Beginning January 1, 2006, Medicare Part D became available to all individuals eligible for both Medicare Parts A and B. Medicare Part D is designed to offer Medicare-eligible individuals the opportunity to purchase coverage for prescription drugs.

Employers with a health care plan that provides retirees with prescription drug coverage will be affected by Medicare Part D if the plan covers someone who may become eligible to enroll in Medicare as a result of age, disability or end-stage renal disease.

Highlights of the benefit:
- Minimal monthly premium (varies depending on the plan you choose)
- $265 annual deductible
- Medicare will cover 75% of the drug cost up to $2,400.00 (annually).
- Any costs between the $2,400.00 and $5,100.00 are paid for by employee or retiree.
- When an employee drug bill exceeds $5,100.00, Medicare will cover 95% of any costs above that ceiling.

Medicare, Kaiser and Caremark Comparison for PCCD Retirees

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Benefits</th>
<th>Medicare Part D</th>
<th>Kaiser</th>
<th>Caremark (through CoreSource medical coverage)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Co-pay</td>
<td>25%</td>
<td>$1 - $15*</td>
<td>$1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Deductible</td>
<td>$265</td>
<td>None</td>
<td>None</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Co-pays are based on formulary determination and whether or not mail order is used.
*The District reimburses co-pays in accordance with the prevailing Collective Bargaining Agreements.

As you can see, your existing coverage is, on average, at least as good as standard Medicare prescription drug coverage. You can keep this coverage and not pay extra if you later decide to enroll in Medicare prescription drug coverage.

More detailed information about Medicare plans that offer prescription drug coverage is in the “Medicare & You” handbook. You'll get a copy of the handbook in the mail every year from Medicare. You may also be contacted directly by Medicare prescription drug plans. For more information about Medicare prescription drug plans:
- Visit [www.medicare.gov](http://www.medicare.gov);
- Call your State Health Insurance Assistance Program (see your copy of the Medicare & You handbook for their telephone number) for personalized help; or
- Call 1-800-MEDICARE (1-800-633-4227). TTY users should call 1-877-486-2048.

For people with limited income and resources, extra help paying for Medicare prescription drug coverage is available. Information about this extra help is available from the Social Security Administration (SSA) online at [www.socialsecurity.gov](http://www.socialsecurity.gov), or call them at 1-800-772-1213 (TTY 1-800-325-0778). If you are currently a Medicare-eligible employee covered by either CoreSource or Kaiser, and you inadvertently enrolled in Medicare Part D, legislation will require automatic de-enrollment from Kaiser Permanente Senior Advantage Plan.