



# A Quick Guide to Getting Help With Prescription Medications

Finding a way to pay for your prescriptions can be a challenge, both in the short-term and long-term. At Champaign County Health Care Consumers (CCHCC), we have compiled a list of low cost prescription resources. If you have any questions about the options listed below or would like help applying for prescription programs, contact CCHCC's Consumer Health Hotline at (217) 352-6533.

## Long-Term Solutions

Many pharmaceutical companies have **financial assistance programs** that provide free or low-cost prescription medicines to people who are low-income. Sometimes these programs can be hard to find, but there are several websites that can help you search for financial assistance programs by the name or manufacturer of the medication.

This is a list of reliable websites compiled by CCHCC that provide free information on many of the prescription assistance programs available. *The websites below are prescription program search engines and can help you find the programs you may qualify for. Please visit the website of each individual program to find the most accurate information:*

- **Rx Assist**
  - Website: [www.rxassist.org](http://www.rxassist.org)
  - Contact: [info@rxassist.org](mailto:info@rxassist.org)
- **Good Rx (coupon search tool)**
  - Website: [www.goodrx.com](http://www.goodrx.com)
- **Needy Meds**
  - Website: [www.needymeds.org](http://www.needymeds.org)
  - Contact: 1 (800) 503-6897
- **Partnership for Prescription Assistance**
  - Website: [www.pparx.org](http://www.pparx.org)
  - Contact: 1 (888) 477-2669
- **Janssen Prescription Assistance**
  - Website: [janssenprescriptionassistance.com](http://janssenprescriptionassistance.com)

### Some Tips...

**When researching online, pay close attention to each program's eligibility requirements and application process:**

- 1) The eligibility requirements to participate in the programs vary, so make sure that you fit their income and insurance status requirements before applying.
- 2) To participate in most of these programs, you will need to fill out an application found on the assistance program's website.
- 3) Most applications require the prescribing doctor to sign off on the application or provide an original paper prescription.
- 4) Some programs require payment to participate and receive medicines.

## What If You Can't Find a Prescription Assistance Program?

If your medications are not part of a prescription assistance program, there may still be options for you.

**First:** You can do some research and compare prices at several different pharmacies in town (Walgreens, Wal-Mart, Schnucks, Meijer, etc.). Drug prices can vary drastically, and several of the

pharmacies have a \$4 prescription list. These \$4 lists vary from pharmacy to pharmacy, so it is worth checking with all (or several) of them before deciding where to purchase your medications.

**Second:** If you are unable to find a prescription assistance program or another affordable way to buy and access your medications, discuss medication alternatives with your doctor. Your doctor may be able to prescribe you an alternative medication that works for you just as well and is more affordable (either because it is included in a prescription assistance program or on a \$4 list).

## Emergency Prescription Assistance

If you need immediate help and financial assistance to help you pay for your medications, these are some local agencies that can help pay for your medicines on a limited basis.

Below is a list of the agencies and institutions that provide financial assistance for prescription medications in Champaign County.

### Empty Tomb

301 N. 4<sup>th</sup> Street; Champaign, IL 61820  
(217) 356-2262

- **How much and how often they can provide assistance:** \$30 once every three months
- **Process:** Walk-in or call Empty Tomb during “walk-in” hours
- **Walk-in hours:** Tuesday and Thursday from 9am to 11:30am
- **Bring with you:** Your prescription

### The Love Clinic

310 W. Bradley Avenue; Champaign, IL 61820

- **How much assistance do they provide:** Up to \$25
- **Process:** Go to the Love Clinic during walk-in hours and ask for help to pay for your medicines
- **Walk-in hours:** On the last Saturday of every month from 9am to 12pm
- **Bring with you:** Your paper prescription or empty bottles with refills

## CCHCC's Consumer Health Hotline

If you have any other questions about ways to pay for your prescriptions or need emergency financial help to get a prescription in Champaign County, call CCHCC at (217) 352-6533 and ask for the Hotline.

### Champaign County Health Care Consumers

(217) 352-6533 • 44 E. Main Street, Suite 208; Champaign, IL 61820  
[www.healthcareconsumers.org](http://www.healthcareconsumers.org) • [cchcc@healthcareconsumers.org](mailto:cchcc@healthcareconsumers.org)

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