

period of each season shall end on the last day of the month. The seasons, percentage of quota, daily trip limits, and allowable landing days are as follows:

- (1) (No change.)
- (2) March—April: 11 percent, [400] **500** pound trip limit and a maximum of two days per week that a vessel may land summer flounder, or [800] **1,000** pound trip limit and a maximum of one day per week that a vessel may land summer flounder;
- (3) May—June: 10.5 percent, [500] **250** pound trip limit and a maximum of [three] **seven days** per week that a vessel may land summer flounder, or [250] **500** pound trip limit and a maximum of [six] **four** days a week that a vessel may land summer flounder;
- (4) July—August: 10.5 percent, [600] **250** pound trip limit and a maximum of [four] **seven** days per week that a vessel may land summer flounder, or [400] **500** pound trip limit and a maximum of [six] **four** days per week that a vessel may land summer flounder;
- (5) September—October: 29 percent, [1,500] **250** pound trip limit and a maximum of [one] **seven** days per week that a vessel may land summer flounder, [750] or **1,000** pound trip limit and a maximum of two days per week that a vessel may land summer flounder, or [250] **2,000** pound trip limit and a maximum of [six] **one** day[s] per week that a vessel may land summer flounder;
- (6) November—December: 11 percent, [750] **1,000** pound trip limit and a maximum of two days per week that a vessel may land summer flounder, or [1,500] **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

Take notice that the Department of Human Services 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 1.6 percent. This change will be operative on January 1, 2020.

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 10, 2019, the Social Security Administration (SSA) announced that the cost-of-living adjustment for 2020 would increase by 1.6 percent. See www.socialsecurity.gov/cola and www.ssa.gov/news/press/releases/2018/#10-2018-1. 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 \$28,399 for single persons and less than \$34,817 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 1.6 percent. This change will be operative on January 1, 2020.

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 1.6 percent. Therefore, to be eligible for Senior Gold, persons can have annual income between \$28,399 and \$38,399, for single persons, and a combined income between \$34,817 and \$44,817, for married persons. This change will be operative on January 1, 2020.

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 \$[27,951]**28,399** 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 \$[34,268]**34,817** 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 \$[34,268]**34,817**, 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 \$[27,951]~~28,399~~ and \$[37,951]~~38,399~~ in [2019] **2020** 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 \$[34,268]~~34,817~~ and \$[44,268]~~44,817~~ in [2019] **2020** 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 \$[44,268]~~44,817~~, 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 \$[27,951]~~28,399~~ 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 \$[34,268]~~34,817~~ 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 \$[27,951]~~28,399~~ 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 \$[34,268]~~34,817~~ 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 \$[34,268]~~34,817~~, 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.)