

15-124.1.

(A) (1) IN THIS SECTION THE FOLLOWING WORDS HAVE THE MEANINGS INDICATED.

(2) "ENROLLEE" MEANS AN INDIVIDUAL WHO IS ENROLLED IN THE MARYLAND PHARMACY DISCOUNT PROGRAM.

(3) "PROGRAM" MEANS THE MARYLAND PHARMACY DISCOUNT PROGRAM ESTABLISHED UNDER THIS SECTION.

(B) THERE IS A MARYLAND PHARMACY DISCOUNT PROGRAM WITHIN THE MARYLAND PHARMACY ASSISTANCE PROGRAM.

(C) THE PURPOSE OF THE PROGRAM IS TO IMPROVE THE HEALTH STATUS OF LOW INCOME MEDICARE BENEFICIARIES WHO LACK PRESCRIPTION DRUG COVERAGE BY PROVIDING ACCESS TO LOWER COST, MEDICALLY NECESSARY, PRESCRIPTION DRUGS.

(D) THE PROGRAM SHALL BE OPEN TO MEDICARE BENEFICIARIES WHO:

(1) LACK OTHER PUBLIC OR PRIVATE PRESCRIPTION DRUG COVERAGE;
AND

(2) HAVE AN ANNUAL HOUSEHOLD INCOME AT OR BELOW 250 PERCENT OF THE FEDERAL POVERTY GUIDELINES.

(E) (1) SUBJECT TO SUBSECTION (F) OF THIS SECTION, AN ENROLLEE MAY PURCHASE MEDICALLY NECESSARY PRESCRIPTION DRUGS THAT ARE COVERED UNDER THE MARYLAND PHARMACY ASSISTANCE PROGRAM FROM ANY PHARMACY THAT PARTICIPATES IN THE MARYLAND PHARMACY ASSISTANCE PROGRAM AT A PRICE THAT IS BASED ON THE PRICE PAID BY THE MARYLAND PHARMACY ASSISTANCE PROGRAM, MINUS THE AGGREGATE VALUE OF ANY MANUFACTURERS' REBATES PROVIDED UNDER THAT PROGRAM.

(2) EACH ENROLLEE UNDER THE PROGRAM WHOSE ANNUAL HOUSEHOLD INCOME IS AT OR BELOW 175 PERCENT OF THE FEDERAL POVERTY GUIDELINES MAY RECEIVE A DISCOUNT SUBSIDIZED BY THE DEPARTMENT THAT IS EQUAL TO 25 PERCENT OF THE PRICE PAID BY THE MARYLAND PHARMACY ASSISTANCE PROGRAM FOR EACH PRESCRIPTION DRUG PURCHASED UNDER THE PROGRAM.

(F) THE DEPARTMENT MAY ESTABLISH MECHANISMS TO:

(1) RECOVER THE ADMINISTRATIVE COSTS OF THE PROGRAM;

(2) REIMBURSE PARTICIPATING PHARMACIES IN AN AMOUNT EQUAL TO THE PRICE PAID BY THE MARYLAND PHARMACY ASSISTANCE PROGRAM, MINUS THE COPAYMENT PAID BY THE ENROLLEE FOR EACH PRESCRIPTION FILLED UNDER THE PROGRAM; AND