PAAD (Pharmaceutical Assistance to the Aged and Disabled) and Senior Gold are both state-funded prescription programs which help eligible New Jersey residents with the cost of prescribed medication, including insulin, insulin needles, and needles for injectable medicines used for the treatment of multiple sclerosis. Neither PAAD nor Senior Gold pays for diabetic testing supplies, e.g., test strips and lancets and Medicare Part D excluded drugs except benzodiazepines and barbiturates. If PAAD or Senior Gold beneficiaries have health insurance coverage that pays for diabetic testing supplies, such as Medicare Part B, a pharmacy must bill that insurance plan. PAAD and Senior Gold will not pay for them.

Please visit www.njpaad.gov for refills up to a 34-day supply or 100 unit doses, whichever is greater. All first-time prescriptions are limited to a 34-day supply. Both PAAD and Senior Gold, when acting as primary payer, allow generic drugs to be substituted for brand name drugs that have approved generics. The PAAD and Senior Gold Programs mandate generic substitution on brand name drugs that have approved generics available. Generic drugs are less costly substitutes with the same active ingredients as drugs sold under the brand name. Currently, in order for a beneficiary to receive the brand name version instead of an approved generic, the prescribing physician must request authorization. However, certain brand name drugs with a narrow therapeutic index or a lower cost per unit than the generic may be excluded from this prior authorization process.

Senior Gold is a prescription discount program for elderly and disabled New Jersey residents who do not qualify for the Pharmaceutical Assistance to the Aged and Disabled (PAAD) program. You are eligible for Senior Gold if you meet the following eligibility requirements:

- You are a New Jersey resident;
- Your income is less than $25,312 if you’re single, or less than $31,035 if you are married;
- You are at least 65 years of age, OR at least 18 years of age and receiving Social Security Disability benefits;
- Enrollment in Medicare Part D, if eligible.

If your income exceeds these limits, you may still be eligible for pharmaceutical assistance.

For information concerning PAAD, Lifeline, HAAAD, or Senior Gold call toll-free 1-800-792-9745 or write:

**PAAD-HAAAD**
PO Box 715
Trenton, NJ 08625-0715

**LIFELINE**
PO Box 714
Trenton, NJ 08625-0714

**SENIOR GOLD**
PO Box 724
Trenton, NJ 08625-0724
Lifeline is a utility assistance program that offers $225 to persons who meet the PAAD eligibility requirements or who receive Supplemental Security Income. This program provides PAAD utility customers as well as tenants whose utility bills are included in their rent. Only one tenant in a household is entitled to this assistance.

You are eligible for the Lifeline benefit if you are a recipient of Pharmaceutical Assistance to the Aged and Disabled (PAAD). Persons applying for PAAD apply for their Lifeline benefit on the same form by answering the questions that pertain to the Lifeline program. Persons who are beneficiaries of Medical Assistance to the Aged (MAA), Medical Assistance Only (MAO), or New Jersey Care, are sent Lifeline application automatically every August.

If you are not a beneficiary of these programs, but you meet the eligibility requirements for PAAD, please contact our office for an application.

Recipients of Supplemental Security Income (SSI) should not file an application for Lifeline. The Lifeline benefit is automatically included in the SSI checks.

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS ABOUT MEDICARE PART D & PAAD/SENIOR GOLD

Q: How long will processing my initial PAAD application take?
A: Once your completed PAAD application is received, it should take about 30 days to process it. A completed application consists of all information necessary to determine eligibility, the PAAD benefit amount, as well as the information necessary to determine eligibility for the low-income consumer, Special Enrollment Period, and Medicare Advantage Plan enrollment information. If you participate in Medicare and have purchased a Part D Plan, you will be asked to select a Part D plan from among certain basic Part D plans participating in New Jersey that have a monthly premium at or below the regional benchmark or basic Part D plans that are up to 15% over the regional benchmark. If you are not eligible for Medicare, the $225 credit will appear on your utility bill. If you receive service from two different companies, the $225 credit will be divided equally between the two utilities. If the cost of your utilities is included in your rent, you will receive a check for $225. Your Lifeline application pertains only to your primary residence of residence.

If you pay utility bills to two different companies (with one bill in your name and the other in your spouse’s name) you must report this on your application. Your Lifeline credit will be divided equally and applied to each account.

Q: What is Medicare Part D?
A: Part D refers to the federal outpatient prescription drug benefit that began January 2006. This benefit was established by the Medicare Prescription Drug, Improvement, and Modernization Act of 2003 (MMA).

Q: As a PAAD participant, who can help me choose a Medicare Part D Plan?
A: The PAAD Hotline can assist you with questions on the completion of the PAAD Application form and PAAD with Medicare Part D. Call 1-800-MEDICARE, SHIP offices, Offices on Aging, and Offices on the Disabled for assistance with Medicare Part D questions.

Q: Why do I have to join a Medicare Part D Prescription Drug Plan (PDP) if I qualify for PAAD?
A: During January 2006, PAAD became a SECONDARY PAYOR of prediscussion drugs for Medicare beneficiaries who are also Medicare beneficiaries. This means the federal out-of-pocket expense limit for Medicare Part D plans will not pay other costs in excess of the PAAD copayment of $5 for each covered generic drug and $7 for each covered brand name drug. PAAD beneficiaries will pay no more than the $5 PAAD copayment if their drug is recommended by PAAD. PAAD beneficiaries may pay less for generic drugs if their Medicare Part D prescription drug plan charges them less than the $5 PAAD copayment for generics.

Q: Do I have to pay for these additional federal prescription benefits? Will the federal plan cost me money if I not enrolled in a Medicare Part D program?
A: It is recommended you speak with a person who is knowledgeable of the PAAD program.

Q: How will things work at the pharmacy?
A: PAAD: You will present your Medicare Part D prescription drug card so you will pay no more than $5 per covered generic drug or $7 per covered brand name drug.

Senior Gold: You will present your Medicare prescription drug plan membership card and your Senior Gold card at the pharmacy so the combined savings can be applied. Your copayment will be $15 plus 50% of the remaining cost of the drug for covered prescriptions. PAAD beneficiaries will pay no more than the Medicare Part D drug plan's annual out-of-pocket threshold of $2,000 for individuals or $3,000 for married couples. Then you will pay a flat $15 copayment to the pharmacy of the that eligibility period.

Q: How does Medicare Part D work with Senior Gold?
A: All Medicare-eligible Senior Gold beneficiaries must enroll in Medicare Part D to use Senior Gold benefits. You will pay a monthly premium directly to the Medicare prescription drug plan of your choice and any late enrollment penalties imposed by Medicare. However, Senior Gold makes Medicare Part D costs more affordable by reducing all other Medicare Part D out-of-pocket costs other than the monthly premium. The more prescriptions a Senior Gold beneficiary uses and/or the higher his drug costs are, the more likely Medicare Part D will be helpful. If your Employer/Union has advised you not to join a Medicare Part D Plan, you should not.

Q: How many pills am I allowed per covered prescription?
A: If you are enrolled in a Medicare Part D Plan or other prescription drug benefit plan, that Medicare Part D or private Plan will specify the day supply of medication permitted per covered prescription.

Q: Can I use the federal Medicare Part D drug benefit outside NJ?
A: PAAD and SG benefits are not valid outside NJ. Some Medicare Part D plans operate throughout the country. For more information on your Medicare Part D Plan to verify if your federal Medicare Part D plan offers coverage in your state and what your copayment responsibility would be outside NJ.

IMPORTANT INFORMATION

You will lose your Senior Gold or PAAD, Lifeline, and HAAAD eligibility if:

1. You move outside of the State of New Jersey
2. You place your annual income above set by law;
3. You lose your Social Security Disability benefits and you are under age 65;
4. You are eligible and do not enroll or remain enrolled in Medicare Part D.

By law, you MUST notify PAAD, Lifeline, HAAAD and Senior Gold of any changes that will affect your eligibility. If for any reason you become ineligible, you MUST return your PAAD card or Senior Gold card. If you lose eligibility because of an increase in your annual income, you must notify the PAAD or Senior Gold provider immediately.

* If you put false information on your application, you are liable for civil and criminal penalties under the New Jersey Medical Assistance and Health Services Act. You could lose your eligibility for one year for a first offense and permanently for a second offense.

* PAAD, Lifeline, HAAAD and Senior Gold mail is not forwarded. You must notify these programs in writing of any change in your address; please be sure to provide two proofs of your new residence.

* Failure to report a change of address could delay your PAAD, Lifeline, HAAAD or Senior Gold benefits. Please include your full name and Social Security number on all correspondence.

* You may be contacted for additional information needed to process your application. Also, you may be contacted as part of a sample group or by random audit to assure that the information you provided is valid and accurate. If you refuse to be interviewed, you could lose your eligibility.