



**NEW YORK STATE**  
**OFFICE OF TEMPORARY AND DISABILITY**  
**ASSISTANCE**  
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 ALBANY, NY 12243-0001  
**Andrew M. Cuomo**  
*Governor*

**Informational Letter**

**Section 1**

<b>Transmittal:</b>	12-INF-04
<b>To:</b>	Local District Commissioners
<b>Issuing Division/Office:</b>	Center for Employment and Economic Supports
<b>Date:</b>	April 2, 2012
<b>Subject:</b>	Personal Needs Allowance (PNA) in Non-Medical and Medical Facilities Desk Aids
<b>Suggested Distribution:</b>	Temporary Assistance Directors Food Stamp Directors TOP/CAP Coordinators Medical Assistance Directors Staff Development Coordinators Employment Coordinators
<b>Contact Person(s):</b>	Temporary Assistance: 1-800-343-8859, Temporary Assistance Bureau, extension 4-9344 Medicaid Local District Liaison: Upstate (518) 474-8887, NYC (212) 417-4500
<b>Attachments:</b>	<a href="#">Attachment 1: Personal Needs Allowance in Non-Medical Facilities Chart</a> <a href="#">Attachment 2: Personal Needs Allowance in Medical Facilities Chart</a> <a href="#">Attachment 3: Personal Needs Allowance in Non-Medical Facility Descriptions</a> <a href="#">Attachment 4: Certifying State Agency and Funding Source Definitions</a>
<b>Attachment Available On – Line:</b>	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

**Filing References**

Previous ADMs/INFs	Releases Cancelled	Dept. Regs.	Soc. Serv. Law & Other Legal Ref.	Manual Ref.	Misc. Ref.
06 INF-08 06 ADM-03 06 INF-33 09 INF-14		Section 352.8 (c)(1) Section 900.17 (a)			ABEL Transmittal 11-4 ABEL Transmittal 08-3 GIS Message 10 MA/026

## Section 2

### I. Purpose

This Informational Letter (INF) provides social services districts (SSDs) with updated charts that represent the monthly Personal Needs Allowances (PNA) for Residents of Non-Medical Facilities (Attachment 1) and the PNA in Medical Facilities (Attachment 2). For informational purposes, this release includes two additional attachments “Personal Needs Allowances in Non-Medical Facility-Facility Descriptions” (Attachment 3) and “Certifying State Agency and Funding Source Definitions” (Attachment 4).

### II. Background

When recipients of Temporary Assistance (TA) reside in non-medical facilities or medical facilities, SSDs must provide a monthly PNA for clothing and incidentals. The type of facility the individual resides in determines the amount of the PNA.

Individuals who reside in Congregate Care Level 1, 2 or 3 facilities receive a PNA based on the type of facility. The PNA amounts normally increase every year when the Social Security Administration (SSA) adjusts federal Supplemental Security Income (SSI) benefits to reflect the increase in the cost of living.

### III. Program Implications

#### Temporary Assistance Implications

Increased PNA amounts result in a higher TA standard of need and higher PNAs for TA recipients residing in Congregate Care Level 1, 2, or 3 facilities. Use of the correct shelter type will generate the correct PNA. There is no need to re-budget these cases because of the November 1, 2011 ABEL Transmittal 11-4, “General Instructions to WMS Support for January 2012 Mass Changes,” describes the mass re-budget.

Attached for informational purposes are the PNA charts (Attachments 1 and 2), Facility Definitions (Attachment 3), and Certifying State Agency and Funding Source Definitions (Attachment 4).

#### Medicaid Implications

For Medicaid purposes, the PNA amount is a deduction from income for an individual who is in permanent absence status in a medical facility. **PNAs for Medicaid-only recipients in permanent absence status in medical facilities have not increased.**

Please note that for an “institutionalized spouse” residing in the community, who is enrolled in certain Home and Community Based waivers or who participate in a Program of All-inclusive Care for the Elderly (PACE), the PNA deduction from his/her income is equal to the difference between the Medicaid income level for one-person and two-person households. **Effective January 1, 2012, the PNA is \$367.**

For an SSI related individual, who resides in a Congregate Care Level 1, 2 or 3 facility, the PNA is part of the TA standard of need/SSI benefit level that is used to determine Medicaid eligibility. The TA standard of need/SSI benefit level for recipients residing in Congregate Care Level 1, 2, and 3 facilities will be automatically updated in Phase II of Medicaid mass re-budgeting (See GIS message 10 MA/026) for additional information.

**Issued By**

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**Title: Acting Deputy Commissioner**

**Division/Office: Center for Employment and Economic Supports**