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                                     [REVISOR ] KTH/JV AR1632
 1
    Department of Human Services
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 3
    Adopted Permanent Rules Relating to Aid to Families with
    Dependent Children
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 5
    Rules as Adopted
 6
    9500.2060 DEFINITIONS.
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                    [For text of subps 1 to 34, see M.R.]
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         Subp. 35. County of financial responsibility. "County of
    financial responsibility" means the county liable for the county
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    share of a recipient's assistance under Minnesota Statutes,
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    chapter 256G.
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                   [For text of subps 36 to 38, see M.R.]
         Subp. 39. Dependent child. "Dependent child" means a
14
    child who is living in the home of a parent or other caretaker,
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    who is deprived of the support or care of a parent as specified
17
    in parts 9500.2180 to 9500.2300, who is in financial need
    according to part 9500.2480, and who meets one of the conditions
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    in items A and B:
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20
                  is less than 18 years of age; or
              Α.
                  is 18 years of age and is a full-time student, as
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              Β.
22
    defined in subpart 58, at an accredited high school or its
    equivalent in vocational or technical training, and is expected
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24
    to graduate or complete the school program before reaching age
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    19.
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                   [For text of subps 40 to 57, see M.R.]
         Subp. 58. Full-time student. "Full-time student" means a
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    person who is enrolled in and-attending a graded or ungraded
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    primary, intermediate, secondary, GED preparatory, trade,
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    technical, vocational, or postsecondary school, and who meets
    the school's standard for full-time attendance.
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                   [For text of subps 59 to 89, see M.R.]
         Subp. 90. Minor caretaker. "Minor caretaker" means
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              Α.
                  a person under the age of 18 years; and
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                  who has applied as a caretaker on behalf of
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himself or herself and his or her dependent child. 1 2 [For text of subps 91 to 112, see M.R.] Subp. 113. Recipient. "Recipient" means a person who is 3 currently receiving assistance. A person who fails to withdraw 4 5 or access electronically any portion of his or her assistance payment by the end of the payment month transfer or who returns 6 7 an uncashed assistance check and withdraws from the program is not a recipient. A person who withdraws an assistance payment 8 9 by electronic transfer or receives and cashes an assistance 10 check and is subsequently determined to be ineligible for 11 assistance for that period of time is a recipient, regardless of 12 whether that assistance is repaid. The term "recipient" 13 includes the caretaker relative and the dependent child whose 14 needs are included in the assistance payment. A person in an assistance unit who does not receive an assistance payment 15 16 because he or she has been suspended from AFDC or because his or her need falls below the \$10 minimum payment level is a 17 18 recipient. 19 [For text of subps 114 to 117, see M.R.] 20 Subp. 118. [See Repealer.] [For text of subps 119 to 154, see M.R.] 21 22 9500.2100 APPLICATION FOR ASSISTANCE. 23 [For text of subps 1 to 3, see M.R.] 24 Subp. 4. Assessment of and issuance for initial needs. 25 When a person inquires about assistance, a local agency shall ask the person if immediate or emergency needs exist. When a 26 27 person has emergency needs, the local agency shall determine that person's eligibility for emergency assistance unless the 28 29 person's needs can be met through other sources or by promptly processing an application for monthly assistance. 30 31 When an emergency does not exist, a local agency may issue 32 assistance before it completes the verification of eligibility. However, when an applicant is later found ineligible for that 33 34 assistance, the local agency may not claim federal or state AFDC

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financial participation in the cost of the assistance issued.

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When federal and state AFDC financial participation is not
 available, the local agency may request general assistance state
 financial participation retroactive to the date of application
 for AFDC according to general assistance payment standards if
 the applicant was eligible for that program.

[For text of subp 5, see M.R.]

7 Subp. 6. Processing application. Upon receiving an application, a local agency shall determine the applicant's 8 9 program eligibility, approve or deny the application, inform the 10 applicant of its decision according to part 9500.2740, subpart 11 5, and issue assistance when the applicant is eligible. When a 12 local agency is unable to process an application within 30 days, 13 the local agency shall inform the applicant of the reason in 14 writing. When an applicant establishes the inability to provide required verification within the 30-day processing period, the 15 16 local agency may not use the expiration of that period as the basis for denial. 17

18 [For text of subps 7 and 8, see M.R.] Subp. 9. Additional applications. Until a local agency 19 20 issues notice of approval or denial, additional applications submitted by an applicant are void. However, an application for 21 22 monthly assistance and an application for emergency assistance may exist concurrently. More than one application for monthly 23 24 assistance or emergency assistance may exist concurrently when the local agency decisions on one or more earlier applications 25 26 have been appealed to the commissioner and the applicant asserts that a change in circumstances has occurred that would allow 27 28 program eligibility.

29 A local agency shall require additional application forms or supplemental forms as prescribed by the commissioner when a 30 payee changes his or her name, when the basis for program 31 eligibility changes, when a caretaker requests the addition of 32 another person to the assistance unit, or when a person required 33 to be in the filing unit must be added to the assistance unit. 34 35 An addendum to an existing application may be used to add persons to an assistance unit regardless of whether the persons 36

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1 being added are required to be in the filing unit. When a person is added by addendum to an assistance unit and that 2 3 person is required to be in a filing unit, eligibility begins on the date the new member enters the home or the date the new 4 member is required to be included in the assistance unit, 5 whichever is later. When a person is added by addendum to an 6 assistance unit and the person is not required to be included in 7 8 the filing unit, eligibility begins on the date the signed 9 addendum is submitted to the local agency or all eligibility 10 criteria are met, whichever is later.

11 9500.2140 BASIC ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS.

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[For text of subpart 1, see M.R.]

13 Subp. 2. Minnesota residence. Minnesota residence is an 14 eligibility requirement for AFDC. A person who enters Minnesota 15 from another state and receives assistance from that state must 16 not be considered a Minnesota resident until the last month in 17 which that state issues an assistance payment. Minnesota 18 residence is established according to the provisions in items A 19 to E.

A. A person who lives in Minnesota and who entered Minnesota with a job commitment or to seek employment in Minnesota, whether or not that person is currently employed, is considered a resident of Minnesota. Neither a length of prior residence nor an intent to remain in Minnesota is required.

B. A person who voluntarily enters Minnesota for a reason other than seeking employment, and who intends to remain in Minnesota, is a resident of Minnesota. No length of prior residence is required.

[For text of items C to E, see M.R.]
[For text of subps 3 and 4, see M.R.]
Subp. 5. Physical presence. To be eligible for AFDC, a
dependent child and a caretaker must live together except as
provided in items A to C.
[For text of items A and B, see M.R.]

C. The absence of a caretaker or child does not

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1 affect eligibility for the month of departure when he or she 2 received assistance for that month and lived together immediately prior to the absence. Eligibility also exists in 3 4 the following month when the absence ends on or before the tenth day of that month. A temporary absence of a caretaker or a 5 6 child which continues beyond the month of departure must not affect eligibility when the home is maintained for the return of 7 8 the absent family member, the caretaker continues to maintain 9 responsibility for the support and care of the dependent child, 10 and when one of subitems (1) to (7) apply:

(1) when a recipient caretaker or recipient child is absent due to illness or hospitalization, and the absence is expected to last no more than six months beyond the month of departure;

(2) when a recipient child is out of the home due to placement in foster care as defined in Minnesota Statutes, section 260.015, subdivision 7, when the placement will not be paid through Title IV-E funds, and when the absence is expected to last no more than six months beyond the month of departure;

(3) when a recipient child is out of the home for a vacation, the vacation is not with an absent parent, and the absence is expected to last no more than two months beyond the month of departure;

(4) when a recipient child is out of the home due
to a visit or vacation with an absent parent under part
9500.2260, the home of the child remains with the caretaker
under part 9500.2260, subpart 3, the absence meets the
conditions of part 9500.2260, subpart 4, item C, and the absence
is expected to last no more than two months beyond the month of
departure;

(5) when a recipient caretaker is out-of the home due to a death or illness of a relative, incarceration, training, or employment search and suitable arrangements have been made for the care of the child, or when a recipient child is out of the home due to incarceration, and the absence is expected to last no more than two months beyond the month of

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1 departure; (6) when a recipient caretaker and a recipient 2 3 child are both absent from Minnesota due to a situation 4 described in subitem (5) or vacation, and the absence is expected to last no more than one month beyond the month of the 5 departure; or 6 7 (7) when a recipient child has run away from home or-when-a-recipient-child-has-been-taken-from-home-without-the 8 9 consent-of-the-recipient-caretaker-or-a-court-order-and-the 10 caretaker-has-initiated-legal-action-for-the-return-of-the 11 ehild, and another person has not made application for that 12 child, assistance must continue for no more than two months 13 following the month of departure7-provided-another-person-has 14 not-made-application-for-the-recipient-child. 15 [For text of subp 6, see M.R.] 9500.2340 PROPERTY LIMITATIONS. 16 17 [For text of subpart 1, see M.R.] 18 Subp. 2. Real property limitations. Ownership of real property by an applicant or recipient is subject to the 19 20 limitations in items A and B. 21 A. A local agency shall exclude the homestead of an applicant or recipient, according to the provisions in subitems 22 23 (1) to (3). 24 (1) An applicant or recipient who is purchasing real property through a contract for deed and using that 25 26 property as a home is considered the owner of real property. 27 (2) The total amount of land that can be excluded 28 under this subpart is limited to surrounding property which is 29 not separated from the home by intervening property owned by 30 others. Additional property must be assessed as to its legal and actual availability according to subpart 1. 31 32 (3) When real property that has been used as a 33 home by a recipient is sold, the local agency shall treat the cash proceeds from that sale as excluded property for a period 34 35 of six months when the recipient intends to reinvest them in

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06/18/90 [REVISOR] KTH/JV AR1632 1 another home and maintains those proceeds, unused for other 2 purposes, in a separate account. 3 [For text of item B, see M.R.] 4 Subp. 3. Other property limitations. The equity value of all nonexcluded real and personal property must not exceed 5 \$1,000. To determine whether the value of an item of real or 6 personal property is to be counted, a local agency shall exclude 7 the value of real and personal property listed in items A to P: 8 9 [For text of item A, see M.R.] 10 B. The value of personal property needed to produce 11 earned income, including tools, implements, farm animals, and inventory, business checking and savings accounts used 12 13 exclusively for the operation of a self-employment business, and 14 any motor vehicles if the vehicles are essential for the 15 self-employment business. 16 [For text of items C to G, see M.R.] 17 H. Money held in escrow under part 9500.2380, subpart 7, item B, by a self-employed person, when the money is used for 18 19 those purposes at least annually. 20 [For text of item I, see M.R.] 21 J. Income received in a budget month through the end 22 of the budget month. 23 [For text of items K to P, see M.R.] 24 Lump sums that create a period of ineligibility Q. 25 are excluded from the date of receipt through the period of 26 ineligibility. Lump sums that do not create a period of ineligibility are excluded only through the budget month. 27 9500.2380 INCOME. 28 29 [For text of subpart 1, see M.R.] 30 Subp. 2. Excluded income. A local agency shall exclude items A to DD from income: 31 32 [For text of items A to E, see M.R.] 33 F. all educational grants and loans, including income 34 from work study programs; 35 G. loans, regardless of purpose, from public or

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private lending institutions, governmental lending institutions, 1 2 or governmental agencies; 3 H. loans from private individuals, regardless of 4 purpose, provided an applicant or recipient documents that the lender expects repayment; 5 I. state and federal income tax refunds except-for 6 7 including the earned income tax credit; 8 J. funds received for reimbursement, replacement, or

9 rebate of personal or real property when these payments are made 10 from public agencies, issued-by-insurance-companies, awarded by 11 a court, solicited through public appeal, or made as a grant by 12 a federal agency subsequent to a presidential declaration of. 13 disaster;

14 K. the portion of an insurance settlement that is 15 designated and used to pay medical, funeral, and burial 16 expenses, or to repair or replace insured property;

L. reimbursements for medical expenses which cannot
be paid by medical assistance;

M. payments by the vocational rehabilitation program administered by the state under Minnesota Statutes, chapter 21 129A, except those payments that are for current living 22 expenses;

N. in-kind income, including any payments directly made by a third party to a provider of goods and services; O. assistance payments to correct underpayments, but only for the month in which the payment is received and for the following month;

P. payments to an applicant or recipient issued underpart 9500.2820;

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Q. payments issued under part 9500.2800;

R. Minnesota property tax refund credits received by
an applicant or recipient who does not receive AFDC housing
allowances under part 9500.2800, subpart 2;

34 S. nonrecurring cash gifts of \$30 or less, such as 35 those received for holidays, birthdays, and graduations, the 36 total amount excluded not to exceed \$30 per recipient in a

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1 calendar quarter;

2 T. tribal settlements excluded under Code of Federal Regulations, title 45, section 233.20(a)(4)(ii)(e), (k), and 3 4 (m); 5 U. any form of energy assistance payment made by LIHEAP, payments made directly to energy providers by other 6 7 public and private agencies, benefits issued by energy providers 8 when the Minnesota Department of Jobs and Training determines that those payments qualify under Code of Federal Regulations, 9 10 title 45, section 233.53, and any form of credit or rebate 11 payment issued by energy providers; 12 V. the first \$50 of child support paid under Code of 13 Federal Regulations, title 45, section 302.51(b)(1); income, including retroactive payments, from 14 ₩. 15 supplemental security income; income, including retroactive payments, from 16 Χ. 17 Minnesota supplemental aid; 18 Υ. proceeds from the sale of real or personal 19 property; 20 Z. payments made from state funds for subsidized 21 adoptions under Minnesota Statutes, section 259.40; 22 AA. state-funded Family Subsidy Program payments made 23 under Minnesota Statutes, section 252.32, to help families care 24 for children with mental retardation or related conditions; 25 BB. interest payments and dividends from property 26 which is not excluded from and which does not exceed the \$1,000 27 limit under part 9500.2340, subpart 3; 28 CC. income which is otherwise specifically excluded from AFDC program consideration in federal law, state law, or 29 30 federal regulation; 31 DD. rebates of rental payments paid by an applicant 32 or recipient. 33 [For text of subps 3 to 5, see M.R.] 34 Self-employment deductions. Self-employment Subp. 6. 35 expenses must be subtracted from gross receipts except for the 36 expenses listed in items A to N: Approved 9

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[For text of items A to E, see M.R.]
F. transportation costs which exceed the maximum
standard mileage rate allowed for use of a personal car in the
United States Internal Revenue Code;
[For text of items G to N, see M.R.]

6 Subp. 7. Self-employment budget period. Except for farm income under subpart 8, the self-employment budget period begins 7 8 in the month of application for AFDC applicants and in the first 9 month of self-employment for AFDC recipients. Gross receipts 10 from self-employment must be budgeted in the month in which they are received. Expenses must be budgeted against gross receipts 11 12 in the month in which those expenses are paid except for items A 13 to C.

14 15 [For text of items A to C, see M.R.] [For text of subp 8, see M.R.]

16 Subp. 9. Rental income. Income from rental property must be considered self-employment earnings when the owner spends an 17 18 average of 20 hours per week on maintenance or management of the 19 property. A local agency must deduct an amount for upkeep and 20 repairs according to subpart 6, item L, for real estate taxes, 21 insurance, utilities, and interest on principal payments. When 22 an applicant or recipient lives on the rental property, the 23 local agency must divide the expenses for upkeep, taxes, 24 insurance, utilities, and interest by the number of rooms to 25 determine the expense per room. The local agency shall deduct 26 expenses from rental income only for the number of rooms rented, 27 not for rooms occupied by an assistance unit. When an owner 28 does not spend an average of 20 hours per week on maintenance or management of the property, income from rental property must be 29 30 considered unearned income. The deductions described in this subpart must be subtracted from gross rental receipts. 31 32 [For text of subps 10 and 11, see M.R.]

33 9500.2420 DOCUMENTING, VERIFYING, AND REVIEWING ELIGIBILITY.
34 [For text of subps 1 to 3, see M.R.]
35 Subp. 4. Factors to be verified. A local agency shall

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06/18/90 [REVISOR] KTH/JV AR1632 1 verify factors of program eligibility at the time of 2 application, when a factor of eligibility changes, and at each redetermination of eligibility under subpart 5. 3 4 Α. A local agency shall verify: 5 (1) the social security number of each adult and child applying for assistance; 6 7 (2) age if required to establish eligibility; 8 (3) the identity of each adult applying for 9 assistance; 10 (4) the resident alien status of each adult and child applying for or receiving assistance if the applicant or 11 recipient reports that he or she is not a citizen; 12 (5) the incapacity of a parent when the basis of 13 14 eligibility is an incapacitated parent under part 9500.2220; 15 (6) the wage and employment history for both 16 parents for the period preceding application when the basis of 17 eligibility is unemployed parent under part 9500.2300. When an 18 applicant cannot document employment, a local agency shall verify the employment by contacting the employer. When this 19 20 verification and other primary or alternate forms of verification are not available, a local agency shall accept an 21 22 affidavit from an applicant as a satisfactory substitute for 23 that verification; 24 (7) the first day of the third trimester when 25 either program eligibility under part 9500.2140, subpart 4, or 26 WIN exemption status under part 9500.2700, subpart 15, item M is based on pregnancy; 27 28 (8) school attendance and the date of anticipated completion of school for an 18 year old child; 29 30 (9) the registration with a Job Service office of a principal wage earner living in a non-WIN county or exempt 31 under part 9500.2700, subpart 15, item G; 32 33 (10) the relationship of a caretaker to the child 34 for whom application is made; and 35 (11) residence. 36 A local agency shall verify the information in Β.

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subitems (1) to (6) when it is either acknowledged by an 1 2 applicant or recipient or obtained through a federally mandated verification system: 3 (1) earned income, including gross receipts and 4 5 business expenses from self-employment; 6 (2) unearned income; 7 (3) termination from employment; (4) real property; 8 9 (5) personal property; 10 (6) dependent care costs of an employed caretaker at the time of application, redetermination, or a change in 11 provider. 12 13 с. A local agency may verify additional program eligibility and assistance payment factors when it determines 14 that information on the application is inconsistent with 15 16 statements made by the applicant, other information on the 17 current application, information on previous applications, or 18 other information received by the local agency. The local 19 agency must document the reason for verifying the factor in the case record of an assistance unit. A-local-agency-may-also 20 21 verify-additional-program-eligibility-and-assistance-payment 22 factors-when-it-has-received-department-approval-to-verify-those 23 factors-on-a-county-wide-basis-because-of-unique-circumstances-24 Additional factors that may be verified, subject to the 25 conditions-of-this-item approval of the commissioner, are: 26 (1) the presence of a child in the home; 27 (2) death of a parent or spouse; 28 (3) continued absence of a parent; 29 (4) citizenship; 30 (5) marital status; and 31 (6) income and property that an applicant or 32 recipient has not acknowledged receiving or having. 33 [For text of subp 5, see M.R.] 34 9500.2440 FAMILY COMPOSITION AND ASSISTANCE STANDARDS. 35 [For text of subpart 1, see M.R.]

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1	Subp. 2. Filing unit composition. When an application for
2	assistance is made for a dependent child, that child and all
3	blood related and adoptive minor siblings of that child,
4	including half-siblings, along with the parents of that child
5	who live together, must be considered a single filing unit.
6	Program eligibility may exist for a part of a filing unit even
7	though one or more members are ineligible.
8	[For text of subps 3 and 4, see M.R.]
9	Subp. 5. Application of standards. The standards that
10	apply to an assistance unit are set forth in items A to E.
11	[For text of items A to C, see M.R.]
12	D. The special child standard must be used for an
13	assistance unit that contains no adult because a parent or
14	parents are excluded from an assistance unit either because of
15	failure to cooperate with WIN under parts 9500.2724 and
16	9500.2726, or because of failure to cooperate with child support
17	enforcement under part 9500.2700, subpart 11. The special child
18	standard must be used whenever the only adult or adults in the
19	household receives supplemental security income or Minnesota
20	supplemental aid or both. When an assistance unit includes more
21	than one eligible child, the special child standard must be
22	determined by substituting the first adult standard for the
23	needs of the last eligible child in an assistance unit and
24	combining that amount with the children standard for the
25	remaining children.
26	[For text of item E, see M.R.]
27	[For text of subps 6 and 7, see M.R.]
28	9500.2500 AFDC ELIGIBILITY TESTS.
29	[For text of subpart 1, see M.R.]
30	Subp. 2. When to terminate. When an assistance unit is
31	prospectively ineligible for AFDC for at least two consecutive
32	months, assistance must end.
33	When an assistance unit is terminated prospectively for a
34	payment month due to excess income, income received in the two
35	budget months before termination must be reviewed. The local

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agency shall apply the payment eligibility test and the gross
 income test to determine whether there is an overpayment for one
 or both of these months. There is no overpayment any month both
 tests are met.

5 When an assistance unit is prospectively ineligible for 6 only one month and is prospectively eligible the following 7 month, assistance must not end. The income for the single month 8 in which prospective ineligibility exists must be applied 9 retrospectively as described in part 9500.2520, subpart 3 10 resulting in suspension for the corresponding payment month. 11 [For text of subp 3, see M.R.]

12 Subp. 4. Gross income test. A local agency shall apply a 13 gross income test both prospectively and retrospectively for 14 each month of program eligibility. An assistance unit is not 15 eligible when income equals or exceeds 185 percent of the AFDC 16 family allowance for the assistance unit. The income applied against the gross income test must include the income of a 17 18 parent in the filing unit even when that parent is not included 19 in the assistance unit. It must include the earned and unearned 20 income of an eligible relative who seeks to be included in the 21 assistance unit. It must include the unearned income of a 22 dependent child who seeks to be included in the assistance 23 unit. It must include the gross earned income of a dependent child in the assistance unit who is not a full-time student and 24 25 whose income is from a source other than the Job Training 26 Partnership Act. It must also include the earned or unearned 27 income of a dependent child who is a member of the filing unit but is excluded from the assistance unit because of failure to 28 29 register or cooperate with WIN. The income in items A to G must be considered in the gross income test: 30

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[For text of items A to F, see M.R.] -

32 G. Income as determined under items A to C of a 33 stepparent, a parent of a minor caretaker, and a legal guardian 34 of a minor caretaker who lives in the household and is not in 35 the assistance unit. Subitems (1) to (6) must be deducted from 36 this income:

06/18/90 [REVISOR] KTH/JV AR1632 1 (1) child or spousal support paid to a person who 2 lives outside of the household; 3 (2) payments to meet the need of another person who lives outside of the household and who is or could be 4 claimed as a dependent for federal personal income tax 5 6 liability; 7 (3) \$75 for work expenses; (4) an amount for the needs of one parent or 8 legal guardian of a minor caretaker or a stepparent at the first 9 adult standard; 10 (5) an amount for the needs of the second parent 11 12 or legal guardian of a minor caretaker at the second adult standard; and 13 (6) an amount for the needs of other persons who 14 15 live in the household but are not included in the assistance unit and are or could be claimed by a parent of a minor 16 caretaker, legal guardian of a minor caretaker, or stepparent as 17 18 dependents for determining federal personal income tax liability. This amount must equal the AFDC family allowance for 19 a family group of the same composition as the dependent persons 20 described in this subitem. 21 22 [For text of subp 5, see M.R.] 9500.2580 EMPLOYMENT DISREGARDS. 23 24 A local agency shall deduct the disregards in items A to D 25 from gross earned income as defined in part 9500.2380: {For-text-of-item-A,-see-M.R.} 26 27 A \$75 \$90 work expense, whether employment is Α. part- or full-time --- This-disregard must be deducted from the 28 gross earned income of each employed member of an assistance 29 unit and-for-other-financially-responsible-household-members-who 30 31 are-ineligible-or-otherwise-excluded-from-the-assistance-unit, except that sanctioned persons who are not allowed allocations 32 under part 9500.2600, item C must not receive this disregard. 33 This-expense-is A \$75 work expense shall be deducted for those 34 financially responsible persons under part 9500.2500, subpart 4, 35

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1 item G, subitem (3), prior to the payment eligibility test under 2 part 9500.2500, subpart 5, and must not be deducted a second 3 time under part 9500.2500, subpart 5, item B.

Β. A monthly deduction for documented costs for care 4 of a dependent child or an adult dependent who is in the 5 6 assistance unit. These costs must be documented according to part 9500.2420, subpart 4, item B, subitem (6). This disregard 7 must only be deducted from the gross income of a member of an 8 9 assistance unit or an ineligible parent, except that sanctioned 10 persons who are not allowed allocations under part 9500.2600, 11 item C must not receive this disregard. The deduction must not exceed \$160-per \$175 for each dependent age two or older or \$200 12 13 for each dependent under the age of two when employment equals 14 or exceeds 30 hours per week, -or-\$159-per. The deduction must 15 not exceed \$174 for each dependent age two or older or \$199 for 16 each dependent under the age of two when employment is less than 17 30 hours per week. A deduction for dependent care costs is not allowed when the care is provided by a member of an assistance 18 19 unit, by a parent of a dependent child, or by a spouse of a caretaker of a dependent child. The deduction under this item 20 shall be taken after the deductions in items A, C, and D. 21

22 C. A deduction for a \$30 and one-third work incentive 23 disregard. This disregard must be deducted for each employed 24 member of an assistance unit. The first \$30 must be applied against the balance of gross earned income after deductions for 25 26 the work expense and-dependent-care have been allowed. 27 deduction of one-third of the balance must also be applied after 28 allowing the \$30 deduction. This disregard is limited by 29 subitems (1) to (6).

30 [For text of subitems (1) to (6), see M.R.]
31 [For text of items-C-and item D, see M.R.]
32 9500.2640 CORRECTION OF OVERPAYMENTS AND UNDERPAYMENTS.
33 [For text of subps 1 to 3, see M.R.]
34 Subp. 4. Recouping overpayments from current recipient.

35 An overpayment may be repaid voluntarily, in part or in full,

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even if assistance is reduced under this subpart, until the 1 2 total amount of the overpayment is repaid. When an assistance unit is currently eligible for assistance, the local agency 3 shall recoup an overpayment by reducing one or more monthly 4 assistance payments until the overpayment is repaid. 5 TO determine the amount of repayment to deduct from the monthly 6 assistance payment, the local agency shall estimate the amount 7 8 of income the assistance unit is expected to receive for the month of the assistance payment and deduct anticipated work 9 expenses according to subpart 5. Once the net income is 10 11 determined, the local agency shall determine the amount of the 12 repayment for that month. When an overpayment occurs due to client error, the local agency shall reduce the assistance 13 14 payment to an amount which, when added to the anticipated net income, equals 95 percent of the AFDC family allowance. When an 15 overpayment occurs due to agency error, or a combination of 16 client and agency error, the local agency shall reduce the 17 18 assistance payment to an amount which, when added to the 19 anticipated net income, equals 99 percent of the AFDC family allowance. Once a state computerized client eligibility and 20 21 information system is implemented in one or more counties, all local agencies shall reduce the assistance payment by three 22 23 percent of the assistance unit's AFDC family allowance or the 24 amount of the monthly payment, whichever is less, for all 25 overpayments including those due solely to agency error. A 26 local agency shall adjust the amount of recoupment when an assistance unit documents prior to the last day of the month 27 that actual income is less than the estimated income. 28 Subp. 5. Determining net income. A local agency shall 29

30 determine net income for purposes of recoupment by deducting:
31 A. the first \$75 <u>\$90</u> of earned income and; for
32 self-employed persons, the expenses directly related to and
33 necessary for the production of goods and services; and
34 B. an amount equal to the actual expenditures for the

35 care of each dependent child or incapacitated person living in 36 the same household and receiving aid, except that the amount

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06/18/90 [REVISOR] KTH/JV AR1632 1 deducted shall not exceed the maximums in part 9500.2580 for persons not engaged in full-time employment. 2 3 [For text of subps 6 to 9, see M.R.] 9500.2680 PAYMENT PROVISIONS. 4 5 Subpart 1. Payments. This subpart applies to monthly assistance payments and corrective payments. 6 7 [For text of items A to C, see M.R.] A local agency that makes payments by means other 8 D. 9 than check must also comply with the time limits in items B and 10 C when issuing payments. 11 Subp. 2. Protective, vendor, and two-party payments; when 12 allowed. Alternatives to paying assistance directly to a 13 recipient may be used only: [For text of items A to D, see M.R.] 14 When a caretaker has exhibited a continuing 15 Ε. 16 pattern of mismanaging funds under the conditions specified in Code of Federal Regulations, title 45, section 234.60(a)(2). 17 (1) The director of a local agency must approve a 18 19 proposal for protective, vendor, or two-party payment for money mismanagement. During the time a protective, vendor, or 20 21 two-party payment is being made, the local agency shall provide services designed to alleviate the causes of the mismanagement 22 in accordance with Code of Federal Regulations, title 45, 23 24 section 234.60(a)(8). (2) The continuing need for and method of payment 25 26 must be documented and reviewed every 12 months. The director of a local agency must approve the continuation of protective, 27 vendor, or two-party payment. 28 (3) When it appears that the need for protective, 29 30 vendor, or two-party payments will continue or is likely to 31 continue beyond two years because the local agency's efforts have not resulted in sufficiently improved use of assistance in 32 behalf of the child, judicial appointment of a legal guardian or 33 other legal representative must be sought by the local agency. 34 Subp. 3. Choosing payees for protective, vendor, and 35

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1 two-party payments. A local agency shall consult with a 2 caretaker regarding the selection of the form of payment, the selection of a protective payee, and the distribution of the 3 assistance payment to meet the various costs incurred by the 4 5 assistance unit. When choosing a protective payee, the local agency shall notify the caretaker of a consultation date. 6 If 7 the caretaker fails to respond to the local agency's request for 8 consultation by the effective date on the notice, the local agency shall choose a protective payee for that payment month 9 10 and subsequent payment months until the caretaker responds to 11 the agency's request for consultation. The local agency shall notify the caretaker of the right to appeal the determination 12 that a protective, vendor, or two-party payment should be made 13 14 or continued and to appeal the selection of the payee.

15 When a local agency is not able to find another protective 16 payee, a local agency staff member may serve as a protective 17 payee. A person who is not to serve as protective payee is: a 18 member of the county board of commissioners; the local agency 19 staff member determining financial eligibility for the family; 20 special investigative or resource staff; the staff member 21 handling accounting fiscal processes related to the recipient; 22 or a landlord, grocer, or other vendor dealing directly with the recipient. 23

24 Subp. 4. Discontinuing protective, vendor, and two-party 25 payments. A local agency shall discontinue protective, vendor, 26 or two-party payments in the month following compliance with the employment search or employment requirements under part 27 28 9500.2728; in the month following cooperation with the child 29 support enforcement unit under part 9500.2700, subpart 10; and 30 in two years or in the month following the local agency's 31 failure to grant six-month approval to a money management plan, whichever occurs first. At least once every 12 months, a local 32 33 agency shall review the performance of a protective payee acting 34 under subpart 2, items A, B, and E to determine whether a new 35 payee should be selected. When a recipient complains about the 36 performance of a protective payee, a review must occur within 30

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1 days.

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2 9500.2700 APPLICANT AND RECIPIENT RESPONSIBILITIES.

3 [For text of subps 1 to 5, see M.R.]
4 Subp. 6. Late household report forms. Items A to C apply
5 to the requirements in subpart 5.

[For text of item A, see M.R.]

When a complete household report form is not 7 Β. received by a local agency before the last ten days of the month 8 9 in which the form is due, the local agency shall send notice of proposed termination of assistance. When a recipient submits an 10 incomplete form on or after the date the notice of proposed 11 12 termination has been sent, the termination is valid unless the recipient submits a complete form before the end of the month. 13 14 However, an assistance unit required to submit a household 15 report form is considered to have continued its application for assistance effective the date the required report is received by 16 17 the local agency if a complete household report form is received within a calendar month after the month in which assistance was 18 19 received, except that no assistance shall be paid for the period beginning with the first day of the month in which the report 20 21 was due and ending with the date the report was received by the 22 local agency.

C. A local agency shall allow good cause exemptions from the penalty under subpart 5 when the factors in subitems (1) to (5), singly, or in combination, cause a recipient to fail to provide the local agency with a completed household report form before the end of the month in which the form is due. (1) an employer delays completion of employment

29 verification;

30 (2) a local agency does not help a recipient
 31 complete the household report form when the recipient asks for
 32 help;

(3) a recipient does not receive a household
report form due to mistake on the part of the department or the
local agency or due to a reported change in address;

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1 (4) a recipient is ill, or physically or mentally 2 incapacitated; or (5) some other circumstance occurs that a 3 4 recipient could not avoid with reasonable care which prevents 5 the recipient from providing a completed household report form before the end of the month in which the form is due. 6 [For text of subps 7 and 8, see M.R.] 7 8 Subp. 9. Requirement to provide social security numbers. 9 To receive assistance, each member of the assistance unit shall provide his or her social security number to the local agency. 10 11 When a social security number is not provided to the local agency for verification, this requirement is satisfied when each 12 13 member of the assistance unit cooperates with the procedures for verification of numbers, issuance of duplicate cards, and 14 15 issuance of new numbers which have been established jointly 16 between the Social Security Administration and the commissioner. 17 [For text of subps 10 to 12, see M.R.] 18 9500.2740 APPLICANT AND RECIPIENT RIGHTS AND LOCAL AGENCY RESPONSIBILITIES TO APPLICANTS AND RECIPIENTS. 19 20 [For text of subps 1 to 6, see M.R.] Subp. 7. Mailing of notice. Notices under subparts 5 and 21 22 6 must be made according to items A to C: [For text of items A and B, see M.R.] 23 24 с. A local agency shall mail a notice to a recipient 25 no later than the effective date of the action when: 26 (1) the local agency receives a recipient's 27 monthly household report form which includes facts that require payment reduction, suspension, or termination and which contains 28 29 the recipient's signed acknowledgment that he or she understands that this information will be used to determine program 30 31 eligibility or the assistance payment amount; 32 (2) the local agency verifies the death of a 33 recipient or the payee; (3) the local agency receives a signed statement 34 35 from a recipient that assistance is no longer wanted;

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1 (4) the local agency receives a signed statement 2 from a recipient that provides information which requires the 3 termination or reduction of assistance, and the recipient shows in that statement that he or she understands the consequences of 4 providing that information; 5 6 (5) the local agency verifies that a recipient is hospitalized and does not qualify under part 9500.2140, subpart 7 5, item C, subitem (1); 8 9 (6) the local agency verifies that a recipient has entered a state hospital or a licensed residential facility 10 11 for medical or psychological treatment or rehabilitation; 12 (7) the local agency verifies that a member of an 13 assistance unit has been approved to receive assistance by another county or state; 14 15 (8) the local agency verifies that a member of an 16 assistance unit has been placed in foster care, except as specified in part 9500.2140, subpart 5, item C, subitem (2); or 17 18 (9) the local agency cannot locate a caretaker's 19 whereabouts and mail from the local agency has been returned by 20 the post office showing that the post office has no forwarding 21 address. 22 [For text of subps 8 to 12, see M.R.] 23 Subp. 13. Right to protection. Under the circumstances defined in this subpart, a local agency shall refer an applicant 24 25 or recipient to the social services unit of the local agency. Neither a referral for social services nor an applicant's or 26 27 recipient's cooperation with the referral is a condition of 28 eligibility for continued assistance. Referral must be made 29 according to items A and B. 30 A. Referral must be made when a minor caretaker does 31 not live with his or her parent, legal guardian, or other adult 32 caretaker or in a group or foster home licensed by the 33 department. The local agency shall inform the minor caretaker 34 that a referral is being made to the social services unit and 35 that use of and cooperation with the social services unit is not

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a requirement for the receipt of assistance. Minor parents must

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be informed that all or part of their assistance may be paid in
 the form of protective or vendor payments if they do not
 participate and cooperate in the development of a social service
 plan.

[For text of item B, see M.R.]

6 9500.2800 AFDC PAYMENTS FOR FUNERALS, HOUSING, AND SPECIAL NEEDS.
7 [For text of subps 1 and 2, see M.R.]

Subp. 3. State appropriation for special needs. Payments 8 9 for special need items, as defined and conditioned in subparts 4 10 to 10, must be paid to a recipient subject to the amount 11 appropriated by the Minnesota legislature. Each quarter, the commissioner shall provide a base allocation from this 12 13 appropriation to a local agency in proportion to the number of assistance units the local agency served through the AFDC 14 15 program in the previous calendar year, compared to the number 16 served in the state.

17 Α. A local agency shall issue these funds to meet 18 special needs of a recipient. Notwithstanding subparts 4 to 10, 19 a local agency is not required to provide special need payments 20 that are more than the amount allocated to the local agency by 21 the commissioner. A local agency must develop written 22 procedures for meeting priority needs of a recipient and may 23 establish waiting lists. A local agency must inform inquirers 24 of the procedures and assure that the procedures are applied 25 consistently within a quarter. A local agency shall log 26 requests for special need items and shall use this log to 27 develop or modify procedures for future quarterly allocations. 28 Dispositions of each request must be included in the log.

B. At the end of each quarter, a local agency shall report the amount of any remaining funds to the commissioner. The commissioner shall determine whether the quarterly statewide allocation is underspent or overspent and adjust future allocations in the same fiscal year. This reallocation must be determined subject to the conditions in subitems (1) and (2). (1) When the statewide allocation is underspent,

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l local agencies that overspent their quarterly allocation will be compensated for their overexpenditures before any remaining funds are reallocated. Remaining funds will be reallocated to all local agencies using the allocation method described in the first paragraph of this subpart.

6 (2) When the statewide allocation is overspent, 7 any remaining funds from underspent local agencies will be 8 reallocated to local agencies who overspent their quarterly 9 allocation. The reallocation shall be in proportion to the 10 local agency's overexpenditures for that quarter, compared to 11 the total for all local agencies with overexpenditures.

12 C. In all quarters, except the final quarter of each 13 state fiscal year, special needs funds committed but unspent by 14 local agencies may be reserved to prevent reallocation to over 15 spent counties. Each quarter, committed funds plus expenditures 16 will be limited to the local agency's quarterly allocation.

D. Local agencies which have overspent their allocation at the end of the state fiscal year will be required to reimburse the state for the state share of the overexpenditure.

21 [For text of subps 4 to 8, see M.R.] 22 Subp--8a---Employment-preparation-expenses---A-local-agency 23 may-pay-for-child-care;-transportation;-tuition;-and-other 24 incidental-expenses-related-to-employment-preparation-provided 25 funds-for-the-nonfederal-share-of-employment-special-needs 26 expenses-are-available.--Items-A-to-G-specify-the-restrictions 27 which-apply-to-special-needs-payments-for-employment-preparation 28 expenses.

29 A:--The-expense-must-be-an-obligation-of-the-recipient: 30 B---The-local-agency-must-determine-if-the-recipient 31 is-eligible-for-other-funding-which-would-cover-all-or-part-of 32 the-expense.--If-funding-is-available-through-another-program, 33 these-funds-should-be-used-before-using-employment-special-needs 34 to-pay-for-the-expense --- Educational-grants-and-scholarships-are 35 considered-available-resources-only-when-considering-an 36 employment-special-need-payment-for-tuition-

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1	C:The-need-for-the-expense-must-be-documented-in-an
2	employability-plan-developed-by-an-individual-or-agency-approved
3	by-the-local-agency-to-develop-employability-plans.
4	D:The-local-agency-must-provide-prepayment-approval
5	for-the-expense.
6	EA-local-agency-must-not-make-special-needs
7	payments-for-expenses-directly-related-to-on-the-job-activities,
8	including-work-study-jobs,-of-an-employed-recipient.
9	FA-local-agency-must-not-make-special-needs
10	payments-for-expenses-resulting-from-participation-in-the
11	Community-Work-Experience-Program-(CWEP)-or-the-Employment
12	Search-Program-(ESP).
13	GA-local-agency-shall-make-payment-for-employment
14	preparation-expenses-directly-to-a-recipient-unless-the
15	recipient-requests-vendor-paymentThe-types-of-employment
16	preparation-expenses-that-may-be-covered-by-employment-special
17	needs-are-listed-in-subitems-(1)-to-(6):
18	(1)-child-care-expenses-up-to-the-maximum-child
19	care-rates-allowed-by-the-Child-Care-Fund-under-Minnesota
20	Statutes,-section-268.91,-subdivision-8;
21	(2) -transportation-expenses;
22	(3)-tuition-expenses,-excluding
23	post-baccalaureate-tuition,-of-a-recipient-who-has-applied-for
24	educational-grants-or-scholarships-and-not-received-assistance
25	sufficient-to-cover-tuition-expenses;
26	(4)-payments-for-incidental-expenses-related-to
27	employment-preparation,-such-as-safety-equipment-needed-for
28	participation-in-an-educational-or-training-program;
29	(5)-job-search-expenses;-and
30	(6)-vocational-counseling-or-testing-expenses.
31	Subp. 9. Verification and preauthorization requirements.
32	Payments made under subparts 6 to $\theta a \ \underline{8}$ must be made only when a
33	recipient's need for the item is verified by the local agency.
34	A local agency may require prior authorization as a condition of
35	payment, but when the need for a special need item occurs at a
36	time outside of the local agency's business hours, this

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1 requirement is satisfied when a recipient contacts the local 2 agency on the next working day to request authorization. 3 Subp--10---Postpayment-verification---Postpayment 4 verification-is-required-for-all-payments-made-under-subpart-8a. 5 Failure-to-provide-postpayment-verification-shall-result-in-an 6 overpayment.

7 9500.2820 EMERGENCY ASSISTANCE.

8 [For text of subps 1 to ± 4 3, see M.R.] 9 Subp. 4. Inquiries. A local agency shall offer, by hand or mail, an application form and an informational brochure 10 11 provided by the department as soon as a person makes a written or oral inquiry about the program. A local agency shall offer 12 an application form and brochure on the same day the inquiry is 13 14 received by the local agency. The brochure shall include 15 information on how a food stamp grant is affected when emergency assistance is accepted as a cash payment instead of as a vendor 16 or a two-party payment. 17

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[For text of subps 5 to 14, see M.R.]

19 Subp. 15. Termination of utility service. Assistance 20 payments must be made when an otherwise eligible family has had 21 a termination or is threatened with a termination of municipal 22 water and sewer service, electric, gas, or heating fuel service, 23 or lacks wood when that is the heating source, subject to the 24 conditions of items A and B.

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[For text of item A, see M.R.]

B. A local agency must not issue assistance for utility costs for an applicant who paid less than eight percent of the family's gross income toward utility costs due during the utility budget period or while the application is pending.

30 C. Items A and B must not be construed to prevent the 31 issuance of assistance when a local agency must take immediate 32 and temporary action necessary to protect the life or health of 33 a child.

34 Subp. 16. Amounts of payment. A local agency shall issue 35 assistance for utility costs in an amount that is dependent upon

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1 the percent of the family's gross income paid toward utility
2 costs and the percent of the total utility costs paid before the
3 issuance of assistance. A local agency shall determine those
4 amounts according to items A to E.

A. Payment of the balance owed to a utility provider must be paid in full for an applicant who, effective October 1, 1988, and thereafter, paid no less than 16 percent of the family's gross income toward utility costs due during the utility budget period or while the application is pending.

B. Payment on the balance owed to a utility provider must be limited to the amounts under item C for an applicant who, effective October 1, 1988, and thereafter, paid at least eight percent and less than 16 percent of gross income toward utility costs due during the utility budget period or while the application is pending.

16[For text of items C to E, see M.R.]17[For text of subps 17 to 19, see M.R.]

18 9500.2880 COUNTY OF RESPONSIBILITY POLICIES AND DISPUTES.

19 Subpart 1. Determining the county of financial 20 responsibility. The county of financial responsibility is the 21 county in which a dependent child lives on the date the 22 application is signed, unless subpart 4 applies. The county in 23 which a woman with no children lives on the date the application 24 is signed under part 9500.2140, subpart 4 is the county of 25 financial responsibility unless subpart 4 applies. When more 26 than one county is financially responsible for the members of an 27 assistance unit, financial responsibility must be assigned to a single county beginning the first day of the calendar month 28 29 after the assistance unit members are required to be in a single 30 assistance unit. Financial responsibility must be assigned to the county that was initially responsible for the assistance 31 32 unit member with the earliest date of application. The county 33 in which the assistance unit is currently residing becomes 34 financially responsible for the entire assistance unit beginning 35 two full calendar months after the month in which financial

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1 responsibility was consolidated in one county.

2 Subp. 2. Change in residence. When an assistance unit moves from one county to another and continues to receive 3 4 assistance, the new county of residence becomes the county of financial responsibility when that assistance unit has lived in 5 6 that county in nonexcluded status for two full calendar months. When a dependent child moves from one county to another to 7 reside with a different caretaker, the caretaker in the former 8 9 county is eligible to receive assistance for that child only through the last day of the month of the move. The caretaker in 10 the new county becomes eligible to receive assistance for the 11 12 child the first day of the month following the move or the date 13 of application, whichever is later. Nonexcluded status means 14 the period of residence that is not considered excluded time 15 under Minnesota Statutes, section 256G.02, subdivision 6. 16 [For text of items A to C, see M.R.]

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[For text of subp 3, see M.R.]

Subp. 4. Excluded time. When an applicant or recipient 18 19 resides in an excluded time facility as described in Minnesota 20 Statutes, section 256G.02, subdivision 6, the county that is 21 financially responsible for the applicant or recipient is the 22 county in which the applicant or recipient last resided outside 23 such a facility immediately before entering the facility. When 24 an applicant or recipient has not resided in Minnesota for any 25 time other than excluded time as defined in Minnesota Statutes, section 256G.02, subdivision 6, the county that is financially 26 responsible for the applicant or recipient is the county in 27 28 which the applicant or recipient resides on the date the 29 application is signed.

30 Subp. 5. Settlement of disputes. When a local agency 31 receives an application for assistance or a request for transfer 32 under subpart 2 and does not believe it is the county of 33 financial responsibility, items A to E apply.

A. The local agency that has received the application or transfer request shall, simultaneously:

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(1) accept the application, determine program

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eligibility, and when the applicant or recipient is eligible, 1 2 calculate and issue the assistance payment; and 3 (2) send a copy of the application or transfer 4 request, together with the record of any investigation it has made, to the local agency it believes is financially 5 6 responsible. The copy and record must be sent within 60 days of the date the application or transfer request was received. 7 The local agency receiving the copy of the 8 в. 9 application and the record of the investigation, if any, must 10 accept or reject financial responsibility within 30 days after 11 receiving the copy and record. If the local agency receiving 12 the copy and record fails to respond within the 30-day period, 13 it becomes financially responsible. If the local agency receiving the copy and record rejects financial responsibility, 14 15 it should provide the department and the initially responsible local agency with a statement of all facts and documents 16 17 necessary for the department to determine financial 18 responsibility. The statement must identify the specific basis 19 upon which the submitting local agency is denying financial 20 responsibility.

C. The initially responsible local agency has 15 days to provide the department with its position and any supporting evidence. If the initially responsible local agency does not submit its written position to the department, the department may issue a binding order based on the evidence received.

D. The department shall decide disputes within 60 days of receipt of the initially responsible local agency's submission of its position and supporting evidence or 60 days after the deadline for submission of its position and evidence. The department may make any investigation it considers necessary to decide a dispute.

E. The department's decision binds both local agencies unless the decision is appealed to the district court within 30 days after the decision is made and the decision is reversed by the district court. Assistance payments must continue, provided the recipient remains eligible, while the

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1 district court appeal is pending.
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3 REPEALER. Minnesota Rules, part 9500.2060, subpart 118, is
4 repealed.
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