Get help Paying for Crohn Disease and Ulcerative Colitis Medications

A guide for patients and families | Reviewed November 21, 2026

Patient assistance programs may help adults with Crohn's disease or ulcerative colitis get their medicine at no cost. This guide includes 9 commonly used brand-name medications without an approved biosimilar. It summarizes income limits, insurance requirements, and how to apply.

You can search the program name to find its details or application. Many income limits use the federal poverty level (FPL)[1]. Check the federal poverty guidelines. The income example at the end of this document explains how to use these percentages to see whether your household income falls within a program's limit.

Medication assistance programs

BRAND-NAME MEDICINE AND CONDITION	PROGRAM AND QUALIFICATIONS
Lialda Ulcerative Colitis	Takeda Help at Hand Income: at or below 500% FPL. Live in the United States or a territory and have no insurance or not enough coverage. Any other available coverage or funding must be used first. With Medicare prescription coverage and income below 150% FPL, you need an Extra Help denial. Medicaid applicants need a coverage denial and a clinician's letter from the past 90 days explaining why the medicine is needed. Call 800-830-9159.
Cimzia Crohn's Disease	UCB Patient Assistance Program[2] Income before taxes: at or below 500% FPL. Live in the United States or a territory. You may qualify with no insurance, limited coverage, or serious financial hardship after other coverage options are used. You cannot qualify with government coverage, including Medicare, Medicaid, military insurance or Veterans Affairs benefits. Call 877-785-8906.

[1] FPL means federal poverty level. This is an income guideline that is based on household size and where you live. It is also called the federal poverty guideline.

[2] UCB stands for Union Chimique Belge, the company that makes Cimzia.

BRAND-NAME MEDICINE AND CONDITION	PROGRAM AND QUALIFICATIONS
Entyvio Crohn's Disease and Ulcerative Colitis	EntyvioConnect Patient Assistance Income limit commonly listed as 500% FPL. Live in the United States and have no insurance or not enough coverage. Any other available coverage or funding must be used first. Medicare patients may qualify after an individual review. If approved, free medicine is provided outside Medicare coverage. Help includes infusions and the Entyvio Pen. Plans that require a free-medicine application before covering Entyvio are excluded. Call 855-368-9846.
Skyrizi Crohn's Disease and Ulcerative Colitis	myAbbVie Assist Live in the United States and receive outpatient care, such as treatment at a clinic or at home. A past hospital stay alone does not rule you out. You may qualify with no insurance or limited coverage, including Medicare. Yearly income guide: $63,840 for one person or $86,560 for two. Financial review also considers insurance coverage and medical bills you pay yourself; expense records may be requested. With Medicare prescription coverage and income below 150% FPL, include an Extra Help denial letter. Plans that require a free-medicine application before covering Skyrizi are excluded. Help includes starting infusions and ongoing injections. Call 800-222-6885.
Tremfya Crohn's Disease and Ulcerative Colitis	Johnson and Johnson Patient Assistance Program Published yearly income limits: $62,600 for one person or $84,600 for two. Live in the United States, Puerto Rico or the United States Virgin Islands and receive outpatient care. You may qualify with no insurance or not enough coverage. Your prescriber must enroll you. With Medicare prescription coverage and income at or below 150% FPL, you must show that you cannot get Extra Help. The current enrollment form includes requests for both starting infusions and ongoing injections. Your prescriber submits the prescription and assistance request. See "Insurance plan rule" under "Before you apply." Call 833-742-0791.

BRAND-NAME MEDICINE AND CONDITION	PROGRAM AND QUALIFICATIONS
Omvoh Crohn's Disease and Ulcerative Colitis	Lilly Cares Foundation Income: at or below 500% FPL ($79,800 a year for one person; $108,200 for two). You must be a permanent resident of the United States, Puerto Rico or the United States Virgin Islands. Infusions: you may qualify with no insurance, or with Medicare Part B (medical coverage) and no supplemental or secondary insurance. This means you do not have another plan that helps pay your Medicare bills. Injections: you may qualify with no insurance or with Medicare Part D prescription drug coverage. Medicaid, full Extra Help and Veterans Affairs benefits are excluded. See "Insurance plan rule" under "Before you apply." Call 800-545-6962.
Rinvoq Crohn's Disease and Ulcerative Colitis	myAbbVie Assist Live in the United States and receive outpatient care. You may qualify with no insurance or limited coverage, including Medicare. Yearly income guide: $63,840 for one person or $86,560 for two. AbbVie reviews your household income, insurance coverage, and medical bills you pay yourself. High medical bills do not automatically qualify you if your income is above this guide. With Medicare prescription coverage and income below 150% FPL, you need an Extra Help denial. See "Insurance plan rule" under "Before you apply." Call 800-222-6885.
Zeposia Ulcerative Colitis	Bristol Myers Squibb Patient Assistance Foundation Live in the United States or a territory and receive outpatient care from a doctor licensed there. You may qualify if insurance does not cover your medicine. If Medicare covers it, you must already have paid at least 3% of your household's yearly income for prescriptions yourself in the same calendar year. The application does not publish the income limit. You may need proof that you cannot get Medicaid or Extra Help. Ask about the income limit and required spending records. Call 800-736-0003.

BRAND-NAME MEDICINE AND CONDITION	PROGRAM AND QUALIFICATIONS
Velsipity Ulcerative Colitis	VelsipityForMe and Pfizer Patient Assistance Program Income: at or below 300% FPL ($47,880 a year for one person; $64,920 for two). You must have no insurance or have government coverage and be unable to afford the medicine. Private insurance is excluded. If Medicare prescription coverage pays for it, you generally must join the Medicare Prescription Payment Plan, show that your share is unaffordable, and still owe prescription costs for the year. Other assistance applications and proof may be required. Call 800-350-3080.

Checking the income limit for your household

Open the official federal poverty guidelines. Find the table for where you live and your household size. A limit of 300% means three times the basic guideline amount. A limit of 400% means four times that amount, and 500% means five times that amount.

For example, the 2026 basic guideline for one person in most states is $15,960. At 500%, the income limit would be $79,800 a year. Alaska and Hawaii have different amounts.

Each program sets its own rules and may use a different year's guidelines. Use the program's published dollar limits when they differ from this example. Ask about a review of your circumstances if you are unsure whether you qualify.

Before you apply

Have your prescription, insurance cards and proof of household income ready. You and the healthcare professional who prescribes your medicine usually need to complete and sign the application. Extra Help is a Medicare program that helps pay prescription costs. Where the table asks for an Extra Help denial, you need proof that you were not approved.

Insurance plan rule

The Skyrizi, Rinvoq, Entyvio, Tremfya and Omvoh programs exclude certain plans that require you to apply for free medicine before your insurance will pay. These are often called alternative funding programs. Ask the medicine's support team to check your plan.

What the program may not pay

Free medicine may not cover the clinic visit or the cost of giving an infusion. Ask your treatment site about those bills. A private-insurance copay offer has different rules from a free-medicine program, and Medicare or Medicaid patients generally cannot use those copay offers.

Programs and eligibility rules can change; confirm the current details when you apply.