

~~(F) ELIGIBILITY FOR THE PROGRAM SHALL BE LIMITED BY THE CRITERIA ESTABLISHED BY PHARMACEUTICAL MANUFACTURERS FOR THEIR PATIENT ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS.~~

15-601.

~~(a) In this subtitle the following words have the meanings indicated.~~

~~(b) "Carrier" means:~~

~~(1) An authorized insurer;~~

~~(2) A nonprofit health service plan;~~

~~(3) A health maintenance organization;~~

~~(4) A managed care organization;~~

~~(5) A dental plan organization; or~~

~~(6) Any other person that provides health benefit plans subject to regulation by the State.~~

~~(c) "Eligible individual" means an individual who:~~

~~(1) Is a resident of Maryland and at least 65 years of age;~~

~~(2) Is eligible for Medicare [Plus Choice, as defined under Title XVIII of the federal Social Security Act, as amended] COVERAGE;~~

~~(3) [Resides in a medically underserved county or portion of a county;~~

~~(4) Pays the premium for Medicare Part "B", as required by Title XVIII of the Social Security Act, as amended;~~

~~(5) Is not enrolled in a Medicare Plus Choice managed care program OR OTHER INSURANCE PROGRAM that provides prescription drug benefits at the time that the individual applies for enrollment in the plan; [and]~~

~~(4) HAS AN ANNUAL HOUSEHOLD INCOME AT OR BELOW 300 PERCENT OF THE FEDERAL POVERTY GUIDELINES; AND~~

~~[(6)] (5) Pays the premium, co-payments, and deductibles for the plan.~~

~~(d) "Enrollee" means an individual enrolled in the plan.~~

~~(e) "Fund" means the Short Term Prescription Drug Subsidy Plan Fund created under § 15-604 of this subtitle.~~

~~[(f) "Medically underserved county" means any of the following counties:~~

~~(1) Allegany County;~~

~~(2) Calvert County;~~

~~(3) Caroline County;~~