



NEW JERSEY DEPARTMENT
OF CHILDREN AND FAMILIES

New Jersey Department of Children and Families Policy Manual

Manual:	CP&P	Child Protection and Permanency	Effective Date:
Volume:	V	Health Services	
Chapter:	A	Health Services	4-1-94
Subchapter:	3	Medicaid Services	
Issuance:	300	Personal Assistance Services Program (PASP)	

Legal Provisions 4-1-94

The Personal Assistance Services Program, established under N.J.S.A. 30:1-12 is designed to provide assistance care services to eligible physically disabled individuals. These services enable adults with chronic physical disabilities to be employed, prepare for employment and/or live independently. Assistance services differ from traditional home health services in that they are consumer directed and supervised and are considered to be a social, rather than a health care service.

Definition 4-1-94

Personal assistants are individuals with training or related experience in providing in-home services who directly assist a physically disabled person in carrying out routine non-medical tasks such as bathing, dressing, transferring to a wheelchair, meal preparation, laundry, shopping, household management, and transportation.

County Availability 4-1-94

The law establishes the program in each of the 21 counties in the State of New Jersey. County government has the responsibility for designating an office of county government or another county-based agency that has experience in providing information and/or services for persons with disabilities, to administer the program locally.

Program Administration 4-1-94

The law established the Personal Assistance Services Program in the New Jersey Department of Human Services. The program is currently administered through the Division of Child Protection and Permanency, Office of Adult Services.

Program services are delivered through the county designated agency responsible for the local administration of the program, subject to the approval by the Commissioner. In order to provide services, the county designated agencies enter into a contract with the Division of Child Protection and Permanency which include an allocation for client assessment services and funds for the purchase of attendant services and program staffing and local administration.

The counties are responsible, under the supervision of Division of Child Protection and Permanency's (CP&P) staff, for client selection, assistant recruitment and local operation of the program.

Eligibility 4-1-94

Clients served under the program are subject to the following eligibility criteria:

- Permanently physically disabled,
- Between the age of 18 and 65,
- Capable of self-direction and able to supervise a personal assistant, and
- Reside in any of the 21 counties in New Jersey.

In selecting clients for participation in the program, preference is given to those individuals who are employed, in a program preparing them for employment, or living independently.

Under the law there are no financial eligibility criteria for clients. Those persons who qualify under the current Social Service Block Grant guidelines receive the service at no cost. Persons with incomes in excess of those guidelines are expected to contribute toward the cost of their services based on a sliding fee scale. The Office of Adult Social Services maintains the fee scale.

Determination of Hours and Type of Service 4-1-94

Clients selected for the program receive between 10 and 40 hours of service per week, based on their individual needs. A plan of service specifying the type of service required and the hours requested, is completed by the consumer in conjunction with a registered professional nurse, social worker, or rehabilitation professional. A professional assessment will be conducted to determine the person's capacity for self-direction, and the appropriateness of the requested plan of service to meet their needs.

A recommendation will be made to the county office regarding the person's suitability for the program and award of hours. Additional services that a client may be eligible to receive through other funding sources (Medicaid, private insurance, etc.) are taken into account in formulating the client plan of service.

Further information on the Personal Assistant Services Program may be obtained by contacting:

New Jersey Division of Child Protection and Permanency
Office of Adult Services
50 East State Street
CN 717
Trenton, New Jersey 08625
(609) 292-7800