

Trillium Drug Program General Program Description

The Trillium Drug Program is a provincial government program for residents of Ontario who spend a large part of their income on prescription medications. Once you have spent approximately 4% of your income on medications, Trillium will provide coverage for the full cost of most medications until the end of the program year.

Once an application is approved, the program covers:

- over 3,400 prescription drug products,
- over 400 limited-use drug products,
- some nutritional and diabetic testing products.

Who can apply for coverage under Trillium?

- Those whose private insurance does not cover 100% of the prescription drug costs
- Those who have valid Ontario Health Insurance Plan (OHIP)
- Those who are NOT eligible for drug coverage under the Ontario Drug Benefit (ODB) program
- Those who spend more than approximately 4% of their net family income on prescription drugs

When you apply for Trillium, you will be required to submit your most recent income information for all household members over the age of 16 who you wish to be covered. Trillium will calculate approximately 4% of your net income as your "deductible". That is, once you have paid that amount (4%) for medications, Trillium will pay for the rest of your medication costs for the rest of the year. The deductible percentage varies depending on the number of members in the household. The Trillium fiscal year is from August 1st to July 31st and the deductible is paid in quarterly installments.

If you pay money out-of-pocket for prescription medicines before your Trillium application has been registered, save your receipts. You may be reimbursed or have the amount applied to your deductible.

When you're accepted to Trillium, show your Ontario Health Card at your pharmacy to receive your prescriptions. Pharmacists will be able to keep track of all your medication purchases through the provincial Health Network computer system. Therefore, you will be able to purchase or receive your medications anywhere in Ontario.

Trillium Drug Program Frequently Asked Questions

Q: My income tax information for last year shows a much higher income than I have now. Will Trillium base my deductible on that amount?

You can request that your deductible be based on your current income. You will have to submit proof of your current income, such as a monthly pension statement, etc.

Q: Does Trillium cover prescription drugs for my child?

Your Trillium coverage will include all dependent children you declare on your application. If you have adult children living at home, you should speak with a Trillium representative for more information.

Q: Do I have to renew Trillium every year?

Yes. Trillium will send you a renewal form. It is important to complete the form and submit it, as soon as possible, with proof of income to ensure you are re-enrolled for the next year.

Q: How do I apply for Trillium?

Application forms for the Trillium Drug Program are available at pharmacies, clinics, some doctor offices and community agencies. You can apply for Trillium at any time during the year. It can take anywhere from 2 to 4 weeks for your registration to be completed.

Q: Are all prescription drugs covered by Trillium?

Only certain prescription drug costs count towards your Trillium deductible or as program benefits. Check with your pharmacist or health care provider to make sure your prescriptions are listed on the:

- ODB Formulary/Comparative Drug Index (Parts III and IX),
- Facilitated Access List of HIV/AIDS drugs (Part VI).

Requests for non-ODB drugs must be pre-approved by the ministry before the costs can count towards the Trillium deductible, or as program benefits. Your doctor can help you apply for coverage using the Limited Use Form or Section 8 Request. It is always wise to let your doctor know that Trillium is your source for medication coverage.

Sources: Government of Ontario Web site