

MAKING ALS LIVABLE IN New York



The mission of The ALS Association is to make ALS a livable disease until we can cure it, and state public policy has a critical role to play. This report card offers a snapshot of where your state stands in that ongoing effort. [Updated December 2024](#)

POLICY AREA

DESCRIPTION

GRADE

Appropriations for ALS Care Services

Enacted budget includes new or continuing state appropriations dedicated to adequately supporting ALS care service programs and ALS clinics

A

Medigap Access & Affordability

Enacted legislation or regulatory policy ensuring access to affordable Medigap supplemental insurance plans for individuals under 65 living with ALS

A

Reforming Prior Authorization

Enacted legislation or regulatory policy that reduces delays, streamlines appeals, and increases transparency within the prior authorization process

A

Step Therapy

Enacted legislation or regulatory policy that eliminates step-therapy or fail-first requirements for people living with ALS

A

Copay Accumulators

Enacted legislation or regulatory policy that eliminates the use of copay accumulator adjustment programs

A

Extra Credit: N/A



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ALS State Policy Priorities

Our mission is to make ALS livable until we can cure it. Here's how state public policy can help:

Appropriations for ALS Care Services: The ALS Association provides families living with ALS with always-free care services that aren't typically covered by insurance, up to the limit of our donor-funded budget. By partnering with the state via a dedicated appropriation, we can help more individuals living with ALS remain at home under family-based care, and avoid Medicaid enrollment.

Medigap Access and Affordability: Individuals living with ALS under the age of 65 should have the same access to affordable Medigap plans as those living with ALS over the age of 65. Medigap access and affordability laws passed in 17 states are working well for consumers and the insurance industry.

Reforming Prior Authorization: Burdensome prior authorization requirement can delay and effectively deny care for people living with ALS. Legislation focused on reducing delays, streamlining appeals, and increasing transparency would help.

Eliminating Step Therapy: Insurance policies requiring people living with ALS to waste their limited time and money by taking cheaper, less-effective drugs before they can be given their doctor-prescribed medicines does not work. Legislation banning those requirements would help.

Copay Accumulators: Copays should always count towards the deductible for people living with ALS. Legislation banning the use of copay accumulator adjustment programs would ensure that they do.