



The 340B program: How it benefits vulnerable patients

Community Health Network's mission as a not-for-profit organization is to enhance health and well-being across the communities we serve. We're committed to delivering care to the people of our communities, regardless of their ability to pay.

What is the 340B program?

The 340B program helps enhance our ability to care for all who depend on us. **This federally regulated prescription drug program is funded by manufacturer discounts *at no cost to taxpayers or governmental entities*.** The 340B program was created in 1992 for the purpose of enabling "covered entities to stretch scarce federal resources, reaching more eligible patients and providing more comprehensive services." Covered entities must demonstrate that they serve a qualifying number of low-income patients and act as a safety-net hospital in order to be part of the program.

How the 340B program benefits our patients and communities

Participation in the 340B program reduces outpatient drug costs, generating savings that help us create more comprehensive services and reach more patients and community members. Our 340B savings broadly support and improve access to vital patient care within our communities. Covered entities are allowed flexibility to invest savings into local community needs, and Community Health Network conducts a regular Community Health Needs Assessment to help ensure we are focused on the most pressing needs of those in the areas we serve.

In addition to enabling more affordable medications for patients, the program reduces operational costs for Community, helping us to provide exceptional care and expanded care and well-being opportunities for those who otherwise might have trouble accessing services. Examples of the many services these savings support include:

- Medication assistance services
- Behavioral health services
- Narcan kit dispensation
- School-based nursing programs
- Patient transportation support
- Tobacco cessation help for moms-to-be, and baby-focused goods for new parents

To learn more Community Health Network's benefits to those in our communities, please see our [Community Benefit Report](#).

The 340B program at Community Health Network

Community has five hospitals participating in the 340B program, encompassing many locations across our communities. Community Health Network's participating 340B sites include:

- Community Hospital East
- Community Heart and Vascular Hospital
- Community Hospital North
- Community Hospital South
- Community Howard Regional Health
- Other outpatient departments of the hospitals that include cancer centers, behavioral health clinics and infusion clinics

Community Health Network is committed to operating a 340B program that is compliant with all federal rules and regulations. An external audit is conducted annually, and internal audits are completed on a regular basis. The government has audited Community Health Network four times since 2020. Each report indicated compliance.

The importance of maintaining the 340B program

There have been discussions at the state and federal level about scaling back or placing new limits on the 340B program. Such changes have the potential to impact our outreach to our most vulnerable populations. Without the benefit of the savings that the 340B program generates, Community Health Network would not be able to fully support necessary and expanded healthcare services, including those described here and others that help us deliver on our mission of enhancing health and well-being across the communities we serve.

About Community Health Network

Headquartered in Indianapolis, Community Health Network has been deeply committed to the communities it serves since opening its first hospital, Community Hospital East, in 1956. Community Health Network puts patients first while offering a full continuum of healthcare services, world-class innovations and a new focus on population health management. *Exceptional care, simply delivered*, is what sets Community Health Network apart and what makes it a leading not-for-profit healthcare destination in central Indiana. For more information about Community Health Network, please visit [eCommunity.com](https://www.eCommunity.com).