

**RHODE ISLAND DEPARTMENT OF ELDERLY AFFAIRS  
HOME AND COMMUNITY CARE  
OVERVIEW**

In July, 2009, the state of Rhode Island entered a “new age” in Long Term Care planning with the advent of the “Global Waiver”. The Global Waiver changes the way disabled and older Rhode Islanders receive services. These services will be designed to further enhance the participant’s opportunities to optimize their health and remain independent. By providing additional services, the individuals receiving support under the waiver will have a customized “plan of care”, catering especially to their needs which are “cost effective, person centered, and opportunity driven.”. Individuals who cannot function outside of a nursing home will be given the opportunity for placement after a careful screening and discussion of alternatives. The result should be a well-balanced system which meets the needs of all individuals needing long term care.

**DEA Community Waiver**

As of July 1, 2009, all existing waivers, except for the Assisted Living Waiver referred to as the “Rhode Island Housing Waiver”, are collapsed into the one waiver known as the “Global Waiver”. As mentioned previously, the Global Waiver will continue to have as its mission, the commitment to assist eligible individuals to maximize their independence and remain in the least restrictive environment for as long as possible. Older Rhode Islanders can receive information regarding services by calling the Department of Elderly Affairs at 462-0570, The Point at 462-4444, or their local senior center. Hospital discharge planners will also have access to a support person knowledgeable in the waiver at the hospital level.

**Participants must meet the following criteria:**

- Participants must be eligible for Medical Assistance for Long Term Care.
- Participants must be a Rhode Island resident.
- Participants must be a United States citizen or legal resident.
- Participants must have a determined level of care according to new Level of Care procedures.
- DEA participants will be those 65 years of age or over.

A comprehensive, customized plan of care will be developed for every participant based on their needs and identified goals. Complex medical patients will have the benefit of monitoring and assistance with case management from nurses at the Office of Community Programs (OCP). All other DEA clients will be case managed by the Regional Case Management network currently certified by the Department of Elderly Affairs.

Adult Day Care continues to be provided as a “State Plan Service” and does not fall under the Global Waiver at this time. Individuals requiring Adult Day Care and who are eligible for Medicaid can contact the Day Care directly. A complete list of Adult Day Cares can be accessed from The Point or the DEA.

## **Co-Pay Program**

The Co-Pay Program was designed in the 1980's to meet the needs of people who do not qualify for Medical Assistance but whose income is still relatively low. In July, 2009, the Co-Pay Program adopted a standard which allows persons up to 200 % of the US Poverty Level allowances known as the Department of Health and Human Services Poverty Guidelines, to participate. The Co-Pay Program is the fastest growing program for home and community care, with over 2000 persons served each year. By providing services to these individuals, it is anticipated that not only will institutional placement be delayed, but also Medicaid eligibility will be delayed, allowing individuals more services at a more maintainable income.

### **Participants must meet the following criteria:**

- **Participants must be Rhode Island residents.**
- **Participants must be United States citizens or legal residents.**
- **Participants must be ineligible for Medicaid.**
- **Single persons must have an annual income of less than \$18,212. (July, 2009)**
- **Married couples must have a combined annual income of less than \$29,140. (July, 2009)**
- **Both taxable and non-taxable income is counted. Medical expenses that Exceed 3% of gross income are deductible**
- **The applicant must be in need of personal care.**
- **The Co-Pay Program provides up to 20 hours per week of homemaker/home-health aide service as well as adult care, Respite Services, and transportation to Adult Day Care.**

**Department of Elderly Affairs  
Co-Pay Program  
Effective July 1, 2009**

**CLIENT ELIGIBILITY**

**Income Guidelines**

**Level 1      Individual: up to \$13,537 (125% FPL)  
                 Couple:      up to \$18,212**

**Level 2      Individual: up to \$21,660 (200% FPL)  
                 Couple:      up to \$29,179**

**Functional Eligibility Guidelines:**

- **Must be a Rhode Island Resident**
- **Must be 65 years of age or older**
- **Must be unable to leave the home without considerable assistance**
- **Must be a legal resident of the United States**
- **Must be ineligible for Medicaid**
- **Must need assistance with activities of daily living**

**Cost Share Guidelines**

**Level 1      Home Care:            \$4.50/Hour  
                 Adult Day Care:      \$7.00/Day**

**Level 2      Home Care:            \$ 7.50/Hour  
                 Adult Day Care:      \$11.50/DAy**

**FACT SHEET-2009**  
**RHODE ISLAND PHARMACEUTICAL ASSISTANCE TO THE ELDERLY (RIPAE)**

**WHO QUALIFIES FOR RIPAE:** Rhode Island residents 65 or older, who meet specific income guidelines, are eligible to enroll in RIPAE. RIPAE members are mandated to have enrollment in a Medicare Part D plan. Member co-payments for prescriptions used to treat medical conditions listed in Category A are based on a sliding scale. RIPAE members 65 and older can purchase medications listed in Category B at the discounted RIPAE price.

***Annual Income Levels for RIPAE members 65 and older:***

<b>Level</b>	<b>Single Person</b>	<b>Married Couple</b>	<b>State Pays</b>	<b>Member Pays</b>
One	\$0 to \$20,934	\$0 to \$26,170	60%	40%
Two	\$20,935 to \$26,279	\$26,171 to \$32,851	30%	70%
Three	\$26,280 to \$45,991	\$32,852 to \$52,561	15%	85%

For Level One RIPAE members who spend more than \$1,500 in co-payments during the State Fiscal Year (July 1 through June 30) for Category A drugs, the state will pay 100% of their medication costs for the remainder of the fiscal year for conditions specified in this category. Other benefits, such as a discount on telephone bills and cable television rates, are also available to Level One RIPAE members.

***RIPAE for disabled persons:***

Rhode Island residents between the ages of 55 and 64, who are receiving Social Security Disability (SSDI) payments, and who meet specific income guidelines, can purchase Category A and B medications at the RIPAE discounted price.

***Annual Income Levels for RIPAE disabled RIPAE member age 55 to 64:***

<b>Level</b>	<b>Single Person</b>	<b>Married Couple</b>	<b>State Pays</b>
Four	\$0 to \$45,991	\$0 to \$52,561	15%

***Income calculations:***

In determining eligibility for RIPAE, all sources of income, including Social Security benefits, are considered. While calculating eligibility for RIPAE, applicants may exclude all medical and pharmaceutical expenses that exceed three (3) percent of their annual income. The income guidelines for RIPAE are increased each year, beginning July 1, in accordance with the Social Security COLA.

**RIPAE covers generic medications only, unless there is no generic available or a physician deems a brand name medically necessary.**

**CATEGORY A MEDICATIONS:** Category A medications are used to treat Alzheimer's disease, anti-infectives, arthritis, asthma and other chronic respiratory conditions, cancer, circulatory insufficiency, depression, diabetes (including insulin syringes), glaucoma, heart problems, high cholesterol, high blood pressure, osteoporosis, Parkinson's disease, prescription minerals and vitamins for kidney patients, and urinary incontinence. Also, a limited allocation has been added to RIPAE to help cover the cost of injectable prescription drugs used to treat Multiple Sclerosis.

**CATEGORY B MEDICATIONS:** Category B medications cover all FDA-approved prescriptions not listed in Category A, except for medications prescribed for cosmetic purposes.

**TO ENROLL IN RIPAE OR GET MORE INFORMATION:** For RIPAE information, call the Department of Elderly Affairs at **462-3000 (Voice) or 462-0740 (TTY) or THE POINT at 462-4444 (Voice) or 462-4445 (TTY).**

**RHODE ISLAND DEPARTMENT OF ELDERLY AFFAIRS  
SUBSIDIZED ASSISTED LIVING OPTIONS**

<b>ELIGIBILITY</b>	<b>ENHANCED SSI</b>	<b>DEA COMMUNITY AL WAIVER</b>	<b>RI HOUSING ASSISTED LIVING WAIVER</b>
1.	Aged & Disabled Adults	Aged (65+) and Disabled Adults	Aged (65+) and Disabled Adults
2.	Qualifies for SSI Monthly Income under \$1,232.00 Assets below \$2,000	Qualifies for Medicaid (LTC) (Monthly Income under \$2,022.00 Assets below \$4,000)	Qualifies for Medicaid (LTC) (Monthly Income under \$2,022.00 Assets below \$2,000) (Categorical <u>only</u> )
3.	Determined by DEA or MHRH To have a need for Assisted Living.	Must meet an appropriate level of care as determined by the Office of Medical Review.	Must meet an appropriate level of care As determined by the Office of Medical Review.
4.	Income eligibility determined by Social Security	Income & resources eligibility determined by DHS (also Social Security if SSI)	Income & resources eligibility determined by DHS (also Social Security if SSI)
5.	Assessment conducted by DEA/ Case Management Agencies or MHRH	Assessment conducted by DEA Regional Case Management Agencies - UCAT	Assessment conducted by DEA Regional Case Management Agencies - UCAT
<b>BENEFITS</b>	Resident receives SSI payment to supplement monthly income up to \$1,232.00	Resident retains own income up to cost of R&B [ <u>maximum \$700.00</u> ], PNA + other allowable Medicaid deductions	Resident retains own income up to cost of R&B, PNA,+ other allowable Medicaid deductions
<b>PNA</b>	\$55	\$100	\$100
	Medical Assistance Benefits	Facility receives a Medicaid services payment of \$36.32/ day. Resident also receives full Medicaid benefits.	Facility receives a Medicaid services payment of \$36.32/day. Resident also receives full Medicaid benefits.
<b>CASE MANAGEMENT</b>	65 + Regional Case Management < 65 may request social services from DHS	Case manager from DEA contracted agency	Case manager from DEA contracted agency
<b>Applicant may apply from:</b>	Any location	Any Location	Any location

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	<b>ENHANCED SSI</b>	<b>DEA COMMUNITY AL WAIVER</b>	<b>RI HOUSING ASSISTED LIVING WAIVER</b>
<b>PROGRAM LIMITS</b>	None - limited by facility Availability	Maximum – Limited to Waiver Cap	Maximum - 200 participants
<b>FACILITIES</b>	Licensed ALR choosing to participate in SSI benefit	Licensed ALR choosing to sign a contract with DEA for this program	Licensed ALR developed by RI Housing and/or meeting specific facility criteria set by the waiver

DEA = Department of Elderly Affairs  
DHS = Department of Human Services  
ALR = Assisted Living Residence  
SSI = Supplemental Security Income  
PNA = Personal Needs Allowance  
LTC = Long Term Care  
MDS = Minimum Data Set  
R&B = Room and Board  
PNA = Personal Needs Allowance  
UCAT = Universal Comprehensive Assessment Tool