



Providing support to persons with disabilities throughout their lifespan so they can achieve their highest level of independence in their community.

**The New Jersey Department of Human Services
Announces New Income Standards for PAAD
*Lifeline Credit, Tenants Lifeline Assistance, and
Hearing Aid Assistance to the Aged and Disabled
Are Also Covered***

Hello,

The New Jersey Department of Human Services (DHS) announced a change to the Pharmaceutical Assistance to the Aged and Disabled (PAAD) manual. This change reflects an increase in the maximum annual income limits for PAAD eligibility by 1.3 percent. This change took effect on January 1, 2021.

New Jersey law states that PAAD annual income eligibility limits are to "increase by the amount of the maximum Social Security Administration (SSA) benefit cost-of-living increase for each year for single and married persons." On October 13, 2020, The SSA announced a cost-of-living adjustment for 2021 would increase by 1.3 percent. Therefore, under the new rules, to be eligible for PAAD, one must have an annual income for 2021 of less than \$28,769 if single, \$35,270 if married. In addition, one must be:

- A New Jersey resident
- Age 65 or older, or if between ages 18 and 64, be receiving Social Security Title II disability benefits.

Furthermore, persons who qualify for PAAD are also eligible for Lifeline Credit, Tenants Lifeline Assistance, and Hearing Aid Assistance to the Aged and Disabled. The DHS has increased the annual income limits for these programs by the same 1.3 percent, effective January 1, 2021 (not more than \$28,769, if single, \$35,270 if married).

This is important information that everyone needs to know.