

A Guide to Senior Citizen Information



Compliments of
Your State Senator

Senior Services

Your State Senator



#6007 - 7/10

Dear Friend:

Using revenue from the state Lottery Fund, Pennsylvania offers senior citizens a variety of programs and services to help them save money, stay healthy and maintain mobility.

I hope you will take a few moments to look through this brochure, which outlines some of the assistance available to Pennsylvania seniors, and I encourage you to take advantage of any programs for which you are qualified.

Please feel free to contact my office if you have any questions.

Property Tax/Rent Rebate Program

This program offers qualified state residents refunds of up to \$650 on property taxes or rent.

The program is open to:

- state residents age 65 or older;
- widows and widowers age 50 or older;
- permanently disabled state residents age 18 or older;
- homeowners whose total annual income from all sources – counting only half of their Social Security or railroad pension – is under \$35,000.
- renters whose total annual income from all sources – counting only half of their Social Security or railroad pension – is under \$15,000.

For more information, call
1-888-222-9190 or go to
www.revenue.state.pa.us

PACE and PACENET Prescription Programs

PACE cardholders are able to purchase generic prescription drugs for \$6 and name-brand drugs for \$9 at local drug stores.

The program is open to:

- state residents age 65 and older
- with an annual income under \$14,500 for single persons or \$17,700 for married couples.

PACENET is a prescription-assistance program for people with slightly higher incomes. Cardholders must meet a set monthly premium, after which they pay \$8 for generic medications and \$15 for name-brand prescriptions. If the premium is not met each month, it will accumulate.

The program is open to:

- state residents age 65 and older
- who have an annual income up to \$23,500 for single persons, and \$31,500 for married couples.

For more information on PACE or PACENET, call 1-800-225-PACE or go to www.aging.state.pa.us

Healthy Horizons Medicare Savings Program

Healthy Horizons is a special medical assistance program from the Pennsylvania Department of Public Welfare. This program is designed to ensure adequate health of the elderly and disabled persons with low incomes. It may also allow seniors to keep more income by paying their Medicare premiums.

For more information, call
1-800-692-7462 or contact your local
Area Agency on Aging.

Reduced-Fee Camping at State Parks

State residents age 62 or older are eligible for a \$4.50 reduction in camping fees at all state parks.

www.dcnr.state.pa.us

Hunting and Fishing License Savings

State residents age 65 and older are eligible for reduced rates on hunting and fishing licenses.

- Senior hunting license – \$13.70
- Lifetime hunting license – \$51.70
- Senior fishing license – \$11.70
- Lifetime fishing license – \$51.70

Free fishing licenses are available to Pennsylvania veterans with 100 percent service-connected disabilities.

www.pgc.state.pa.us (hunting)

www.fishandboat.com (fishing)



Reduced Rates for Dental Care

The Senior Dental Care program, offered by the Pennsylvania Dental Association, provides eligible senior citizens with discounts of at least 15 percent on dentist visits.

The program is open to:

- individuals age 65 and older
- who have an annual income under \$14,500 for single persons or \$17,700 for married couples and
- who have no federal, state or private dental health assistance or insurance.

For more information, contact your local Area Agency on Aging or go to www.padental.org

Motor Vehicle Registration Discounts

Retired state residents whose total annual income from all sources does not exceed \$19,200 are eligible to register their motor vehicles with the state for only \$10.

Pennsylvania Department of Transportation form MV-371 must be submitted with each renewal.

For more information, call 1-800-932-4600 or go to www.dot.state.pa.us

Transportation Assistance

State residents age 65 and older qualify for transportation assistance from the state under the Shared-Ride and Free Transit programs.

- Shared-Ride provides senior citizens with reduced-fee, door-to-door transportation.
- The Free Transit program allows senior citizens to ride free on local public transportation (buses, trolleys and rapid-transit lines) during off-peak hours, weekends, and certain holidays. Participants must obtain identification cards, which are available free of charge from participating transportation providers.

Applicants for either program must be prepared to provide proof of age.

Contact your local transit operator, local Area Agency on Aging or call (717) 783-8025.



Pennsylvania Senior Games

State residents age 50 and older can compete in indoor and outdoor sports in this Olympic-style event.



For more information, call (888) 445-4559 (PA only) or (570) 823-3164 or go to www.keystonegames.com

Medical Assistance and Food Stamps

Many services are available to help lower income state residents overcome economic obstacles and meet basic needs.

For more information, contact your local County Assistance Office or go to www.dpw.state.pa.us

Home Heating and Weatherization Programs

These programs provide residents with immediate information about restoring utility services, paying heating bills, fixing residential heating systems, weatherizing homes and locating available shelters in the area.



For more information, contact your local Area Agency on Aging, or call the Stay Warm in PA Program at 1-866-550-4355 or go to www.staywarmpa.com

Legal Counsel for the Elderly

The PA SeniorLaw Helpline is a statewide legal information and advice telephone helpline for Pennsylvania seniors age 60 years of age and older. The PA SeniorLaw Helpline is open 5 days a week Monday through Friday from 10:00 a.m. until 4:00 p.m. The PA SeniorLaw Helpline is a free, confidential telephone legal service staffed by attorneys who are available to give you legal information and advice.

You may contact the PA SeniorLaw Helpline at 1-877-727-7529 or go to www.seniorlawcenter.org

State Income Tax Exemption

Retired state residents are not required to pay state income taxes on Social Security payments, railroad retirement, any pension benefits (including veterans' benefits), or Supplemental Security Income.

Discounts on State Museums and Historical Sites

State residents age 60 or older may be eligible for reduced admission prices at properties and museums operated by the Pennsylvania State Historical and Museum Commission.

For more information, go to www.phmc.state.pa.us

Disclaimer:

It is important to note that this information may have changed since this piece was printed.