

Important Notice from FALLS COUNTY About Your Prescription Drug Coverage and Medicare

Please read this notice carefully and keep it where you can find it. This notice has information about your current prescription drug coverage with FALLS COUNTY and about your options under Medicare's prescription drug coverage. This information can help you decide whether or not you want to join a Medicare drug plan. If you are considering joining, you should compare your current coverage, including which drugs are covered at what cost, with the coverage and costs of the plans offering Medicare prescription drug coverage in your area. Information about where you can get help to make decisions about your prescription drug coverage is at the end of this notice.

There are two important things you need to know about your current coverage and Medicare's prescription drug coverage:

1. Medicare prescription drug coverage became available in 2006 to everyone with Medicare. You can get this coverage if you join a Medicare Prescription Drug Plan or join a Medicare Advantage Plan (like an HMO or PPO) that offers prescription drug coverage. All Medicare drug plans provide at least a standard level of coverage set by Medicare. Some plans may also offer more coverage for a higher monthly premium.
2. FALLS COUNTY has determined that the prescription drug coverage offered by the Texas Association of Counties Health Employee Benefits Pool (TAC HEBP) is, on average for all plan participants, expected to pay out as much as standard Medicare prescription drug coverage pays and is therefore considered Creditable Coverage. Because your existing coverage is Creditable Coverage, you can keep this coverage and not pay a higher premium (a penalty) if you later decide to join a Medicare drug plan.

When Can You Join a Medicare Drug Plan?

You can join a Medicare drug plan when you first become eligible for Medicare and each year from October 15th through December 7th. However, if you lose your current creditable prescription drug coverage, through no fault of your own, you will also be eligible for a two (2) month Special Enrollment Period (SEP) to join a Medicare drug plan.

What Happens To Your Current Coverage If You Decide to Join a Medicare Drug Plan?

If you decide to join a Medicare drug plan, your FALLS COUNTY coverage will **not** be affected. If you do decide to join a Medicare drug plan and drop your FALLS COUNTY prescription drug coverage, be aware that you and your dependents **will** be able to get this coverage back, as long as you're an active full-time employee.

For Active Employees with Medicare...

When you are an active employee, generally the FALLS COUNTY health care plan will be the primary coverage for you and any dependent(s) that you cover, even if you or your dependent also has Medicare. The FALLS COUNTY plan requires all active, eligible employees to participate in the medical and prescription plan.

When Will You Pay A Higher Premium (Penalty) To Join A Medicare Drug Plan?

You should also know that if you drop or lose your coverage with FALLS COUNTY and don't join a Medicare drug plan within 63 continuous days after your current coverage ends, you may pay a higher premium (a penalty) to join a Medicare drug plan later.

If you go 63 continuous days or longer without creditable prescription drug coverage, your monthly premium may go up by at least 1% of the Medicare base beneficiary premium per month for every month that you did not have that coverage. For example, if you go nineteen months without creditable coverage, your premium may consistently be at least 19% higher than the Medicare base beneficiary premium. You may have to pay this higher premium (a penalty) as long as you have Medicare prescription drug coverage. In addition, you may have to wait until the following October to join.

For More Information About This Notice Or Your Current Prescription Drug Coverage...

NOTE: You'll get this notice each year. You will also get it before the next period, you can join a Medicare drug plan, and if this coverage through FALLS COUNTY changes. You may also request a copy of this notice at any time.

For More Information About Your Options Under Medicare Prescription Drug Coverage...

More detailed information about Medicare plans that offer prescription drug coverage is in the "Medicare & You" handbook. You'll get a copy of the handbook in the mail every year from Medicare. You may also be contacted directly by Medicare drug plans.

For more information about Medicare prescription drug coverage:

- Visit www.medicare.gov
- Call your State Health Insurance Assistance Program (see the inside back cover of your copy of the "Medicare & You" handbook for their telephone number) for personalized help,
- Call 1-800-MEDICARE (1-800-633-4227). TTY users should call 1-877-486-2048.

If you have limited income and resources, extra help paying for Medicare prescription drug coverage is available. For information about this extra help, visit Social Security on the web at www.socialsecurity.gov, or call them at 1-800-772-1213 (TTY 1-800-325-0778).

Remember: Keep this Creditable Coverage notice. If you decide to join one of the Medicare drug plans, you may be required to provide a copy of this notice when you join to show whether or not you have maintained creditable coverage and whether or not you are required to pay a higher premium (a penalty).

Date:	Friday, July 18, 2025
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Pharmacy Network Update: A Smarter, More Sustainable Approach



What is changing?

Beginning on your county or district's anniversary date, the following pharmacies will no longer be in the TAC HEBP network:

- **CVS**
- **Kroger**
- **United Pharmacy**

Why is this change happening?

Prescription drug costs continue to rise—affecting both you and your county or district. To help manage these costs while ensuring access to high-quality pharmacy care, TAC HEBP is making updates to its pharmacy network.

Who is affected by this change?

- Most members will not be impacted by this change.
- Fewer than 12% of members currently use one of these excluded pharmacies.

What pharmacy options will be available for filling your prescriptions?

If you currently fill prescriptions at one of these pharmacies:

- If you currently fill prescriptions at one of the pharmacies being removed from the network, you will receive a letter from Navitus 30 days before the effective date.
- This letter will include a list of nearby, in-network alternatives based on your zip code.

How this change benefits everyone:

- Ensures access to high-value pharmacy care
- Keeps prescription costs affordable for you and your family
- Supports partnerships with pharmacies that meet quality, service, and cost standards

We understand that change can be inconvenient. However, we believe this proactive approach will result in a stronger, more cost-effective benefit plan for everyone. If you have any questions or concerns, please don't hesitate to contact Navitus Customer Care at (866) 333-2757.



TEXAS ASSOCIATION *of* COUNTIES
HEALTH AND EMPLOYEE BENEFITS POOL



TEXAS ASSOCIATION *of* COUNTIES HEALTH AND EMPLOYEE BENEFITS POOL



BlueCross BlueShield
of Texas

EMERGENCY EVACUATION MEDICAL INFORMATION



Please keep the following information where it can be referred to in the event of an emergency evacuation.

Special arrangements have been made to assist our members of the Health and Employee Benefits Pool (TAC HEBP) in the event of an official evacuation. If your county has officially been declared by the Governor's office to evacuate, we will notify Blue Cross Blue Shield of Texas (BCBSTX) and Navitus Health Solutions so they are ready to assist those that are faced with emergency medical situations. In the event you have to leave your home and need assistance with getting your prescription refilled or medical care in an unfamiliar community, we are here to assist you.

KEEP YOUR TAC HEBP/BCBSTX HEALTH PLAN ID CARD WITH YOU:

The information on this card is necessary to get you the care that you need with minimal disruption. BlueCross Blue Shield of Texas and Navitus are both nationwide networks and customer service can be reached at the number provided on the back of your ID card.

FOR CUSTOMERS OF CHAIN PHARMACIES:

If you have your prescriptions at a large CHAIN pharmacy (i.e.; Wal-Mart, Walgreens, Brookshire Brothers, HEB, CVS, etc.), you should be able to go to the local branch of that chain pharmacy and have your prescription transferred to your current location for filling. Once you return home, you will need to have it transferred back to your regular pharmacy. If there are no local branches accessible to you, please follow the instructions below.

FOR CUSTOMERS OF LOCAL PHARMACIES:

If you have your prescriptions at a local pharmacy that is closed or is not accessible to you due to the evacuation, you will need to have a doctor call in a new prescription to a pharmacy where you are located, or to the Costco mail order facility. If you want to use the Costco mail order pharmacy, please have an address ready where the medicine can be sent. If you cannot reach your local doctor to call in a prescription, you can see a doctor where you are located. BCBSTX has made your health care records electronically available to physicians across the state so that you can continue to receive excellent health care while you are away from home.

FOR SPECIALTY PHARMACY CUSTOMERS:

Cold Pack medicines are shipped via UPS. Please call Lumicera Health Services at 855-847-3553 .

IMPORTANT NUMBERS:

Navitus Customer Care: 866-333-2757

Costco Mail Order Pharmacy: For doctor to fax in a prescription: 800-633-0334
For doctor to call in a prescription: 800-607-6871

BCBSTX Customer Service and MD Live Telemedicine Service: 855-357-5228

Texas Association of Counties Health and Employee Benefits: 800-456-5974

May 28, 2025

Enhanced Costco Pharmacy Digital Experience

Starting **June 7, 2025**, Costco Pharmacy will launch an enhanced digital experience designed to improve usability, streamline access, and increase satisfaction for both mail order and retail pharmacy users.

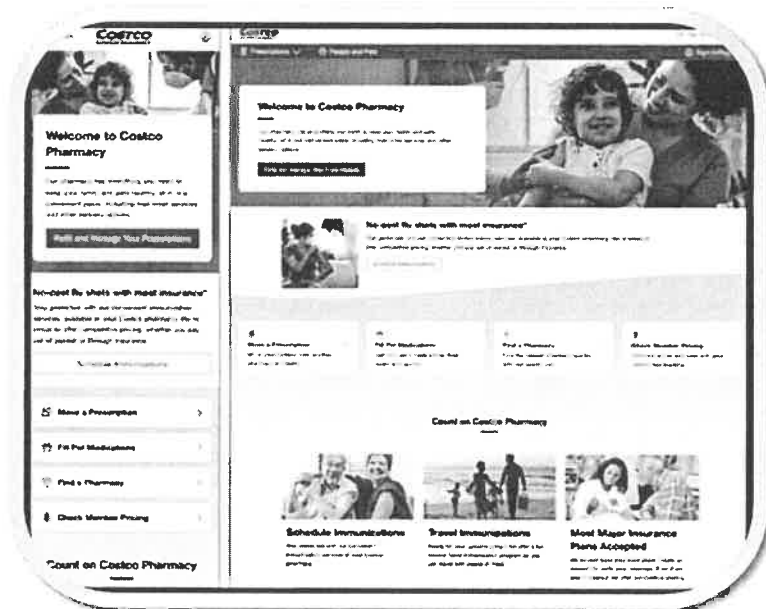
For a quick overview of the upcoming changes, watch the [Costco Pharmacy Experience Video](#). With a focus on simplicity and speed, the updated platform will make managing prescriptions easier and more intuitive than ever for patients.

Here is what to expect:

Unified Pharmacy Landing Page

To streamline and improve usability, the new landing page brings together mail order and retail pharmacy services in one convenient location:

- **Single Access Point:** Patients can now access both mail order and retail pharmacy services from one centralized landing page.
- **Streamlined Layout:** A modernized interface with clearly visible and consistent calls-to-action (CTAs) ensures a smoother navigation experience.

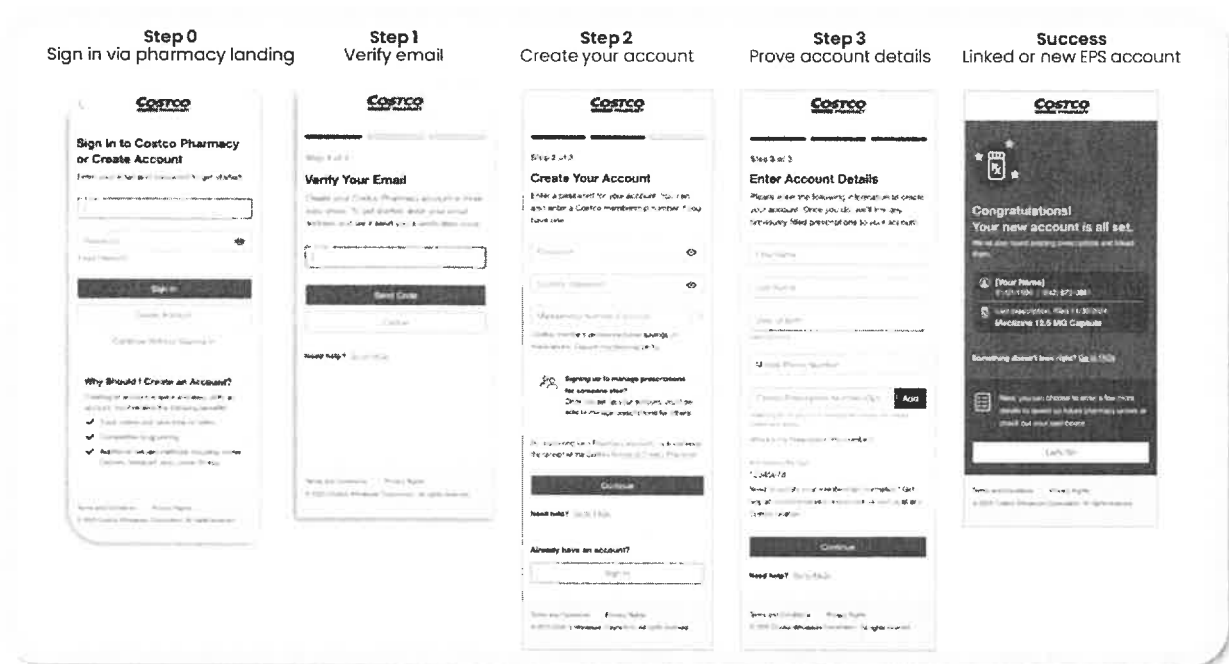


*NOTE: Images are for illustrative purposes only and may not reflect the final product

Simplified Registration Experience

To make it easier for members to get started, the new registration process is designed with simplicity and flexibility in mind.

- **Mobile-First Design:** The registration flow is optimized for mobile devices, offering a clean and intuitive user interface.
- **No Rx Number Required:** Patients can now register without needing a prescription number, removing a common barrier to entry.
- **Flexible Setup:** Optional steps can be skipped, allowing users to complete registration quickly.

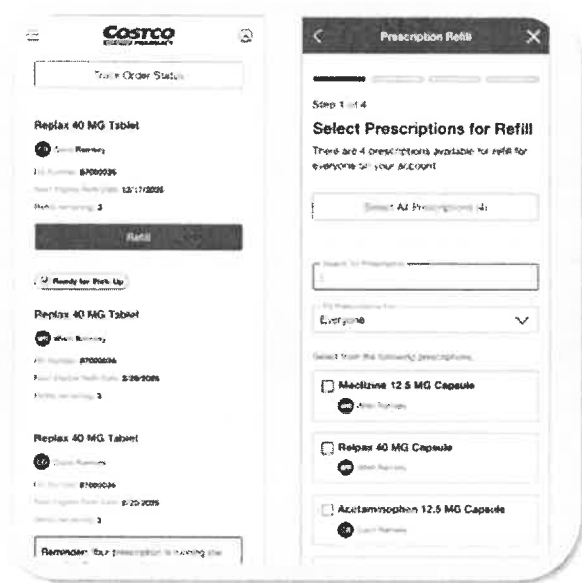




Refill Experience Enhancements

Refilling prescriptions is one of the most common actions in the online pharmacy experience. To make it easier and more intuitive, Costco has introduced several improvements:

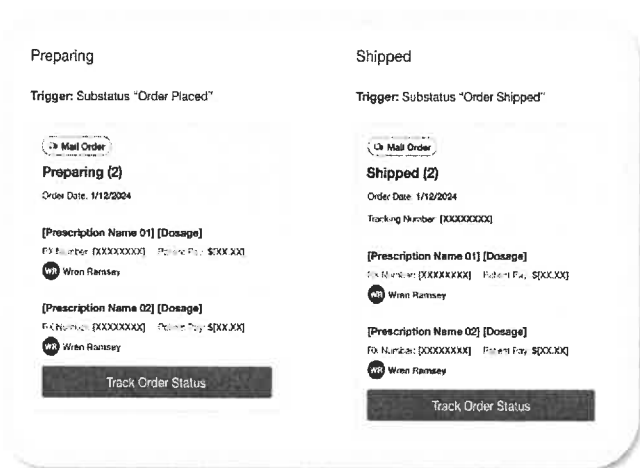
- **Multiple Access Points:**
From the Rx card or Prescription Detail page through refill reminder messages
- **Dynamic Refill Button:** Automatically appears when a prescription becomes eligible for refill, ensuring timely and convenient access.



Prescription Status Tracking

To help members stay informed and in control of their prescriptions, the app now includes enhanced tracking features that provide timely updates throughout the process.

- **Real-Time Updates:** Active prescription orders are now visible in the Orders section of the app.
- **Mail Order Status:** Clearly displays whether a prescription is Preparing or Shipped.
- **Shipping Notifications:** Once shipped, users will receive a notification including a tracking number and a link to track the delivery.



These updates reflect our commitment to delivering a modern, user-friendly, and efficient digital pharmacy experience for Costco pharmacy members.