

**Table 2. Provincial drug programs in Canada**

<b>Province</b>	<b>Name of the plan</b>	<b>Eligible groups</b>	<b>Out of pocket costs*</b>
<b>Alberta</b> <a href="https://www.alberta.ca/non-group-coverage.aspx">https://www.alberta.ca/non-group-coverage.aspx</a> AND <a href="https://www.alberta.ca/specialized-drug-benefits.aspx">https://www.alberta.ca/specialized-drug-benefits.aspx</a>	1. Non-Group Coverage (Voluntary plan)	- Albertans <65 years of age and their dependents	- Premiums: \$44.45 (single) to \$118 for family per month - Co-pay: 30% to a maximum of \$25 with some exceptions.
	2. Coverage for Seniors	- Albertans >65 years of age and their dependents	- Co-pay: 30% to a maximum of \$25 with some exceptions.
	3. Special programs (covers selected medications used in the direct treatment to patients)	- Patients with cancer, organ transplant, heart surgery, insulin therapy, HIV, cystic fibrosis, pulmonary hypertension, certain eye conditions, tuberculosis and sexually transmitted diseases, and opioid use disorder.	- Full Coverage
<b>British Columbia</b> <a href="https://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/health/health-drug-coverage/pharmacare-for-bc-residents/who-we-cover">https://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/health/health-drug-coverage/pharmacare-for-bc-residents/who-we-cover</a>	1. Fair Pharmacare (Voluntary plan)	- All BC residents, regardless of age and income	- Deductible: 1-3%, as per income. - Co-insurance: 30% after deductibles
	2. Special programs (Plan B, C, D, F, G, P, W)	- B- people living in residential care, C- income assistance recipients through Ministry of Social Development and Poverty Reduction, D- cystic fibrosis patients, F- children at home G- people on psychiatric medications, P- Palliative care patients, W- first nations, patients with opioid use disorder.	- Full coverage
<b>Manitoba</b> <a href="https://www.gov.mb.ca/health/pharmacare/index.html">https://www.gov.mb.ca/health/pharmacare/index.html</a>	1. Pharmacare	- Uninsured Manitobans whose income is seriously affected by high prescription drug costs, regardless of age.	- Deductible: ranges 3.17% -7.15 % depending on adjusted family income (minimum deductible is \$100)
<b>New Brunswick</b>	1. Prescription Drug Program (NBPDP)	- Uninsured residents of New Brunswick	- Annual premiums: \$200-\$2000 as per income - Co-pay: 30% per prescription

<a href="https://www2.gnb.ca/content/gnb/en/departments/health/MedicarePrescriptionDrugPlan/TheNewBrunswickPrescriptionDrugProgram/BeneficiaryGroups.html">https://www2.gnb.ca/content/gnb/en/departments/health/MedicarePrescriptionDrugPlan/TheNewBrunswickPrescriptionDrugProgram/BeneficiaryGroups.html</a>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Seniors <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Plan A for low-income seniors</li> <li>- Medavie Blue Cross Seniors medication program</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Co-pay: \$9.05- \$15 per prescription</li> <li>- Premium: \$115 per month</li> <li>- Co-pay: \$15 per prescription</li> </ul>
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Newfoundland and Labrador</b></p> <a href="https://www.gov.nl.ca/hcs/prescription/nlmdp-plan-overview/">https://www.gov.nl.ca/hcs/prescription/nlmdp-plan-overview/</a>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. The 65 Plus Plan</li> <li>2. The Access Plan</li> <li>3. The Select Needs Plan</li> </ol>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Other eligible populations: nursing home residents, residents of adult care homes, social development clients who hold a health card through Department of Social Development, children in care, people with multiple sclerosis, cystic fibrosis, organ transplant, HIV-AIDS, and growth hormone deficiency, children with special needs.</li> <li>- Low-income Seniors who receive Old Age Security Benefits (OAS) and the Guaranteed Income Supplement (GIS)</li> <li>- Individuals having catastrophic drug costs (&gt; 5-10% of annual income)</li> <li>- Residents with Cystic Fibrosis and Growth Hormone Deficiency.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Co-pay: \$0 to \$4</li> <li>- Dispensing fee only: \$6 every time</li> <li>- Deductible- 5-10%, calculated depending on family income</li> <li>- Dispensing fee: \$6 every time</li> <li>- Full coverage</li> </ul>
	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>4. Foundation plan</li> </ol>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Persons and families receiving income support benefits through the Department of Advanced Education and Skills</li> <li>- Individuals receiving services through the regional health authorities, including children in the care of Child, Youth and Family Services, and individuals in supervised care.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Full coverage</li> </ul>
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Nova Scotia</b></p> <a href="https://novascotia.ca/dhw/pharmacare/">https://novascotia.ca/dhw/pharmacare/</a>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Seniors Pharmacare</li> <li>2. Family Pharmacare</li> </ol>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Seniors</li> <li>- Non-senior uninsured residents and their families with catastrophic drug costs</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Annual Premium: \$0-\$424 as per income</li> <li>- Co-insurance- 30% per prescription</li> <li>- Deductible: 1-20% of net income up to 6-35% maximum</li> </ul>

			- Co-insurance- 20% per prescription
	3. Special drug assistance programs (available for eligible drugs)	- Cancer patients with a gross family income less than \$25,500 per year - Patients under palliative care	- Full coverage
	4. Department of Community Services Pharmacare Benefits	- Welfare children and people receiving disability or income support from The Department of Community Services	- Co-pay: \$5 per prescription?
<b>Ontario</b> <a href="https://www.ontario.ca/page/get-coverage-prescription-drugs#odsp">https://www.ontario.ca/page/get-coverage-prescription-drugs#odsp</a>	1. Ontario Drug Benefit Program (ODBP): covers the cost of certain drugs listed on provincial drug formulary	- Seniors (earning more than \$20,000)	- Deductible: \$100 /year/ person
		- Low-income seniors	- Copay: \$6.11 per prescription
		- People receiving benefits from Ontario Works or Ontario Disability Support Program	- Co-pay: \$2 per prescription
		- People receiving professional home and community care services	- Co-pay: \$2 per prescription
		- People receiving long term care	- Co-pay: \$2 per prescription
		- People less than 25 years and not covered by private insurance	- Co-pay: \$2 per prescription
	2. Trillium Drug Program (covers the cost of drugs listed on ODBP formulary)	- Ontario residents less than 65 years with high drug costs and no or limited private coverage	- Deductible: 4% of net income - Co-pay: \$2 per prescription after deductibles are met
3. Exceptional access Program (covers the cost of certain drugs not listed on ODBP)	- Individuals covered under one of the provincial drug programs	- Applicable as per age, income, medication costs	
4. Special Drugs Program	- Individuals with Cancer, Thalassemia, Age-related Macular degeneration, Cystic Fibrosis, HIV-AIDS, Treatment-resistant schizophrenia	- Full coverage	
<b>Prince Edward Island</b>	1. Seniors drug program	- Seniors >65 years regardless of income or disease.	- Co-pay: \$8.25 plus \$7.69 of the pharmacy professional fee for each prescription.

<a href="https://www.princeedwardisland.ca/en/information/health-pei/drug-programs">https://www.princeedwardisland.ca/en/information/health-pei/drug-programs</a>	2. Generic Drug Program	- For people less than 65 years and not having private insurance	- Maximum out-of-pocket costs of \$19.95 for eligible generic prescription drugs
	3. Family health benefit drug program	- For children belonging to low income families under the age of 19, or aged 19 to 25 if a child is a registered full time student.	- Full coverage except pharmacy dispensing fee
	4. Special programs:		- Full or partial coverage depending on household income, type of condition
	a. High-cost drug program	- People with cystic fibrosis; Tuberculosis, Transplant rejection, Sexually transmitted diseases, Chronic renal failure, HIV/AIDS, Diabetes, Ankylosing Spondylitis, Cancer, Crohn's Disease, Multiple Sclerosis, Meningitis, Diabetes, Plaque Psoriasis, Pulmonary Hypertension, Psoriatic Arthritis, Rheumatoid Arthritis, and Wet Age-Related Macular Degeneration.	
	b. Catastrophic drug program	- For people with catastrophic drug costs	- Annual deductible: 3% to 12% depending on income
	c. Financial assistance drug program	- Social assistance recipients	- Full coverage
	d. Community mental health drug program	- People on long-acting injectable antipsychotic medication	- Full coverage
	e. Institutional pharmacy program	- Residents in any government manor.	- Full coverage

<p><b>Quebec</b></p>	<p>1. Public Prescription Drug Insurance Plan (Mandatory drug plan)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Quebec residents not eligible for private insurance, persons 65 years and above and recipients of last-resort financial assistance and certain other holders of claim slips</li> <li>- Low-income seniors who receive guaranteed income supplement, persons with functional impairment which occurred before age of 18, individuals who are living alone or with their parents, people who do not receive last-resort financial assistance, and those do not have access to a private plan.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Premium: \$0 to \$662/ person/ year as per income</li> <li>- Deductible: \$22.25/ month</li> <li>- Co-pay: 35% per prescription</li> <li>- Full coverage</li> </ul>
<p><b>Saskatchewan</b> <a href="https://www.saskatchewan.ca/residents/health/prescription-drug-plans-and-health-coverage/extended-benefits-and-drug-plan">https://www.saskatchewan.ca/residents/health/prescription-drug-plans-and-health-coverage/extended-benefits-and-drug-plan</a></p>	<p>1. Seniors drug plan</p> <p>2. Supplementary health coverage</p> <p>3. Drug cost assistance special support program</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Seniors with a reported net income of \$69,057 or less</li> <li>- People enrolled in specific income assistance, low-income seniors living in assisted facilities, people living in special care facilities, people receiving palliative care</li> <li>- Individuals with high drug costs and low family income</li> <li>- Families who receive the Guaranteed Income Supplement (GIS), Saskatchewan Income Plan (SIP) or Family Health Benefits</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Co-pay: \$25 per prescription</li> <li>- Full coverage</li> <li>- Deductible: 3-4% of total family income</li> <li>- Co-insurance: 35% per prescription after deductibles</li> </ul>

Source: Government of Canada, 2017: <https://www.canada.ca/en/health-canada/services/health-care-system/pharmaceuticals/access-insurance-coverage-prescription-medicines/provincial-territorial-public-drug-benefit-programs.html> ;

\*NOTE: The rates for the deductibles, premiums, co-payments and co-insurance may vary as these are adjusted by the provinces each year. Some provinces also have exceptional drug programs where only special drugs with exceptionally high costs are covered.

