

# Frequently Asked Questions

## **Center for Cancer Surveillance and Control -- Cigarette Restitution Fund Cancer Prevention, Education, Screening and Treatment Program (CRFP)**

### **I do not have Health Insurance. What can the Center for Cancer Surveillance and Control (CCSC) do to help me?**

The CCSC provides funds to local health departments to provide direct services. Your [local health department](#) will be able to provide you with information about age-related cancer screening procedures. Each program has specific eligibility requirements addressing age, income, and insurance coverage, etc.

### **How do the local Health Departments pay for the screenings?**

The State of Maryland receives funds via the Master Settlement Agreement from the tobacco companies and distributes a portion to the Maryland Cigarette Restitution Fund Program and to each local jurisdiction throughout the state based on cancer incidence and mortality. Each local health department conducts outreach with private healthcare providers to perform cancer screening exams.

### **Do all of the counties address the same cancers and offer the same procedures?**

No, there are seven targeted cancers that may be addressed under the Maryland Cigarette Restitution Fund. Local programs decide which cancers they will target with input from their community cancer coalitions. These coalitions are comprised of individuals in the community who have an interest in decreasing the cancer incidence and mortality in their communities.

### **What are the seven targeted cancers?**

The seven cancers targeted by the Maryland Cigarette Restitution Fund chosen due to high incidence and mortality rates across the state and the ability to detect early are: breast cancer; cervical cancer; colorectal cancer; lung cancer; oral cancer; prostate cancer; and, skin (melanoma) cancer.

### **Do all of the programs pay for screening, diagnosis, and treatment for these cancers?**

No, local programs select which targeted cancer or cancers to address. Some programs address more than one cancer. Some local programs pay for screening only and others pay for some treatment services. Local programs do not receive the same amount of funds and therefore do not always provide the same level of service. The local community cancer coalitions provide input about which cancers are addressed and in what manner.

### **How can a person become a member of the coalitions?**

Contact your local health department for further details. You may participate as a representative of an agency, a private business, or as a member of the community. Everyone's input is welcomed.

### **What are signs and symptoms of the various cancers?**

Many cancers do not have obvious signs and symptoms until the cancer has spread. It is best to have regular screenings as recommended by the American Cancer Society, the National Institutes of Health, the United States Preventive Services Task Force, National Comprehensive Cancer Network, and other organizations. Contact your healthcare provider or local health department for additional information.

### **Do local health departments provide cancer education and outreach to community groups?**

Local health departments provide varying levels of community outreach and education. Please contact your local health department for more information.

### **How can we get cancer education print materials for our upcoming community event?**

The National Cancer Institute ([www.cancer.gov](http://www.cancer.gov)) and the American Cancer Society ([www.cancer.org](http://www.cancer.org)) provide a number of educational materials for the general public. Your local health department may be able to provide some print materials on a case-by-case basis.