

flounder, or [750] **625** pound trip limit and a maximum of four days per week that a vessel may land summer flounder, or [1,000] **1,250** pound trip limit and a maximum of [three] **two** days per week that a vessel may land summer flounder;

(5) September—October: 29 percent, [450] **350** pound trip limit and a maximum of seven days per week that a vessel may land summer flounder, or [1,500] **625** pound trip limit and a maximum of [two] **four** days per week that a vessel may land summer flounder, or [3,000] **1,250** pound trip limit and a maximum of [one] **two** days per week that a vessel may land summer flounder, or **2,500 pound trip limit and a maximum of one day per week that a vessel may land summer flounder;**

(6) November—December: 11 percent, [1,500] **1,000** pound trip limit and a maximum of two days per week that a vessel may land summer flounder, or [3,000] **2,000** pound trip limit and a maximum of one day per week that a vessel may land summer flounder; and

- (7) (No change.)
 iii.-xiii. (No change.)
 3.-9. (No change.)
 (j)-(y) (No change.)

HUMAN SERVICES

(a)

DIVISION OF AGING SERVICES

OFFICE OF STATE HEALTH INSURANCE FOR THE AGED AND DISABLED AND FACILITIES MANAGEMENT

Notice of Administrative Changes Pharmaceutical Assistance to the Aged and Disabled Eligibility Manual: Income Standards Senior Gold Prescription Program Manual: Income Standards Lifeline Credit Program/Tenants Lifeline Assistance Program Manual: Income Standards Hearing Aid Assistance to the Aged and Disabled: Income Standards N.J.A.C. 10:167-6.2, 10:167B-6.2, 10:167D-4.2, and 10:167E-5.2

Effective Date: December 2, 2020.

Operative Date: January 1, 2021.

Take notice that the Department of Human Services (Department) is changing the Pharmaceutical Assistance to the Aged and Disabled (PAAD) Eligibility Manual at N.J.A.C. 10:167-6.2 to reflect an increase of the maximum annual income limits for PAAD eligibility by 1.3 percent. This change will be operative on January 1, 2021.

N.J.S.A. 30:4D-21 establishes that PAAD annual income eligibility limits are to “increase by the amount of the maximum Social Security benefit cost-of-living increase for [each] year for single and married persons, respectively.” On October 13, 2020, the Social Security Administration (SSA) announced that the cost-of-living adjustment for 2021 would increase by 1.3 percent. See www.socialsecurity.gov/cola and <https://www.ssa.gov/news/press/releases/2020/#10-2020-1>. N.J.A.C. 10:167-6.2(m) authorizes the Department to announce changes to PAAD income eligibility limits due to SSA cost-of-living adjustments through publication of a notice in the New Jersey Register. Therefore, the Department is changing existing N.J.A.C. 10:167-6.2(a) and (b) to increase the maximum income that a person can have to be eligible for PAAD to less than \$28,769 for single persons and less than \$35,270 of combined income for married couples.

Pursuant to N.J.S.A. 48:2-29.16, 48:2-29.32, and 30:4D-38, persons who are eligible for PAAD are also eligible for Lifeline Credit, Tenants Lifeline Assistance, and Hearing Aid Assistance to the Aged and Disabled (HAAAD). N.J.A.C. 10:167D-4.2(j) and 10:167E-5.2(i) authorize the

Department to announce changes in income eligibility limits for these programs, due to SSA cost-of-living adjustments, through publication of a notice in the New Jersey Register.

Take further notice, therefore, that the Department is changing the annual income eligibility standards at N.J.A.C. 10:167D-4.2 for Lifeline Credit Program/Tenants Lifeline Assistance Program Manual and at N.J.A.C. 10:167E-5.2 for HAAAD to correspond to the PAAD maximum annual income eligibility limits described above by reflecting an increase of 1.3 percent. This change will be operative on January 1, 2021.

N.J.S.A. 30:4D-45 establishes that, for persons to be eligible for the Senior Gold Prescription Discount Program (Senior Gold), annual income limits shall not be “more than \$10,000 above the applicable PAAD income eligibility limits for single and married persons.” N.J.A.C. 10:167B-6.2(m) authorizes the Department to announce changes in Senior Gold eligibility limits through publication of a notice in the New Jersey Register.

Take further notice, therefore, that the Department is changing the Senior Gold income limits for the Senior Gold Prescription Program Manual at N.J.A.C. 10:167B-6.2 to reflect an increase of the maximum annual income limits for Senior Gold eligibility, established at N.J.A.C. 10:167B-6.2, by 1.3 percent. Therefore, to be eligible for Senior Gold, persons can have an annual income between \$28,769 and \$38,769, for single persons, and a combined income between \$35,270 and \$45,270, for married persons. This change will be operative on January 1, 2021.

This notice of administrative changes is published in accordance with N.J.A.C. 10:167-6.2(m), 10:167B-6.2(m), 10:167D-4.2(j), and 10:167E-5.2(i).

Full text of the changed rules follows (additions indicated in boldface **thus**; deletions indicated in brackets [thus]):

CHAPTER 167

PHARMACEUTICAL ASSISTANCE TO THE AGED AND DISABLED ELIGIBILITY MANUAL

SUBCHAPTER 6. ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS

10:167-6.2 Income standards

(a) Any single permanent resident of New Jersey who is 65 years of age or over or who is under 65 and over 18 years of age and is receiving Social Security Title II disability benefits must have an annual income of less than \$[28,399]**28,769** to be eligible for PAAD.

(b) Any married permanent resident of New Jersey who is 65 years of age or over or who is under 65 and over 18 years of age and is receiving Social Security Title II disability benefits must have a combined (applicant and spouse) annual income of less than \$[34,817]**35,270** to be eligible for PAAD.

1. (No change.)

2. An applicant and spouse may be considered separated when the spouse has been institutionalized in a long-term facility, either skilled or intermediate, or in a State or county psychiatric hospital at least 30 consecutive days prior to application.

i. PAAD shall consider the applicant and spouse separated only when doing so is more favorable to the applicant for PAAD (for example, when the income of an applicant and his or her institutionalized spouse is combined at \$[34,817]**35,270**, the applicant is ineligible for PAAD, but if the applicant and spouse are considered separated, the applicant could be eligible for PAAD under the single income standard. If the institutionalized spouse was not covered by Medicaid, the spouse could become eligible under the single income standard).

(c)-(n) (No change.)

CHAPTER 167B

SENIOR GOLD PRESCRIPTION PROGRAM MANUAL

SUBCHAPTER 6. ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS

10:167B-6.2 Income standards

(a) Any single permanent resident of New Jersey who is 65 years of age or over or who is under 65 and over 18 years of age and is receiving Social Security Title II disability benefits must have a total annual income

between \$[28,399]**28,769** and \$[38,399]**38,769** in [2020] **2021** to be eligible for Senior Gold benefits. These income limits will increase January 1 of each year in accordance with the Social Security cost of living adjustment. This amount shall not be more than \$10,000 above the applicable PAAD income eligibility limits for single persons. Recipients of other State-funded prescription discount benefits are not eligible for the Senior Gold Prescription Discount Program.

(b) Any married permanent resident of New Jersey who is 65 years of age or who is under 65 and over 18 years of age and is receiving Social Security Title II disability benefits must have a total annual income between \$[34,817]**35,270** and \$[44,817]**45,270** in [2020] **2021** to be eligible for Senior Gold benefits. The income limits will increase January 1 of each year in accordance with the Social Security cost of living adjustment. This amount shall not be more than \$10,000 above the applicable PAAD income eligibility limits for married couples. Recipients of other State-funded prescription discount benefits are not eligible for the Senior Gold Prescription Discount Program.

1. (No change.)

2. An applicant and spouse may be considered separated when the spouse has been institutionalized in a long-term facility, either skilled or intermediate, or in a State or county psychiatric hospital at least 30 consecutive days prior to application.

i. The Program shall consider the applicant and spouse separated only when doing so is more favorable to the applicant for Senior Gold (for example, when the income of an applicant and his institutionalized spouse is combined at \$[44,817]**45,270**, the applicant is ineligible for Senior Gold, but if the applicant and spouse are considered separated, the applicant could be eligible for Senior Gold under the single income standard. If the institutionalized spouse was not covered by Medicaid, the spouse could become eligible under the single income standard for PAAD).

(c)-(m) (No change.)

CHAPTER 167D

LIFELINE CREDIT PROGRAM/TENANTS LIFELINE ASSISTANCE PROGRAM MANUAL

SUBCHAPTER 4. ELIGIBILITY

10:167D-4.2 Income standards

(a) Any single permanent resident of New Jersey who is 65 years of age or older or who is between 18 and 65 and is receiving Social Security Title II disability benefits must have an annual income of less than \$[28,399]**28,769** to be eligible for the Lifeline Programs.

(b) Any married permanent resident of New Jersey who is 65 years of age or older or who is between 18 and 65 and is receiving Social Security Title II disability benefits, and his or her spouse, must have a combined annual income of less than \$[34,817]**35,270** to be eligible for the Lifeline Programs.

1.-2. (No change.)

(c)-(j) (No change.)

CHAPTER 167E

HEARING AID ASSISTANCE TO THE AGED AND DISABLED

SUBCHAPTER 5. ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS

10:167E-5.2 Income standards

(a) Any single permanent resident of New Jersey who is 65 years of age or older or who is between 18 and 65 and is receiving Social Security Title II disability benefits must have an annual income of less than \$[28,399] **28,769** to be eligible for HAAAD.

(b) Any married permanent resident of New Jersey who is 65 years of age or older or who is between 18 and 65 and is receiving Social Security Title II disability benefits, and his or her spouse, must have a combined annual income of less than \$[34,817] **35,270** to be eligible for HAAAD.

1. (No change.)

2. An applicant and spouse may be considered separated when the spouse has been institutionalized in a long-term facility, either skilled or intermediate, or in a State or county psychiatric hospital at least 30 consecutive days prior to application.

i. HAAAD shall consider the applicant and spouse separated only when doing so is more favorable to the applicant for HAAAD (for example, when the income of an applicant and his or her institutionalized spouse is combined at \$[34,817] **35,270** the applicant is ineligible for HAAAD, but if the applicant and spouse are considered separated, the applicant could become eligible for HAAAD under the single income standard. If the institutionalized spouse was not covered by Medicaid, the spouse could become eligible under the single income standard).

(c)-(i) (No change.)

LAW AND PUBLIC SAFETY

(a)

DIVISION OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS STATE BOARD OF PSYCHOLOGICAL EXAMINERS Degrees Earned Outside the United States

Adopted Amendment: N.J.A.C. 13:42-2.4

Proposed: August 19, 2019, at 51 N.J.R. 1345(a).

Adopted: January 6, 2020, by the State Board of Psychological Examiners, Sean R. Evers, Ph.D., Chair.

Filed: December 3, 2020, as R.2021 d.002, **without change**.

Authority: N.J.S.A. 45:14B-13.

Effective Date: January 4, 2021.

Expiration Date: May 18, 2023.

Summary of Public Comments and Agency Responses:

The official comment period ended October 18, 2019. The Board received comments from the following individuals:

1. Morgan Murray, PhD, NJPA President

2. Keira Boerzel-Smith, NJPA Executive Director

COMMENT: In the Economic Impact statement in the notice of proposal, the Board recognized that the National Register of Health Service Psychologists will charge a fee for the evaluation of psychology degrees earned outside of the United States. The commenters contend that this fee will place a burden on applicants and may discourage diversity in the psychology profession. The commenters support diversity in the profession.

RESPONSE: The Board shares the commenters' support for diversity in the profession, and believes that the rulemaking will promote diversity by expanding the list of entities that may perform evaluations of psychology degrees completed outside of the United States to include the National Register of Health Service Psychologists. As the Board noted in the Economic Impact statement, it has no authority over the fees charged by the National Register of Health Service Psychologists. By recognizing the National Register of Health Service Psychologists, the Board is increasing the number of entities that may evaluate psychology degrees, which should increase opportunities to obtain such evaluations and facilitate the entry of new individuals into the profession. The Board points out that the National Register of Health Service Psychologists is recognized by other states as an entity that may perform evaluations of psychology degrees.

Federal Standards Statement

A Federal standards analysis is not required because there are no Federal laws or standards applicable to the adopted amendment.

Full text of the adoption follows:

SUBCHAPTER 2. INITIAL QUALIFICATIONS

13:42-2.4 Degrees earned outside the United States

(a) (No change.)

(b) Individuals who apply pursuant to (a) above shall provide the Board with a comprehensive evaluation of their degree performed by the National Register of Health Service Psychologists or a foreign credential evaluation service that is member of the National Association of