



TREAT OR REFER

PATIENT INFORMATION

# The Medicare GLP-1 Bridge Program

How your obesity care and Medicare's new coverage work together for you.

**JULY 1, 2026 – DEC 31, 2027**

Temporary Medicare program

## YOUR CARE — YOUR CLINIC

### Obesity Care

You work with your clinician to find the right plan of care — managing your medication alongside the nutrition and activity support that Medicare requires.



## YOUR COVERAGE — MEDICARE

### Medicare GLP-1 Bridge

Medicare's temporary program that covers certain GLP-1 medications (like Wegovy® and Zepbound®) for weight management at a flat **\$50 per month** — if you qualify.

**How they work together:** You work with your clinician to find the right plan of care — then they submit your prescription to the Medicare GLP-1 Bridge for coverage. Medicare requires ongoing nutrition and activity support alongside the medication, and your obesity care provides exactly that.

## Am I Eligible?

- ✓ You have Medicare drug coverage through a **standalone Part D plan** or a **Medicare Advantage plan that includes drug coverage** (HMO or PPO).
- ✓ You're **18 or older** and using a GLP-1 to lose weight or keep it off, with ongoing nutrition and activity support as part of your obesity care.
- ✓ You meet **one** of these BMI levels at the time you start (or started) the medication:

### BMI QUALIFICATION TIERS

<b>BMI 35+</b>	No other health condition needed.
<b>BMI 30+</b>	<b>plus one of:</b> heart failure (preserved ejection fraction) · high blood pressure not controlled on two medications · chronic kidney disease (stage 3a or higher).
<b>BMI 27+</b>	<b>plus one of:</b> prediabetes · previous heart attack · previous stroke · symptomatic peripheral artery disease.

If you have type 2 diabetes, sleep apnea, or MASH (a liver condition), your medication coverage must go through your regular Part D plan instead — not this program.

# \$50

FLAT COPAY PER MONTHLY SUPPLY

- Same \$50 price all year — no deductible to meet first.
- Doesn't count toward your Part D deductible or out-of-pocket totals.
- Extra Help (low-income subsidy) does not lower the \$50.
- Manufacturer coupons can't be combined with this program.

### Covered Medications (for weight management)

- **Wegovy®** (semaglutide) — injections and tablets covered.
- **Zepbound®** (tirzepatide) — KwikPen® only. Autoinjector/vials not covered.
- **Foundayo®** — tablets.

## How Do I Ask for Approval?

1

### Talk with your clinician

They'll review your health history, BMI, and Medicare plan to confirm you qualify.

2

### Work with your clinician on your care

Your clinician guides your nutrition, activity, and medication — the ongoing obesity care Medicare requires.

3

### Your clinician submits to Medicare

They send the prescription and prior authorization to Medicare's processor (starting July 1, 2026). Nothing for you to file.

4

### Pick up at your pharmacy

Decisions typically come back within about 72 hours. Once approved, refills don't need a new approval.

## Frequently Asked Questions

### Do I need to sign up for anything?

With Medicare — no, there's no registration; your clinician submits the approval for you. With your clinic — discuss their requirements for you to get a prescription with them.

### I already take a GLP-1 for weight loss. Can I use this?

Yes — if you met the BMI criteria when you first started the medication, even if that was before this program began.

### How long will the program last?

It's a temporary demonstration: July 1, 2026 through December 31, 2027. Medicare is evaluating longer-term coverage options.

### What if my approval is denied?

Talk with your clinician — requests that appear to be denied in error can be resubmitted for another review.

### Will my Medicare plan premiums change?

This program runs outside your Part D plan, so it doesn't change your plan or its benefits.

### Where can I learn more?

Ask your clinician about your obesity care, call 1-800-MEDICARE for plan questions, or visit the Medicare GLP-1 Bridge page at CMS.gov.

**Ready to start?** Ask your clinician about obesity care — they'll help you find out if you qualify.

Arizona Obesity Organization  
ArizonaObesity.org · Treat or Refer

Source: CMS.gov Medicare GLP-1 Bridge guidance, current as of June 2026. General educational information from the Arizona Obesity Organization — not a guarantee of coverage; eligibility is determined through Medicare's prior authorization process, and program details may change.