



*Doughnut Hole Update: Scam Alert and What to Do*

**SCAM ALERT!**

Beware of scammers identifying themselves as government insurance agents who contact you in an attempt to receive bank account information. These individuals will promise to assist you obtain the \$250 rebate. However, once you fall in the doughnut hole, you automatically qualify. There is no need to file paperwork. Furthermore, **federal employees will not call and ask for bank account numbers or information in order to send you your \$250 rebate.** If you receive such a phone call or door-to-door visit, hang up the phone or shut the door, and call your state insurance department or Better Business Bureau to report the scam.

**How do I know if I am in the doughnut hole?**

If you have Medicare Part D, the doughnut hole begins once you spend \$2,830 in total prescription drug spending and extends until your total drug costs for the year reach \$6,440. Within that gap, seniors have to pay the full cost of medications out-of-pocket.

**How much will my rebate be?**

The doughnut hole rebate is \$250 per person, and will go towards helping you afford your medications.

**What do I need to do to apply for the doughnut hole rebate?**

There is no need to apply. If you have reached the doughnut hole, the government will automatically send the rebate check to you starting as early as June 15. Beware of scam artists who say they will help you apply!

**Does health care reform close the doughnut hole?**

YES! The health care bill will fully close the doughnut hole by 2020. It does so by providing Medicare beneficiaries with a \$250 rebate when they fall into the doughnut hole in 2010. Additionally, in 2011 seniors in the doughnut hole will receive a 50% discount on prescription drugs. Finally, the bill phases down the coinsurance so it is at a standard 25% throughout the plan by 2020.



