

# Raia Supports SeniorNet Program

Assemblyman Andrew Raia is encouraging Senior Citizens to take advantage of the SeniorNet program at the Family Service League in Huntington.

SeniorNet is an international, volunteer training organization, founded in 1986, that provides seniors with classes on computer technology. The organization offers a broad spectrum of classes from beginner to advanced and everything in between.

“Computer technology has become part of daily life. We use it to stay in touch with family and friends that live far away and to get up-to-date information on the local and national news. SeniorNet provides our senior community affordable classes that can help them learn the essentials on the computer.”

To learn more about SeniorNet you can visit their website at [www.seniornetli.org](http://www.seniornetli.org), call 631-427-3700 ext.268 or ext. 235.



A Guide to  
New York State  
Senior Citizen  
Programs  
from  
Assemblyman

## Andrew Raia

Dear Neighbor,

This pamphlet is designed to acquaint you with some of the special programs and services available to senior citizens in New York State.

Since this is intended as a general introduction to a wide range of programs, you may find you have special questions not answered here. In that case, you should contact the federal, state, or local agency administering the program.

Keep in mind, these programs have been designed to help meet your needs, so if you're not sure which agency to turn to, encounter any problems in your search for assistance or would like additional copies of this pamphlet, please do not hesitate to call me.

Sincerely,

*Andrew P. Raia*  
Andrew Raia

## District Info:

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## Social Security Retirement Benefits

### Benefits

Monthly cash benefits based on years of employment and amount withheld from earnings.

### Eligibility

Full Retirement Age (FRA): 66 for people born between 1943 and 1954.

### Income Limits

- Earning limit for individuals under 66 - \$14,460
- Individuals 66+ - no limit
- For individuals under age 66 for all of 2012, \$1 in benefits is withheld for every \$2 earned over the earning limit.
- An individual who attains age 66 in 2012 can earn up to \$38,880 with no loss of benefits.
- An individual turning age 66 during 2012 will have \$1 deducted from their benefits for each \$3 they earn above \$38,880, until the month they reach age 66.

### Resource Limits

None

### Government Agency

Social Security Administration:

1(800) 772-1213

[www.socialsecurity.gov](http://www.socialsecurity.gov)

## Medicare Part D - Prescription Drug Coverage

### Benefits

Covers both brand-name and generic prescription drugs at participating pharmacies in your area. Medicare prescription drug coverage provides protection for people who have very high drug costs.

### Eligibility

Everyone on Medicare is eligible for this coverage regardless of income and resources, health status or current prescription expenses.

**Note:** The annual open enrollment period starts on October 15 and ends on December 7. If you don't sign up for a plan during this period, you may have to pay a penalty. If you are new to Medicare, you may join a Medicare prescription drug plan from three months before you turn 65 to three months after you turn 65. Generally, if you are disabled, you may join three months before and three months after your 25th month of disability.

### Income Limits

None

### Resource Limits

None

### Government Agency

US Department of Health and Human Services

Call 1-800-MEDICARE to enroll or help you choose a plan.

For information on Parts A and B you can call the

Social Security Administration 1-800-772-1213

## Elderly Pharmaceutical Insurance Coverage (EPIC)

### Benefits

For seniors in the Medicare Part D coverage gap.

### Eligibility

NYS residents 65 or older; must meet income guidelines. Not eligible if receiving full Medicaid benefits.

### Income Limits

Fee Plan: Single: \$35,000 or less

Married: joint income: \$50,000 or less

### Resource Limits

None

### Government Agency

EPIC Helpline

1(800) 332-3742

## Important Phone Numbers

NYS Office of Aging ..... (800) 342-9871

NYS EPIC Hotline..... (800) 332-3742

NYS Veterans Affairs ..... (518) 626-5680

Suffolk County Office of Aging ..... (631) 853-8200

NYS Dept. of Motor Vehicles ..... (718) 477-4820

NYS AARP ..... (866) 227-7442

NYS SSI/Medicare ..... (800) 772-1213

NYS Voter Information ..... (800) 367-8683

NYS Senior Citizens Hotline..... (800) 342-9871

## Medicaid Full Coverage

### Benefits

Comprehensive health care benefits, including coverage for hospital, physician, skilled nursing facility, health related facility, home care.

### Eligibility

Persons 65+, blind, disabled children under 21 or the caretaker relative of a dependent child who is experiencing deprivation of parental support.

### Accountable Income Limits

Individuals: \$792/month

Couples: \$1,159/month

When one spouse is institutionalized and receiving Medicaid, the other spouse, while not receiving Medicaid, may retain \$2,739 in monthly income and \$109,560 maximum in assets.

### Resource Limits

Individuals: \$14,250. Couples: \$20,850. Exempt: primary residence, car, certain additions for burial.

### Government Agency

Medical Assistance Program

[www.health.state.ny.us/](http://www.health.state.ny.us/)

(631) 854-9700 (Ronkonkoma)

(631) 852-3710 (Riverhead)

(631) 853-8730 (Hauppauge)

## School Tax Relief (STAR) Exemption

### Benefits

Partial exemption from school property taxes for owner-occupied primary residences.

### Eligibility

**Enhanced:** For 2012, seniors 65 years of age or older who own and live in a one-, two- or three-family home, condominium or cooperative apartment, whose income is less than \$79,050

### Income Limits

See eligibility.

### Resource Limits

None.

### Government Agency

New York State Office of Real Property Taxation

[www.orps.state.ny.us](http://www.orps.state.ny.us)

Nassau County Dept. of Assessment

(516) 571-1500 or (516) 571-2490



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for Seniors  
from  
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