



MEDICARE FOR ALL!

Nurses' Campaign to Win Medicare for All Frequently Asked Questions:

Medicare for All will be so expensive. How do you pay for that?

Currently, the United States spends over [\\$3.5 trillion a year](#) on healthcare, and that number is only growing. \$3.5 trillion a year, all for a system that is not universal, not comprehensive, and rife with inequality and inefficiency. Medicare for All will cost less than our current system while guaranteeing comprehensive health care to everyone, free at the point of service.

- **There have been two recent studies on the cost of Medicare for All**, one by a [university](#) (\$2.9 trillion) and one by a [libertarian think-tank](#) (\$3.2 trillion). Both cost estimates are less than the \$3.5 trillion our current system costs.
- **Those \$2.9 trillion and \$3.2 trillion numbers do not reflect new spending:** they replace the \$3.5 trillion that we are currently spending, resulting in a net reduction in the amount we spend on healthcare.
- **Federal health care spending currently amounts to about \$1.88 trillion a year**, meaning that \$1.88 trillion dollars in federal spending is already there. That means the government only needs to raise \$1.05 trillion to fully fund the program.
- **There are several ways that we could make up the \$1.05 trillion needed to fund the program.** Payroll taxes, a more progressive income tax structure, a national sales tax with exemptions for necessities, repealing the Trump tax cuts, a tax on Wall Street transactions, and a wealth tax are just some of several ways proposed to fund the program.
- **At the end of the day, instead of paying premiums to a for-profit insurer, corporations and families will pay taxes to the government to fund a single-payer system.** The difference is, any tax revenue raised to fund the system will only fund the system, instead of being used to line the pockets of insurance, drug companies, and hospital industry executives.

Join the Nurses' Campaign to Win Medicare for All! www.medicare4all.org