

PERSONAL EMERGENCY RESPONSE SYSTEM (PERS)

PERS is an electronic device which enables participants to secure help in an emergency. The participant may also wear a portable PERS button to allow for mobility. The system is connected to the participant's telephone and programmed to signal a response center once a PERS button is activated.

The provision of PERS includes:

1. Instruction to the participant about how to use the PERS device;
2. Obtaining the participant's or authorized representative's signature verifying receipt of the PERS unit;
3. Ensuring that response to device signals (where appropriate to the device) will be provided 24 hours per day, 7 days per week;
4. Furnishing a replacement PERS unit when needed to the participant within 24 hours of notification of malfunction of the original unit while it is being repaired;
5. Updating a list of responder and contact names at a minimum semi-annually to ensure accurate and correct information;
6. Ensuring monthly testing of the PERS unit; and
7. Furnishing ongoing assistance when needed to evaluate and adjust the PERS device or to instruct the participant in the use of PERS devices, as well as to provide for system performance checks.

Scope and Limitation

- PERS are available for any participant ages 18 and older.
- PERS is limited to participants who live alone or who are alone for significant parts of the day and have no regular unpaid caregiver or provider for extended periods of time.
- PERS is not to be used at the convenience of staff and must be documented in the service plan.
- The amount of prior authorized services is based on the participant's need as documented in the service plan, and within the participant's approved annual budget.
- PERS is reimbursed as a monthly rental fee or as a one-time installation fee.