

# Frequently asked questions

For health care professionals | Washington  
UHC Dual Complete WA-S5 (PPO D-SNP)

Effective Jan. 1, 2026



UnitedHealthcare offers a Medicare Advantage plan in your area known as UHC Dual Complete WA-S5 (PPO D-SNP), a Dual Special Needs Plan (D-SNP), for individuals who are eligible for both Apple Health (Medicaid) and Medicare.

UHC Community Plan of Washington manages the Medicare Advantage benefits and reimburses you according to your existing contracted rates. This plan may also include benefits normally managed by Apple Health (Medicaid). This will have an impact on reimbursement for defined enrollees and/or services. Please make sure to always validate eligibility and benefits before providing service.

## Eligibility and benefits

### Q. Who is eligible to participate in the plan?

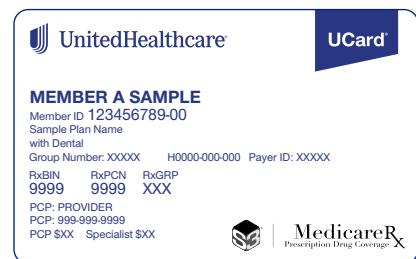
A. D-SNP eligible members can include individuals with income and special needs qualifications, ages 65 and older, and people with special needs who are younger than 65. Individuals must qualify for Medicaid and Medicare separately. While most qualify for Medicare once they reach 65, some younger adults with special needs may also qualify.

### Q. How can I check eligibility?

A. Always verify eligibility before providing services to a plan enrollee. You can check eligibility and benefits by:

- Using the Eligibility and Benefits tools on the UnitedHealthcare Provider Portal. To sign in, go to [UHCprovider.com](http://UHCprovider.com) and click on the “Sign In” button in the top-right corner. Then, click on Eligibility. If you haven’t registered for the portal yet, go to [UHCprovider.com/newuser](http://UHCprovider.com/newuser).
- Calling Provider Services at **1-866-944-4984** or the number on the ID card
- Asking for **all active** health plan ID cards at each visit including both primary and secondary **insurance** cards e.g., Apple Health (Medicaid)

We've included an example of the UnitedHealthcare UCard to help you identify these enrollees. Please always refer to their active ID card for current details.



### Q. Are referrals required for the plan?

A. For LPPO and RPPO (open access) plans, referrals are not required if the member seeks in-network care from a specialist. Learn how to verify referral requirements, submit requests and see the status of referrals in the Provider Portal with the **Referrals Interactive User Guide**. Get answers to your questions about referral requirements in the **2026 UnitedHealthcare Medicare Advantage Referral Requirements Guide**. As part of the plan benefit design, enrollees can decide who they wish to visit for their care. As part of the plan benefit design, enrollees can decide who they wish to visit for their care. Please check eligibility and benefits before providing services.

Sample ID cards for illustration only; actual information varies depending on payer, plan and other requirements.

## Key points

UHC Dual Complete WA-S5 (PPO D-SNP)  
is a **Medicare Advantage** plan.

See service area county list located on last page.



**Q. Why am I being asked to verify a D-SNP member's chronic condition?**

**A.** You may be asked to verify a patient's chronic condition to ensure they qualify for SSBCI food and utility benefits to individuals with at least 1 of the 23 specified chronic conditions.

- Verification is essential to comply with CMS requirements and to confirm the member's eligibility for these benefits
- UnitedHealthcare requires documentation that includes an eligible diagnosis code or a provider attestation of the member's diagnosis
- This verification can be provided by the member's treating provider or their office staff, either verbally or in writing
- Accurate and timely verification helps maintain compliance with CMS guidelines and ensures that eligible members receive the benefits they need

**Q. What are the advantages of the UHC Dual Complete WA-S5 (PPO D-SNP) plan?**

**A.** Enrollees can continue to access core Medicare benefits along with Part D (pharmacy) benefits and targeted clinical programs and services. Additionally, the plan offers supplemental benefits and services that are not typically available through Original Medicare or Apple Health (Medicaid).

**Q. How can an individual enroll in a Dual Special Needs Plan?**

**A.** Prospective members can explore their options by visiting UHCommunityPlan.com/WA or speaking to a licensed sales agent. In addition to individuals enrolling during the Annual Enrollment Period, Oct. 15 -Dec. 7, plan members may enroll, disenroll or switch plans using an Integrated Care Special Election Period. This will allow full-benefit dually eligible individuals to elect an integrated dual eligible special needs plan (D-SNP) in any month to align coverage with a Medicaid managed care organization by following the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) regulatory requirements.

## Care provider reimbursement

**Q. How will I be reimbursed for the UHC Dual Complete WA-S5 (PPO D-SNP) plan?**

**A.** We will reimburse you according to your existing Medicare Advantage contracted rates, for eligible and covered services, up to the defined benefit value. If required, we will process necessary Medicare cost-share portions, payable by Apple Health (Medicaid), up to Medicaid allowable reimbursement rates. In addition, depending on the benefit, we may also be responsible for the management and payment of select Washington Medicaid benefits. Those Medicaid covered services will be reimbursed according to your existing Washington Medicaid contracted rates. This means UnitedHealthcare is crossing over and processing the eligible Medicaid-covered services according to the enrollee's benefits. You will not be required to submit a secondary claim to the Medicaid payer in this situation. At times, you may receive 2 provider remittance advices (PRAs) for services covered by both Medicare and Medicaid.

Health care professionals may not attempt to collect additional reimbursement from D-SNP enrollees whose Apple Health (Medicaid) benefits cover all Medicare cost-sharing components. These enrollees are not responsible for Medicare cost-sharing under CMS regulations. Medicare cost-sharing includes the deductibles, coinsurance and copays included as part of Medicare Advantage benefit plans.

**Q. As a health care professional, do I need to be enrolled in Apple Health (Medicaid) to receive the remaining reimbursement?**

**A.** At a minimum, you are required to enroll or register with the state Apple Health (Medicaid) plan for Medicare secondary cost-share billing purposes. Depending on the service and covered benefit level, many D-SNP health care professionals will be required to submit a secondary claim to Apple Health (Medicaid). If there is a deductible, copayment or coinsurance, that amount is the responsibility of the Apple Health (Medicaid) payer to cover. This will depend on the enrollee's Apple Health (Medicaid) eligibility levels. This may require registering for a care provider Apple Health (Medicaid) ID number for reimbursement. If you decide not to enroll or re-enroll with the state Apple Health (Medicaid) program, you'll give up your ability to seek the secondary payer reimbursement for a dually eligible enrollee.

## Health care professional resources

- To learn more, visit [UHCprovider.com/WA](http://UHCprovider.com/WA)
- If you have questions, please call Provider Services at **1-866-944-4984** and select “Health Care Provider”
- Find further details around medical and reimbursement policies at [UHCprovider.com/policies](http://UHCprovider.com/policies) > Medicare Advantage Policies
- Find out more about doing business with us at [UHCprovider.com/guides](http://UHCprovider.com/guides) > Administrative Guide for Commercial, Medicare Advantage and D-SNP

## Service area

Effective Jan. 1, 2026, the service area includes Clallam, Cowlitz, Island, Jefferson, King, Kitsap, Lewis, Mason, Pacific, Pierce, San Juan, Skagit, Snohomish, Thurston, Wahkiakum and Whatcom counties.

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Sample ID cards for illustration only; actual information varies depending on payer, plan and other requirements. Benefits and features vary by plan/area. Limitations and exclusions apply. For more information on benefits, go to [UHCCommunityPlan.com/WA](http://UHCCommunityPlan.com/WA). Not for distribution to retirees or beneficiaries.

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