



DOUG SMITH
NYS Assemblyman

2020 SENIOR BULLETIN

Local, State, and Federal Resources Inside

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New York State Assembly
Albany, NY 12248

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What is EPIC?

The Elderly Pharmaceutical Insurance Coverage (EPIC) program is a New York State program for seniors administered by the Department of Health.

Last year's budget included \$13.3 million to help seniors afford their medications.

To join EPIC, a senior must:

- ➔ **Be a New York State resident;**
- ➔ **Have an annual income below \$75,000 if single or \$100,000 if married;**
- ➔ **Be enrolled or eligible to enroll in Medicare Part D (no exceptions); and**
- ➔ **Not be receiving full Medicaid benefits.**

For more information regarding the EPIC program, call 1-800-332-3742 (TTY: 1-800-290-9138).

DOUG SMITH NYS Assemblyman

If you have questions on this or any other state issue, contact Assemblyman Smith at: 991 Main Street, Suite 202 Holbrook, NY 11741, 631-585-0230 or smithd@nyassembly.gov

SUFFOLK COUNTY

NY CONNECTS: Your link to Long-Term Services and Supports1-800-342-9871

U.S. GOVERNMENT AGENCIES

Office for the Aging (Riverhead)631-852-1420
 Information on Home Delivered Meals631-853-8227
 Health Services631-854-0000
 Senior Transportation (Smithtown)631-265-8811/8826
 Senior Transportation (Southold)631-298-4460

Federal Information Center (for all locations)1-800-333-4636
 Health Care Fraud Hotline (Inspector General)1-202-418-3300
 Internal Revenue Service - Information Line1-800-829-1040
 Lawyers' Fund for Client Protection1-518-434-1935
 Medicare Hotline1-800-633-4227
 Social Security Administration Hotline1-800-772-1213
 TTY1-800-325-0778
 Department of Veterans' Affairs1-800-827-1000

TOLL-FREE HELPLINES & OTHER IMPORTANT NUMBERS

AARP1-202-434-2277
 AMAC (Association of Mature American Citizens)1-888-262-2006
 Alliance for Aging Research1-202-293-2856

NEW YORK STATE OF HEALTH

The Official Health Plan Marketplace.....1-855-355-5777

Alzheimer's Association1-800-272-3900
 Leading Age1-202-783-2242
 American Cancer Society Response Hotline1-800-227-2345
 American Diabetes Association1-800-342-2383
 American Diabetes Assoc. Professional Membership and Subscription Line1-800-232-3472
 American Heart and Stroke Association1-800-242-8721
 American Lung Association1-800-586-4872
 Arthritis Foundation Information Line1-800-283-7800

National Cancer Institute1-800-422-6237
 National Consumer Voice for Quality Long-Term Care1-202-332-2275
 National Committee to Preserve Social Security / Medicare1-800-966-1935
 National Hospice Organization1-800-658-8898
 National Institute on Aging1-800-222-2225
 Parkinson's Disease Foundation1-800-457-6676
 NYS Division of Veterans' Affairs1-888-VETS-NYS
 1-888-(838-7697)

IMPORTANT LOCAL CONTACTS

SUFFOLK COUNTY OFFICE FOR THE AGING (RIVERHEAD)
 Riverhead County Center • County Road 51 • Riverhead, NY 11901

Golden Park Program

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If you are a New York State resident 62 or older, on any weekday (except holidays), you can obtain:

- ➔ **Free vehicle access to state parks, boat launch sites, and arboretums (except at Walkway Over the Hudson State Historic Park, Irondequoit Bay State Marine, and Earl W. Brydges Artpark State Park); and**
- ➔ **Fee reduction to state historic sites and state-operated golf courses.**

Simply present your currently valid New York State Driver License or New York State Non-Driver Identification Card.*

For locations with pay stations, please contact the facility directly for information. For information about facilities where this program is valid, contact the nearest state park or state park regional office.

Long Island Regional Office 631-669-1000

New York State Parks
Albany, NY 12238
518-474-0456

TTY/TDD through 711 Relay Service

**A New York State Driver License or a New York State Non-Driver Identification Card may be obtained from your local Motor Vehicle office. You may want to contact them first to be certain you bring the required forms of identification.*



What is RSVP?

The Retired and Senior Volunteer Program (RSVP) has nearly 3,000 volunteers 55+ at hundreds of nonprofit agencies throughout New York.

- ✪ It provides life-changing opportunities for volunteers aged 55 and over.
- ✪ It helps meet the critical needs of communities by mobilizing tens of thousands of hours of volunteer service.
- ✪ It strengthens public and nonprofit agencies by matching skilled volunteers with vital programs and services.

For more information regarding the RSVP program, email info@cssny.org or call 212-254-8900.

What is NY Connects?

NY Connects helps anyone who needs information on long-term services and supports children with disabilities, older adults, family members and caregivers, friends or neighbors, veterans, and helping professionals.

NY Connects can help you ...

- ➔ Find care and support
- ➔ Remain independent
- ➔ Understand care options
- ➔ Find transportation
- ➔ Learn about supports in caregiving
- ➔ Find supported employment programs
- ➔ Get answers about Medicare
- ➔ Apply for medical and other benefits

For more information regarding NY Connects, visit www.nyconnects.ny.gov or call 1-800-342-9871.

Last year, I was proud to vote to extend the expiration of the Long-Term Care Ombudsman Program, which provides **FREE** advocacy and resources for people who reside in long-term care facilities such as nursing homes, assisted living, and adult care facilities. Ombudsmen advocate for and resolve problems for all individuals living in long-term care communities by protecting rights, honoring dignity, and ensuring respect. Trained NYS certified volunteers regularly visit nursing homes and assisted living facilities so that residents may have the highest quality of life and care.

If you or someone you know in long-term care needs an advocate, or you are looking to make a difference, become an Ombudsman volunteer today.

Please call the Ombudsman Program of Suffolk County for more information: 631-470-6755



**Office of the State
Long Term Care
Ombudsman**

