

# PRESCRIPTION PREPAYMENT CERTIFICATES



## What are these?

Prescription Prepayment Certificates (PPCs) are often called 'Prescription season tickets'. They entitle the holder to obtain prescription medicines (for their own use only) without further charge during the period of validity (either three months or a year).

PPCs are only worthwhile if you would otherwise have to pay for more than four prescription items in three months or 14 items in 12 months. The charge for a single prescription item is £7.20, whereas a 3-month PPC will cost you £28.25 and a 12-month PPC is £104.00

Some people qualify for free NHS prescriptions. Before considering buying a PPC, you should check the following information (which is provided by the NHS) to see if you could get free prescriptions. See [Leaflet HC11](#), if you are resident in England; [Leaflet HCS1](#), if you are resident in Scotland; or [Leaflet HC11W](#), if you are resident in Wales. These leaflets are also available at local post offices.

Please note that this page only sets out the main arrangements as they apply in England. Costs may differ in Scotland, but the principles are identical. There are no prescription charges for residents of Wales.

## Validity of PPCs

Leaflet HC11 explains how the system works and how you may qualify for refunds in appropriate circumstances. This leaflet is available from the Post Office or at <http://www.nhsbsa.nhs.uk/HealthCosts/Documents/HealthCosts/HC11.pdf>

## How TBF can help

As long as we are sure you or your dependant will benefit from holding a PPC and that you are unlikely to be able to claim free prescriptions, we will pay the fee for the PPC.

## Obtaining a PPC

If you are a TBF member or dependant, you need to ask for one of our cream forms. You take this to your doctor, for confirmation that you would benefit from holding a PPC, the nature of your illness and its expected duration. We are sorry that we cannot pay any charges levied by doctors for completing our forms. We do not agree with these and feel they are unfair.

You then need to obtain a form FP95 from the post office, chemist or surgery or you can download it [http://www.nhsbsa.nhs.uk/HealthCosts/Documents/HealthCosts/FP95\\_0607.pdf](http://www.nhsbsa.nhs.uk/HealthCosts/Documents/HealthCosts/FP95_0607.pdf).

Complete this and send it to the address on that form with a cheque for the appropriate amount (covering 12 months or 3). Alternatively, you can ring 0845 850 0030 and buy one over the phone using your credit or debit card or online at [http://www.ppa.org.uk/ppa/ppc\\_intro.htm](http://www.ppa.org.uk/ppa/ppc_intro.htm).

When you have received the PPC card please send us a copy with your completed cream form. We will then reimburse the amount paid. Where your condition is a continuing one, we would prefer that you obtain a 12-month PPC, rather than 3-month ones.