

New England and New York

State	PNA Amount	Last increase	How increased	Annual adjustment	Notes
Vermont	\$47.66	2001	By legislators	No.	
New Hampshire	\$70.00	2015	By Commissioner to reflect social security increases ⁱ	No. Every 5 years.	
Maine	\$40.00	Last increase received “many years ago.”	By legislators	No.	
Massachusetts	\$72.80	28 years (“this is embarrassing to say”)	By legislators	No. Is being proposed at this time.	Proposed bill to increase PNA to \$100 and require an annual increase ⁱⁱ
Connecticut	\$60	“Temporary” decrease in 2011 from \$69 to \$60	By legislators	No. Is being proposed at this time.	Proposed bill to increase PNA to \$72 and to have the COLA reinstated ⁱⁱⁱ
Rhode Island	\$50.00	Received an increase “about 15 years ago.”	By legislators	No.	
New York	\$50.00	“It has been since the early 1980’s.”	By legislators	No	Interest in seeking a \$25 increase.

Other states of note

State	PNA Amount	Last increase	How increased	Annual adjustment	Notes
Minnesota	\$102	2019	Statute	Yes.	See statutory language below ^{iv}
Washington	\$70	2019 - (from \$58.43 established in 2008)	Statute and legislators	Yes, starting in 2020 with annual appropriation	See statutory language below ^v
Arizona	\$115.65	2019 (from \$112.25 in 2018)	Statute	Yes.	Residents of a nursing facility have a personal needs allowance of 15 per cent of the SSI federal benefit rate (which changes each January) ^{vi}
Florida	\$130	2019 (from \$105 established in 2014)	By legislators	No.	Amount stated in Medicaid ESS policy manual section 2640.0118. ^{vii}
Alaska	\$200			Not certain	

How does Vermont’s PNA compare with other states? Using data from 2018, Vermont ranks lower than 33 other states, plus the District of Columbia. Alaska and Florida offer the highest PNA stipends at \$200 and \$130, respectively; one can argue that both states benefit from local spending of those PNA dollars. If the Vermont legislature approves the proposed \$25.00 increase, Vermont’s PNA (\$72.66) will be most like New Hampshire (\$70), Washington State (\$70), and Massachusetts (\$72.80).

ⁱ **New Hampshire**

Chapter 167:27-a Personal Needs Allowance of Residents of Nursing Homes. –

I. The commissioner of health and human services shall permit each medical assistance recipient approved for nursing home payments to retain from the recipient's monthly income a certain amount a month for personal needs. Such amount shall be established by the commissioner pursuant to RSA 541-A and in accordance with federal regulations, but in no event shall the amount be less than \$56. If the net monthly income of such a recipient is less than the amount established by the commissioner, the commissioner shall provide sufficient old age assistance, aid to the permanently and totally disabled, or aid to the needy blind to allow the recipient an amount equal to the monthly amount established as allowance for the recipient's personal needs.

II. Every 5 years, the commissioner shall make the adjustment for cost of living increases in the personal needs allowance to reflect social security increases.

See: <https://www.gencourt.state.nh.us/rsa/html/xii/167/167-27-a.htm> [Sean, can you make this hyper link?]

ⁱⁱ **Massachusetts proposed legislation:** <https://malegislature.gov/Bills/191/SD1390>

SECTION 3. Section 15 of chapter 118E of the General Laws is hereby amended by striking the fourth paragraph and inserting in place thereof the following paragraph:-

A person eligible for medical assistance under this chapter who is not maintaining his own home and is receiving care in a licensed nursing facility, a licensed chronic hospital, a licensed rest home, an approved public medical institution, or a public psychiatric institution shall retain the first \$100.00 of his monthly income for clothing, personal needs, and leisure time activities. If there is no such income or if it is less than the amount of \$100.00, such a person shall be paid monthly in advance the difference between such income and said amount. Said amount shall be increased annually each fiscal year at the same time and at the same percentage rate as increases payable to an individual who is maintaining his own home and who is receiving supplemental payments pursuant to sections 1 and 2 of chapter 118A.

ⁱⁱⁱ **Connecticut proposal**

“. . . the commissioner shall increase such allowance annually by the same amount as the Social Security cost-of-living adjustments, if any such adjustments are made.”

^{iv} **Minnesota**

256B.35 PERSONAL NEEDS ALLOWANCE; PERSONS IN CERTAIN FACILITIES.

Subdivision 1. Personal needs allowance. (a) Notwithstanding any law to the contrary, welfare allowances for clothing and personal needs for individuals receiving medical assistance while residing in any skilled nursing home, intermediate care facility, or medical institution including recipients of Supplemental Security Income, in this state shall not be less than \$45 per month from all sources. When benefit amounts for Social Security or Supplemental Security Income recipients are increased pursuant to United States Code, title 42, sections 415(i) and 1382f, the commissioner shall, effective in the month in which the increase takes effect, increase by the same percentage to the nearest whole dollar the clothing and personal needs allowance for individuals receiving medical assistance while residing in any skilled nursing home, medical institution, or intermediate care facility. The commissioner shall provide timely notice to local agencies, providers, and recipients of increases under this provision.

v Washington

(1) Except as provided in RCW 872.36.160, beginning January 1, 2019, the personal needs allowance for clients being served in medical institutions and in residential settings is seventy dollars.

(2) Beginning January 1, 2020, and each ((fiscal)) year thereafter, subject to the availability of amounts appropriated for this specific purpose, the personal needs allowance shall be adjusted for economic trends and conditions by increasing the allowance by the percentage cost-of-living adjustment for old-age, survivors, and disability social security benefits as published by the federal social security administration. However, in no case shall the personal needs allowance exceed the maximum personal needs allowance permissible under the federal social security act.

See: <https://app.leg.wa.gov/billsummary?BillNumber=2651&Year=2018>

vi Arizona

AHCCCS Rule R9-28- 408(E)(5)(a) -

5. The following expenses are deducted from the share-of cost of an eligible person to calculate the person's share of cost: a. A personal-needs allowance (PNA) equal to 300 percent of the FBR for a person who receives or intends to receive HCBS or who resides in a medical institution for less than the full calendar month. . .

https://apps.azsos.gov/public_services/Title_09/9-28.pdf

https://www.azahcccs.gov/PlansProviders/Downloads/FFSPProviderManual/FFS_Chap21ALTCS.pdf (see page 12).

See also for 2019 <https://www.frgalaw.com/practice/long-term-care-altcs>

vii Florida

See Medicaid Policy Manual at section 2640.0118.

<https://www.dcf.state.fl.us/programs/access/docs/esspolicymanual/2600.pdf>

For the Statewide Medicaid Managed Long-Term Care (SMMC LTC) program and the Program for All-Inclusive Care for the Elderly (PACE), the personal needs allowance is as follows:

1. For an individual residing in the community (not an ALF), the PNA is 300% of the Federal Benefit Rate.
2. For an individual residing in an ALF, the PNA is computed using the ALF basic monthly rate (three meals per day and a semi-private room), plus 20% of the Federal Poverty Level. The ALF basic monthly rate will vary depending on the facility's actual room and board charges.
3. For an individual residing in a nursing home, the PNA is \$130.