**Trillium Drug Program**

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Prescription medications may be a part of your treatment plan. Whether it is maintenance drugs to treat chronic long-term conditions or a pulse therapy for an acute episode, expenses add up. The [Trillium Drug Program](https://www.ontario.ca/page/get-help-high-prescription-drug-costs) (TDP) is an income-based coverage that helps with the cost of eligible prescription drugs listed under the [Ontario Drug Benefit (ODB) Formulary](https://www.ontario.ca/page/check-medication-coverage/).

You could apply to the program, if you meet the following criteria:

* live in Ontario
* have a valid Ontario Health card number
* are between the ages of 25 and 64
* do not have an insurance plan that covers 100% of your prescription drugs
* spend approximately 4% or more of your after-tax household income on medications

The [Trillium Drug Program Application](http://www.forms.ssb.gov.on.ca/mbs/ssb/forms/ssbforms.nsf/FormDetail?OpenForm&ACT=RDR&TAB=PROFILE&SRCH=4&ENV=WWE&NO=014-3693-87E) could be found online, at your local pharmacy or by calling 1-866-811-9893.



[A Guide to Understanding the Trillium Drug Program](http://www.forms.ssb.gov.on.ca/mbs/ssb/forms/ssbforms.nsf/FormDetail?OpenForm&ACT=RDR&TAB=PROFILE&SRCH=4&ENV=WWE&NO=014-3693-87E) provides the full details about the program, enrolment, and renewal. Here are some tips to navigate the TDP:

* The program runs from August 1st to July 31st
* Application deadline is September 30th
* All household members that share a residence, have a family relationship and are financially dependent on each other, need to be included on the application
* Proof of household income is required annually to determine how much of your prescription costs will be counted towards the deductible
* Once approved, it is recommended that you inform your doctor that you have ODB coverage and confirm that the drugs prescribed are covered under the program
* If your drugs are not covered under ODB, check if coverage is available under the [Exceptional Access Program](https://www.ontario.ca/page/applying-exceptional-access-program) or [Special Drugs Program](https://www.ontario.ca/page/get-full-coverage-certain-drugs)
* If you have other insurance, submit to the primary insurance (e.g. through work/school), then secondary insurance (e.g. private insurance/spousal insurance), and lastly to the TDP (deductible requirements need to be met before coverage is provided)
* A co-payment of $2 may apply to each ODB prescription after the quarterly deductible has been satisfied
* Any unpaid deductible in a quarter will be added to the next quarter’s deductible
* Renewal letters will be mailed before the start of the next program year
* Remember to contact TDP for questions or to report changes that may impact your benefits

**Example:** Priya is single and earns $35,000 per year. Unfortunately, she does not have drug coverage for six medications, which cost $600 for a three-month supply. After applying for the TDP, she was approved and her quarterly deductible was $350. All of her drugs were eligible for coverage. When she went to the pharmacy for a refill and presented her Ontario Health card, the breakdown of the costs was:

Total $ 600

Deductible payable by patient $ 350

Co-payment payable by patient 6

Total payable by patient $ 356

Covered by Trillium Drug Plan $ 244

If you still have questions about the program, they could be reached at 1-800-575-5386.

*\*This article is intended to provide general information only. Please seek advice from a qualified professional for your situation.*