

(II) \$20 FOR A PRESCRIPTION FOR A PREFERRED BRAND NAME DRUG; AND

(III) \$35 FOR A PRESCRIPTION FOR A NONPREFERRED BRAND NAME DRUG; AND

(5) LIMIT THE TOTAL ANNUAL BENEFIT TO \$1,000 PER INDIVIDUAL.

(B) THE PLAN MAY INCLUDE A RESTRICTED FORMULARY OF EXPERIMENTAL DRUGS NOT APPROVED BY THE FEDERAL FOOD AND DRUG ADMINISTRATION FOR GENERAL USE THAT WILL NOT BE REIMBURSED.

(C) (1) DURING THE FIRST 180 DAYS OF THE OPERATION OF THE PLAN, THE CARRIER MAY ENROLL ONLY ELIGIBLE INDIVIDUALS WHO WERE:

(I) ENROLLED IN MEDICARE PLUS CHOICE MANAGED CARE PROGRAMS IN MEDICALLY UNDERSERVED COUNTIES OR PORTIONS OF COUNTIES ON OR BEFORE DECEMBER 31, 1999; AND

(II) AFTER DECEMBER 31, 1999, CEASED TO BE ENROLLED IN THOSE PLANS.

(2) ON AND AFTER THE 181ST DAY OF THE OPERATION OF THE PLAN, THE CARRIER MAY ENROLL ANY ELIGIBLE INDIVIDUAL.

(3) THE CARRIER SHALL WORK WITH THE SECRETARY AND THE MARYLAND DEPARTMENT OF AGING TO PROVIDE NOTICE, THROUGH THE WRITTEN AND ELECTRONIC MEDIA AND OTHER MEANS, TO THE ELIGIBLE INDIVIDUALS ELIGIBLE FOR ENROLLMENT IN THE FIRST 180 DAYS OF THE OPERATION OF THE PLAN, OF THE AVAILABILITY OF THE PLAN AND OF THE ENROLLMENT PREFERENCE TO BE GRANTED.

15-604.

(A) THERE IS A SHORT-TERM PRESCRIPTION DRUG SUBSIDY PLAN FUND.

(B) THE FUND CONTAINS THE ASSESSMENT AGAINST CARRIERS MADE UNDER § 15-606(C) OF THE INSURANCE ARTICLE.

(C) THE FUND IS A SPECIAL, CONTINUING, NONLAPSING FUND THAT IS NOT SUBJECT TO § 7-302 OF THE STATE FINANCE AND PROCUREMENT ARTICLE.

(D) THE TREASURER SHALL SEPARATELY HOLD, AND THE COMPTROLLER SHALL ACCOUNT, FOR THE FUND.

(E) (1) THE FUND SHALL BE INVESTED AND REINVESTED IN THE SAME MANNER AS OTHER STATE FUNDS.

(2) ANY INVESTMENT EARNINGS SHALL BE RETAINED TO THE CREDIT OF THE FUND.

(F) THE FUND SHALL BE SUBJECT TO AN AUDIT BY THE OFFICE OF LEGISLATIVE AUDITS, AS PROVIDED IN § 2-1220 OF THE STATE GOVERNMENT ARTICLE.