

CLEVELAND COUNTY
HEALTH DEPARTMENT
PHARMACY

AccessMeds Program

The purpose of the AccessMeds Program is to provide pharmacy services at a reduced cost to underserved, uninsured or underinsured, and low-income Cleveland County residents to improve access to life-saving medication, and therefore, improve the overall health of county residents and reduce overall county healthcare costs.

Eligible patients may fill prescriptions at the Cleveland County Health Department Pharmacy for a \$5 fee per ≤30-day supply if the medication is available on the program formulary, or for free if the medication is available through various sample or donation programs.

To qualify, patients must meet the following requirements:

- Live in Cleveland County
- Uninsured with no access to Medicaid, Medicare, VA insurance, or private insurance (a search for insurance coverage may be performed using the patient's social security number)
 - OR underinsured, and patient cannot afford prescription deductible/ copayment
- Household Income at or below 300% of the Federal Poverty Level (see chart below)
- Medication is available on the program formulary (or alternative medication that the prescriber approves)

Total gross household income must be **at or below** the amounts listed in the chart below.

2022 Household Income Eligibility		
# in Household	Monthly Income	Annual Income
1	\$3,397	\$40,770
2	\$4,577	\$54,930
3	\$5,757	\$69,090
4	\$6,937	\$83,250
5	\$8,117	\$97,410
6	\$9,297	\$111,570
7	\$10,477	\$125,730
Each additional person, add	\$1,180	\$14,160

How does it work?

- The pharmacy receives a valid prescription (**NO prescription transfers from other pharmacies**)
 - Patient must complete a screening form and pharmacy staff must verify eligibility by reviewing demographic information, insurance status, and household income
 - If participation is approved, prescription may be filled for \$5 fee per ≤30-day supply if available on the formulary
 - If the medication is not on the formulary, pharmacy staff will provide other options and may request prescriber approval to change to an alternative medication or refer the patient to our Medication Assistance Program
- *If participation is approved, pharmacy services are not guaranteed. Controlled substances are not available.***
Program formulary, prescription fee, and household income threshold eligibility are subject to change.

Patients may lose program participation eligibility for the following:

- False information provided on eligibility screening
- Non-compliance with medication regimen
- Verbal or physical abuse directed at pharmacy staff
- Sharing of medication
- Participant becomes eligible for NC Medicaid or any other insurance plan that covers the cost of prescription medications
 - No refunds will be made based on this type of coverage, as the pharmacy does not transmit prescription claims to third party payers, such as NC Medicaid or Medicare D