

Are You Dual Eligible? FAQs

What Is Dual Eligibility?

Someone is **dually eligible** when they qualify for:

- Medicare: Federal health insurance primarily for people age 65+ or under 65 with certain disabilities or ESRD.
- Medicaid: State-run assistance program for individuals with low income and limited resources.

Types of Dual Eligibles

Dual eligible individuals fall into two broad categories based on the level of Medicaid assistance:

<u>Type</u> <u>Description</u>

Full Dual Eligible Gets full Medicaid benefits **plus** Medicare assistance.

Partial Dual Eligible

Medicaid helps pay some Medicare costs, like premiums and

cost-sharing, but doesn't offer full Medicaid benefits.

How Medicaid Helps Dual Eligibles

Medicaid can help with:

- Medicare Part A and B premiums
- Deductibles
- Copayments and coinsurance
- Long-term care services not fully covered by Medicare (e.g., nursing home care)
- **Vision**, **dental**, **hearing**, and transportation (varies by state)

Medicare Advantage for Dual Eligibles

Dual Eligible Special Needs Plans (D-SNPs) are a type of Medicare Advantage plan specifically designed for dual eligible individuals. They:

- Tailor benefits and networks to people with both Medicare and Medicaid
- Often include \$0 premiums, OTC cards, care coordination, and extra benefits
- Coordinate care across Medicare and Medicaid providers