage of the total cost of the drug.



Let's say your 2026 Medicare prescription drug coverage looks like this:

- Your health plan charges you a \$20 copay per fill for less expensive drugs, like those in tiers 1 and 2.
- It charges you 20% coinsurance per fill for more costly drugs, like those in tiers 3, 4 and 5.
- You have a \$615 deductible on prescriptions for the year that applies to drugs in tiers 3, 4 and 5. So, you pay the full cost of your medicines in those tiers until your deductible is met.

Scenario

You're taking a Tier 3 medicine that costs \$800. It's your first fill of the year.

You'd pay \$615 to satisfy your deductible.

You'd also pay 20% coinsurance on the remaining \$185.

Your total: \$652
Health plan: \$148



Scenario

It's time to refill, and you're filling the same medicine.

Your annual deductible is already paid.

You'd pay 20% coinsurance on \$800.

Your total: \$160
Health plan: \$640

