

# Medicare's got the bill for your next visit to the doctor

## What is bulk billing?

Bulk billing means you don't have to pay anything when you go to see a doctor. Medicare pays the full cost for you.

Not all doctors bulk bill all the time. It's up to your doctor to decide whether they bulk bill a service. If your GP bulk bills your visit you won't have to pay. You just need to bring your Medicare card to your appointment.

This can help you and your family save a lot of money each year.

Before you see a doctor, it's a good idea to check if they are a Bulk Billing Practice, or ask if they will bulk bill you or if there will be any out-of-pocket costs.

## What if my doctor doesn't bulk bill?

If you go to a private or mixed-billing clinic, you may not be bulk billed. This means you will have to pay the full fee upfront at the time of your appointment. If a Medicare benefit applies to the services, you can claim a refund from Medicare to get some of the money back.

For more information about getting Medicare benefits, visit the Services Australia website at [servicesaustralia.gov.au/medicare](https://servicesaustralia.gov.au/medicare).

## How bulk billing works

- **Step 1: Before you go, check if your doctor, clinic or health centre bulk bills.** Find a bulk billing clinic near you by visiting [health.gov.au/bulkbilling](https://health.gov.au/bulkbilling). Medicare Bulk Billing Practices will also display bulk billing signage at the clinic.
- **Step 2: Go to your appointment and see your doctor or health worker.** Remember to take your Medicare card.
- **Step 3: With your permission, your doctor sends the bill straight to Medicare.**
- **Step 4: Medicare pays your doctor directly,** so you don't need to pay anything.

## What services are often bulk billed?

- Visits to a doctor (GP) or telehealth (video conference/phone) appointments
- Chronic condition management plans
- Mental health treatment plans
- Health assessments



To find a bulk billing doctor near you visit [health.gov.au/bulkbilling](https://health.gov.au/bulkbilling)



Australian Government

Department of Health, Disability and Ageing