

# WEEKLY ROUNDUP

NY STATEWIDE SENIOR ACTION COUNCIL

800.333.4374 [www.nysenior.org](http://www.nysenior.org)



## POSSIBLE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT SHUTDOWN STARTING SUNDAY

The federal fiscal year ends September 30, and if there is no authorization for continued spending (often known as a CR or continuing resolution) or passage of a new budget (highly unlikely in such a few days) there will be a government shutdown.

What will that mean? **Expect a slowdown in some essential federal government services or programs running out of money (such as some meals on wheels, heating benefits or food stamp benefits.)**

**Existing Social Security payments will still go out—but it will be harder to apply for new benefits.**

- About 10,000 Americans retire every single day; many of them will face delays in processing their Social Security applications until there is an agreement to keep services going in order to get their earned benefits.
- Employees at the Social Security Administration who make sure that benefits go out in full and on time will have to work without pay for the duration of the shutdown, possibly causing the already understaffed agency to lose staff, making it far more difficult for Americans to claim their earned benefits.

Government services that are not deemed "essential" will be closed.

## 2024 STATEWIDE LEGISLATIVE ACTION TEAM IS OPEN FOR REGISTRATION

Become part of our 2024 legislative leadership team, with trainings every third Thursday of the month from January - June. Meetings held via Zoom from 3-5PM. First session to be held January 18. *(Participants must be members in good standing and attend all 6 sessions.)*

- View [FLYER](#) for more information
- [REGISTER](#)

## WEBINAR RECORDINGS

**StateWide's Patient Advocates Webinar Teach in**

**Topic:** The Prior Approval Process for Needed Medications and How to Appeal

**Speakers:** Shahad Alahmoud, Pharmacy Resident; Andrea Rivera and Artem Belyakov Pharmacy Interns, Albany College of Pharmacy and Health Services

**RECORDING; PRESENTATION**

# FREE COVID-19 TESTS

ARE NOW AVAILABLE FOR ORDER FROM THE US GOVERNMENT

Starting Monday, September 25th, people can order four tests per US household through [Covidtests.gov](https://covidtests.gov).

People without an internet connection can call 1-800-232-0233 to request tests.



## BEWARE OF IMPOSTER SCAMS

Scammers love to pretend to be someone they're not to trick people into giving them information.

Protect your identity, and Medicare by never giving out your information over the phone or email to someone you do not know.



**IF YOU SUSPECT FRAUD, CALL THE NYS SENIOR MEDICARE PATROL HELPLINE AT 800-333-4374**

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## OUR MEMBERS ARE PART OF OUR STRENGTH

By joining StateWide, you can have an impact on state and federal issues of importance to older New Yorkers. You can also help spur your peers to become more knowledgeable about issues including Medicare, Medicare Fraud, Social Security, prescription drugs, long-term care, patient's rights and NYS budget issues. Please fill out the [Membership Form](#) and join StateWide today! If you have any questions, call our Helpline at 800-333-4374.

**STATE WIDE**

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