

3. Tennessee CoverRx

CoverRx is a new program offered by the State of Tennessee. Applicants must be between the ages of 19-64, have a household income at or below 250% of the Federal Poverty Line (about \$34,225 in 2007 for a family of 2), be a Tennessee resident for at least six months, be a U.S. citizen or qualified alien, and cannot have prescription drug coverage including Medicare, TennCare or insurance through your work. CoverRx will help you pay for up to 5 prescriptions each month in addition to diabetic supplies and insulin. You will be required to pay a small co-pay amount based on your household income.

If you enroll in CoverRx you will no longer be eligible for help through the pharmaceutical company Patient Assistance Programs, so be sure to evaluate the programs carefully to determine which will best meet your needs.

Contact: 888-560-2649 or www.covertn.gov

4. Discount Drug Cards

If you do not qualify for free or low cost medications through the Patient Assistance Programs, and you do not have insurance including Medicare, you may qualify for one of these discount cards.

Merck Prescription Discount Program. Merck offers savings of 15-20% off Merck medicines regardless of age or income.

Contact: 800-444-2080 or www.merckhelps.com

Hamilton County Drug Discount Card.

The NACo drug discount card program is free to Hamilton County residents who otherwise do not have any type of prescription drug coverage. There are no income requirements, no limits, and one card can be used for an entire family. Cards are available at the Hamilton County Health Departments, public libraries, Project Access and most pharmacies.

Contact: 877-321-2652 or www.naco.advancerx.com

Together RX Access Card. Together Rx is a public service program of some of the largest pharmaceutical companies. You may qualify with an annual income of less than \$30,000 for yourself or \$40,000 for a family of 2. Diabetic testing supplies are also offered at a discount. The discount varies according to the company. It ranges from 25% - 40%.

Contact: 1-800-444-4106 or www.togetherrxaccess.com

5. Discount Drug Cards for Seniors and People with Disabilities

If you do not qualify for medications through Patient Assistance Programs and you are a senior and/or disabled patient with Medicare, the Needy Meds website features information about discount drug cards. You may qualify for assistance to get medications at a discounted rate. Discount programs are available for medications made by Lilly, GlaxoSmithKline, and McKesson.

Contact: www.needymeds.com

Prescription Resources for the Uninsured

If you cannot afford your medications and you do not have prescription drug coverage, there may be programs available to get you the help you need.

Patient Assistance Programs are offered by the pharmaceutical/drug companies and provide free or low cost medications to qualified patients.

This guide lists different programs available. One may be for you.

These programs are not associated with Project Access, but are listed as potential resources.



Project Access is an initiative of the Medical Society & Medical Foundation
1917 East Third Street, Suite A
Chattanooga, TN 37404
423-826-0269 (phone)
423-308-1821 (fax)

Where Can I Get Prescription Help?

A number of programs and resources can help you get the prescription medications you need if you are uninsured.

Options include:

- Low-cost generic prescriptions are available at Walmart, K-Mart, and Target pharmacies (\$4-\$9 co-pay).
- Patient Assistance Programs offered through by pharmaceutical companies. These programs provide many medications for free or nearly free if you qualify. Some clearinghouses provide information about these individual programs, including the Partnership for Prescription Assistance and Needy Meds.
- CoverRx, a new Tennessee program that will provide up to five prescriptions a month for enrolled patients.

Please evaluate your best options carefully. For example, if you are enrolled in CoverRx you would no longer be eligible for the pharmacy Patient Assistance Programs. Therefore, if you currently get medications through Patient Assistance Programs, you may *not* want to enroll in Cover Rx.

If you need help to decide the best choices for your medication needs, please contact a Project Access Patient Care Coordinator at 826-0269.

1. Patient Assistance Programs

Many low income, uninsured patients cannot afford to purchase medications. Patient Assistance Programs are offered through pharmaceutical/drug companies to help patients get needed medications free or at a lower cost.

These programs are available to qualified patients without prescription drug coverage. The two programs that follow – *Partnership for Prescription Assistance* and *Needy Meds* – can connect you to the dozens of programs available.

It takes approximately 4 -6 weeks for you to receive medications after you application is submitted. You can continue to receive medications from Patient Assistance Programs as long as you meet the financial guidelines and do not have prescription insurance.

NOTE: Patients with the TennCare or CoverRx are not eligible for these Patient Assistance Programs.

Partnership for Prescription Assistance. Partnership for Prescription Assistance is a company that connects uninsured persons with patient assistance programs. A toll-free number links you to a trained specialist who will help with the applications for these programs.

Contact: 1-888-477-2669 or www.pparx.org

Needy Meds. Needy Meds is a website that provides information and applications for Patient Assistance Programs. Information is listed by pharmaceutical program, brand name of medication, and generic medication.

Over 2,000 brand and generic drugs are listed and updated frequently. You can download and print applications for most programs from this website. You will fill out the application and take it to your physician who wrote your prescription. The physician will complete the form. The form is then mailed to the company for processing.

Contact: www.needymeds.com

2. Low-Cost Generic Prescriptions

Low-cost generic drugs usually are as safe and effective as their name brand equals. Wal-Mart, Sam's Club, Target and K-Mart offer hundreds of generic prescription drugs for as little as \$4 per prescription. You can call or stop by your neighborhood store to see if your prescription is on the list. Websites may include a list of available medications.

Target – www.target.com

Walmart – www.walmart.com

Kmart – www.kmart.com