CHAPTER 256B

MEDICAL ASSISTANCE FOR NEEDY PERSONS

256B.037 PROSPECTIVE PAYMENT OF DENTAL SERVICES.

Subdivision 1. **Contract for dental services.** The commissioner may conduct a demonstration project to contract, on a prospective per capita payment basis, with an organization or organizations licensed under chapter 62C or 62D, for the provision of all dental care services beginning July 1, 1994, under the medical assistance, general assistance medical care, and MinnesotaCare programs, or when necessary waivers are granted by the secretary of health and human services, whichever occurs later. The commissioner shall identify a geographic area or areas, including both urban and rural areas, where access to dental services has been inadequate, in which to conduct demonstration projects. The commissioner shall seek any federal waivers or approvals necessary to implement this section from the secretary of health and human services.

The commissioner may exclude from participation in the demonstration project any or all groups currently excluded from participation in the prepaid medical assistance program under section 256B.69.

Subd. 2. **Establishment of prepayment rates.** The commissioner shall consult with an independent actuary to establish prepayment rates, but shall retain final authority over the methodology used to establish the rates. The prepayment rates shall not result in payments that exceed the per capita expenditures that would have been made for dental services by the programs under a fee-for-service reimbursement system. The package of dental benefits provided to individuals under this subdivision shall not be less than the package of benefits provided under the medical assistance fee-for-service reimbursement system for dental services.

Subd. 3. **Appeals.** All recipients of services under this section have the right to appeal to the commissioner under section 256.045.

Subd. 4. **Information required by commissioner.** A contractor shall submit encounter-specific information as required by the commissioner, including, but not limited to,

information required for assessing client satisfaction, quality of care, and cost and utilization of services.

Subd. 5. **Other contracts permitted.** Nothing in this section prohibits the commissioner from contracting with an organization for comprehensive health services, including dental services, under section 256B.031, 256B.035, 256B.69, or 256D.03, subdivision 4, paragraph (c).

History: *1Sp1993 c 1 art 5 s 27*

256B.04 DUTIES OF STATE AGENCY.

[For text of subds 1 to 15, see M.S.1992]

Subd. 16. **Personal care services.** (a) Notwithstanding any contrary language in this paragraph, the commissioner of human services and the commissioner of health shall jointly promulgate rules to be applied to the licensure of personal care services provided under the medical assistance program. The rules shall consider standards for personal care services that are based on the World Institute on Disability's recommendations regarding personal care services. These rules shall at a minimum consider the standards and requirements adopted by the commissioner of health under section 144A.45, which the commissioner of human services determines are applicable to the provision of personal care services, in addition to other standards or modifications which the commissioner of human services determines are appropriate.

The commissioner of human services shall establish an advisory group including personal care consumers and providers to provide advice regarding which standards or modifications should be adopted. The advisory group membership must include not less than 15 members, of which at least 60 percent must be consumers of personal care services and representatives of recipients with various disabilities and diagnoses and ages. At least 51 percent of the members of the advisory group must be recipients of personal care.

The commissioner of human services may contract with the commissioner of health to enforce the jointly promulgated licensure rules for personal care service providers.

Prior to final promulgation of the joint rule the commissioner of human services shall report preliminary findings along with any comments of the advisory group and a plan for monitoring and enforcement by the department of health to the legislature by February 15, 1992.

Limits on the extent of personal care services that may be provided to an individual must be based on the cost-effectiveness of the services in relation to the costs of inpatient hospital care, nursing home care, and other available types of care. The rules must provide, at a minimum:

(1) that agencies be selected to contract with or employ and train staff to provide and supervise the provision of personal care services;

(2) that agencies employ or contract with a qualified applicant that a qualified recipient proposes to the agency as the recipient's choice of assistant;

(3) that agencies bill the medical assistance program for a personal care service by a personal care assistant and supervision by the registered nurse supervising the personal care assistant;

(4) that agencies establish a grievance mechanism; and

(5) that agencies have a quality assurance program.

(b) The commissioner may waive the requirement for the provision of personal care services through an agency in a particular county, when there are less than two agencies providing services in that county and shall waive the requirement for personal care assistants required to join an agency for the first time during 1993 when personal care services are provided under a relative hardship waiver under section 256B.0627, subdivision 4, paragraph (b), clause (7), and at least two agencies providing personal

care services have refused to employ or contract with the independent personal care assistant.

[For text of subd 17, see M.S.1992]

History: *1Sp1993 c 1 art 5 s 28*

256B.042 THIRD PARTY LIABILITY.

[For text of subds 1 to 3, see M.S.1992]

Subd. 4. **Notice.** The state agency must be given notice of monetary claims against a person, firm, or corporation that may be liable to pay part or all of the cost of medical care when the state agency has paid or become liable for the cost of that care. Notice must be given as follows:

(a) Applicants for medical assistance shall notify the state or local agency of any possible claims when they submit the application. Recipients of medical assistance shall notify the state or local agency of any possible claims when those claims arise.

(b) A person providing medical care services to a recipient of medical assistance shall notify the state agency when the person has reason to believe that a third party may be liable for payment of the cost of medical care.

(c) A person who is a party to a claim upon which the state agency may be entitled to a lien under this section shall notify the state agency of its potential lien claim before filing a claim, commencing an action, or negotiating a settlement. A person who is a party to a claim includes the plaintiff, the defendants, and any other party to the cause of action.

Notice given to the local agency is not sufficient to meet the requirements of paragraphs (b) and (c).

[For text of subd 5, see M.S.1992]

History: *1Sp1993 c 1 art 5 s 29*

256B.055 ELIGIBILITY CATEGORIES.

Subdivision 1. **Children eligible for subsidized adoption assistance.** Medical assistance may be paid for a child eligible for or receiving adoption assistance payments under title IV-E of the Social Security Act, United States Code, title 42, sections 670 to 676, and to any child who is not title IV-E eligible but who was determined eligible for adoption assistance under Minnesota Statutes, section 259.40, subdivision 4, clauses (a) to (c), and has a special need for medical or rehabilitative care.

[For text of subds 2 to 12, see M.S.1992]

History: *1Sp1993 c 1 art 5 s 30*

256B.056 ELIGIBILITY; RESIDENCY; RESOURCES; INCOME.

[For text of subd 1, see M.S.1992]

Subd. 1a. **Income and assets generally.** Unless specifically required by state law or rule or federal law or regulation, the methodologies used in counting income and assets to determine eligibility for medical assistance for persons whose eligibility category is based on blindness, disability, or age of 65 or more years, the methodologies for the supplemental security income program shall be used, except that payments made pursuant to a court order for the support of children shall be excluded from income in an amount not to exceed the difference between the applicable income standard used in the state's medical assistance program for aged, blind, and disabled persons and the applicable income standard used in the state's medical assistance program for families with children. Exclusion of court-ordered child support payments is subject to the condition that if there has been a change in the financial circumstances of the person with

the legal obligation to pay support since the support order was entered, the person with the legal obligation to pay support has petitioned for modification of the support order. For families and children, which includes all other eligibility categories, the methodologies for the aid to families with dependent children program under section 256.73 shall be used. For these purposes, a "methodology" does not include an asset or income standard, or accounting method, or method of determining effective dates.

Subd. 2. **Homestead; exclusion for institutionalized persons.** The homestead shall be excluded for the first six calendar months of a person's stay in a long-term care facility and shall continue to be excluded for as long as the recipient can be reasonably expected to return to the homestead. For purposes of this subdivision, "reasonably expected to return to the homestead" means the recipient's attending physician has certified that the expectation is reasonable, and the recipient can show that the cost of care upon returning home will be met through medical assistance or other sources. The homestead shall continue to be excluded for persons residing in a long-term care facility if it is used as a primary residence by one of the following individuals:

(a) the spouse;

(b) a child under age 21;

(c) a child of any age who is blind or permanently and totally disabled as defined in the supplemental security income program;

(d) a sibling who has equity interest in the home and who resided in the home for at least one year immediately before the date of the person's admission to the facility; or

(e) a child of any age, or, subject to federal approval, a grandchild of any age, who resided in the home for at least two years immediately before the date of the person's admission to the facility, and who provided care to the person that permitted the person to reside at home rather than in an institution.

[For text of subds 3 and 4, see M.S.1992]

Subd. 5. **Excess income.** A person who has excess income is eligible for medical assistance if the person has expenses for medical care that are more than the amount of the person's excess income, computed by deducting incurred medical expenses from the excess income to reduce the excess to the income standard specified in subdivision 4. The person shall elect to have the medical expenses deducted at the beginning of a one-month budget period or at the beginning of a six-month budget period. Until June 30, 1993, or the date the Medicaid Management Information System (MMIS) upgrade is implemented, whichever occurs last, the commissioner shall allow persons eligible for assistance on a one-month spend-down basis under this subdivision to elect to pay the monthly spend-down amount in advance of the month of eligibility to the local agency in order to maintain eligibility on a continuous basis. If the recipient does not pay the spend-down amount on or before the 10th of the month, the recipient is ineligible for this option for the following month. The local agency must deposit spend-down payments into its treasury and issue a monthly payment to the state agency with the necessary individual account information. The local agency shall code the client eligibility system to indicate that the spend-down obligation has been satisfied for the month paid. The state agency shall convey this information to providers through eligibility cards which list no remaining spend-down obligation. After the implementation of the MMIS upgrade, a recipient electing advance payment must pay the state agency the monthly spend-down amount on or before the 10th of the month in order to be eligible for this option in the following month.

[For text of subds 6 to 8, see M.S.1992]

History: *1993 c 339 s 13; 1Sp1993 c 1 art 5 s 31; art 6 s 25*

256B.057 ELIGIBILITY; INCOME AND ASSET LIMITATIONS FOR SPECIAL CATEGORIES.

Subdivision 1. **Pregnant women and infants.** An infant less than one year of age or a pregnant woman who has written verification of a positive pregnancy test from a physician or licensed registered nurse, is eligible for medical assistance if countable family income is equal to or less than 275 percent of the federal poverty guideline for the same family size. For purposes of this subdivision, "countable family income" means the amount of income considered available using the methodology of the AFDC program, except for the earned income disregard and employment deductions. An amount equal to the amount of earned income exceeding 275 percent of the federal poverty guideline, up to a maximum of the amount by which the combined total of 185 percent of the federal poverty guideline plus the earned income disregards and deductions of the AFDC program exceeds 275 percent of the federal poverty guideline will be deducted for pregnant women and infants less than one year of age. Eligibility for a pregnant woman or infant less than one year of age under this subdivision must be determined without regard to asset standards established in section 256B.056, subdivision 3.

An infant born on or after January 1, 1991, to a woman who was eligible for and receiving medical assistance on the date of the child's birth shall continue to be eligible for medical assistance without redetermination until the child's first birthday, as long as the child remains in the woman's household.

Subd. 1a. **Premiums.** Women and infants who are eligible under subdivision 1 and whose countable family income is equal to or greater than 185 percent of the federal poverty guideline for the same family size shall be required to pay a premium for medical assistance coverage based on a sliding scale as established under section 256.9358.

[For text of subd 2, see M.S.1992]

Subd. 2a. **No asset test for children and their parents.** Eligibility for medical assistance for a person under age 21, and the person's parents who are eligible under section 256B.055, subdivision 3, and who live in the same household as the person eligible under age 21, must be determined without regard to asset standards established in section 256B.056.

[For text of subds 3 to 6, see M.S.1992]

History: *1993 c 345 art 9 s 11-13; 1Sp1993 c 6 s 9*

NOTE: Subdivision 1a, as added by Laws 1993, chapter 345, article 9, section 12, is effective July 1, 1993, or after the effective date of the waiver referred to in Laws 1993, chapter 345, article 9, section 16, whichever is later. See Laws 1993, chapter 345, article 9, section 18.

256B.0575 AVAILABILITY OF INCOME FOR INSTITUTIONALIZED PERSONS.

When an institutionalized person is determined eligible for medical assistance, the income that exceeds the deductions in paragraphs (a) and (b) must be applied to the cost of institutional care.

(a) The following amounts must be deducted from the institutionalized person's income in the following order:

(1) the personal needs allowance under section 256B.35 or, for a veteran who does not have a spouse or child, or a surviving spouse of a veteran having no child, the amount of an improved pension received from the veteran's administration not exceeding $90 per month;

(2) the personal allowance for disabled individuals under section 256B.36;

(3) if the institutionalized person has a legally appointed guardian or conservator, five percent of the recipient's gross monthly income up to $100 as reimbursement for guardianship or conservatorship services;

(4) a monthly income allowance determined under section 256B.058, subdivision 2, but only to the extent income of the institutionalized spouse is made available to the community spouse;

(5) a monthly allowance for children under age 18 which, together with the net income of the children, would provide income equal to the medical assistance standard for families and children according to section 256B.056, subdivision 4, for a family size that includes only the minor children. This deduction applies only if the children do not live with the community spouse and only if the children resided with the institutionalized person immediately prior to admission;

(6) a monthly family allowance for other family members, equal to one-third of the difference between 122 percent of the federal poverty guidelines and the monthly income for that family member;

(7) reparations payments made by the Federal Republic of Germany; and

(8) amounts for reasonable expenses incurred for necessary medical or remedial care for the institutionalized spouse that are not medical assistance covered expenses and that are not subject to payment by a third party.

For purposes of clause (6), "other family member" means a person who resides with the community spouse and who is a minor or dependent child, dependent parent, or dependent sibling of either spouse. "Dependent" means a person who could be claimed as a dependent for federal income tax purposes under the Internal Revenue Code.

(b) Income shall be allocated to an institutionalized person for a period of up to three calendar months, in an amount equal to the medical assistance standard for a family size of one if:

(1) a physician certifies that the person is expected to reside in the long-term care facility for three calendar months or less;

(2) if the person has expenses of maintaining a residence in the community; and

(3) if one of the following circumstances apply:

(i) the person was not living together with a spouse or a family member as defined in paragraph (a) when the person entered a long-term care facility; or

(ii) the person and the person's spouse become institutionalized on the same date, in which case the allocation shall be applied to the income of one of the spouses.

For purposes of this paragraph, a person is determined to be residing in a licensed nursing home, regional treatment center, or medical institution if the person is expected to remain for a period of one full calendar month or more.

History: *1Sp1993 c 1 art 5 s 32*

256B.059 TREATMENT OF ASSETS WHEN A SPOUSE IS INSTITUTIONALIZED.

[For text of subds 1 and 2, see M.S.1992]

Subd. 3. **Community spouse asset allowance.** An institutionalized spouse may transfer assets to the community spouse solely for the benefit of the community spouse. Except for increased amounts allowable under subdivision 4, the maximum amount of assets allowed to be transferred is the amount which, when added to the assets otherwise available to the community spouse, is as follows:

(1) prior to July 1, 1994, the greater of:

(i) $14,148;

(ii) the lesser of the spousal share or $70,740; or

(iii) the amount required by court order to be paid to the community spouse; and

(2) for persons who begin their first continuous period of institutionalization on or after July 1, 1994, the greater of:

(i) $20,000;

(ii) the lesser of the spousal share or $70,740; or

(iii) the amount required by court order to be paid to the community spouse.

If the assets available to the community spouse are already at the limit permissible

under this section, or the higher limit attributable to increases under subdivision 4, no assets may be transferred from the institutionalized spouse to the community spouse. The transfer must be made as soon as practicable after the date the institutionalized spouse is determined eligible for medical assistance, or within the amount of time needed for any court order required for the transfer. On January 1, 1994, and every January 1 thereafter, the limits in this subdivision shall be adjusted by the same percentage change in the consumer price index for all urban consumers (all items; United States city average) between the two previous Septembers. These adjustments shall also be applied to the limits in subdivision 5.

[For text of subd 4, see M.S.1992]

Subd. 5. **Asset availability.** (a) At the time of application for medical assistance benefits, assets considered available to the institutionalized spouse shall be the total value of all assets in which either spouse has an ownership interest, reduced by the following:

(1) prior to July 1, 1994, the greater of:

(i) $14,148;

(ii) the lesser of the spousal share or $70,740; or

(iii) the amount required by court order to be paid to the community spouse;

(2) for persons who begin their first continuous period of institutionalization on or after July 1, 1994, the greater of:

(i) $20,000;

(ii) the lesser of the spousal share or $70,740; or

(iii) the amount required by court order to be paid to the community spouse. If the community spouse asset allowance has been increased under subdivision 4, then the assets considered available to the institutionalized spouse under this subdivision shall be further reduced by the value of additional amounts allowed under subdivision 4.

(b) An institutionalized spouse may be found eligible for medical assistance even though assets in excess of the allowable amount are found to be available under paragraph (a) if the assets are owned jointly or individually by the community spouse, and the institutionalized spouse cannot use those assets to pay for the cost of care without the consent of the community spouse, and if: (i) the institutionalized spouse assigns to the commissioner the right to support from the community spouse under section 256B.14, subdivision 3; (ii) the institutionalized spouse lacks the ability to execute an assignment due to a physical or mental impairment; or (iii) the denial of eligibility would cause an imminent threat to the institutionalized spouse's health and well-being.

(c) After the month in which the institutionalized spouse is determined eligible for medical assistance, during the continuous period of institutionalization, no assets of the community spouse are considered available to the institutionalized spouse, unless the institutionalized spouse has been found eligible under clause (b).

(d) Assets determined to be available to the institutionalized spouse under this section must be used for the health care or personal needs of the institutionalized spouse.

(e) For purposes of this section, assets do not include assets excluded under section 256B.056, without regard to the limitations on total value in that section.

History: *1Sp1993 c 1 art 5 s 33,34*

256B.0595 PROHIBITIONS ON TRANSFER; EXCEPTIONS.

Subdivision 1. **Prohibited transfers.** (a) If a person or the person's spouse has given away, sold, or disposed of, for less than fair market value, any asset or interest therein, except assets other than the homestead that are excluded under section 256B.056, subdivision 3, within 30 months before or any time after the date of institutionalization if the person has been determined eligible for medical assistance, or within 30 months before or any time after the date of the first approved application for medical assistance

if the person has not yet been determined eligible for medical assistance, the person is ineligible for long-term care services for the period of time determined under subdivision 2.

(b) Effective for transfers made on or after July 1, 1993, or upon federal approval, whichever is later, a person, a person's spouse, or a person's authorized representative may not give away, sell, or dispose of, for less than fair market value, any asset or interest therein, for the purpose of establishing or maintaining medical assistance eligibility. For purposes of determining eligibility for medical assistance, any transfer of an asset within 60 months preceding application for medical assistance or during the period of medical assistance eligibility, including assets excluded under section 256B.056, subdivision 3, for less than fair market value may be considered. Any transfer for less than fair market value made within 60 months preceding application for medical assistance or during the period of medical assistance eligibility is presumed to have been made for the purpose of establishing or maintaining medical assistance eligibility and the person is ineligible for medical assistance for the period of time determined under subdivision 2, unless the person furnishes convincing evidence to establish that the transaction was exclusively for another purpose, or unless the transfer is permitted under subdivisions 3 or 4.

(c) This section applies to transfers, for less than fair market value, of income or assets that are considered income in the month received, such as inheritances, court settlements, and retroactive benefit payments.

(d) This section applies to payments for care or personal services provided by a relative, unless the compensation was stipulated in a notarized, written agreement which was in existence when the service was performed, the care or services directly benefited the person, and the payments made represented reasonable compensation for the care or services provided. A notarized written agreement is not required if payment for the services was made within 60 days after the service was provided.

(e) This section applies to the portion of any asset or interest that a person or a person's spouse transfers to an irrevocable trust, annuity, or other instrument, that exceeds the value of the benefit likely to be returned to the person or spouse while alive, based on estimated life expectancy using the life expectancy tables employed by the supplemental security income program to determine the value of an agreement for services for life. The commissioner may adopt rules reducing life expectancies based on the need for long-term care.

(f) For purposes of this section, long-term care services include nursing facility services, and home and community-based services provided pursuant to section 256B.491. For purposes of this subdivision and subdivisions 2, 3, and 4, "institutionalized person" includes a person who is an inpatient in a nursing facility, or who is receiving home and community-based services under section 256B.491.

Subd. 2. **Period of ineligibility.** (a) For any uncompensated transfer, the number of months of ineligibility for long-term care services shall be the lesser of 30 months, or the uncompensated transfer amount divided by the average medical assistance rate for nursing facility services in the state in effect on the date of application. The amount used to calculate the average medical assistance payment rate shall be adjusted each July 1 to reflect payment rates for the previous calendar year. The period of ineligibility begins with the month in which the assets were transferred. If the transfer was not reported to the local agency at the time of application, and the applicant received long-term care services during what would have been the period of ineligibility if the transfer had been reported, a cause of action exists against the transferee for the cost of long-term care services provided during the period of ineligibility, or for the uncompensated amount of the transfer, whichever is less. The action may be brought by the state or the local agency responsible for providing medical assistance under chapter 256G. The uncompensated transfer amount is the fair market value of the asset at the time it was given away, sold, or disposed of, less the amount of compensation received.

(b) For uncompensated transfers made on or after July 1, 1993, or upon federal approval, whichever is later, the number of months of ineligibility, including partial

months, for medical assistance services shall be the total uncompensated value of the resources transferred divided by the average medical assistance rate for nursing facility services in the state in effect on the date of application. If a calculation of a penalty period results in a partial month, payments for medical assistance services will be reduced in an amount equal to the fraction, except that in calculating the value of uncompensated transfers, uncompensated transfers not to exceed $1,000 in total value per month shall be disregarded for each month prior to the month of application for medical assistance. The amount used to calculate the average medical assistance payment rate shall be adjusted each July 1 to reflect payment rates for the previous calendar year. The period of ineligibility begins with the month in which the assets were transferred except that if one or more uncompensated transfers are made during a period of ineligibility, the total assets transferred during the ineligibility period shall be combined and a penalty period calculated to begin in the month the first uncompensated transfer was made. The penalty in this paragraph shall not apply to uncompensated transfers of assets not to exceed a total of $1,000 per month during a medical assistance eligibility certification period. If the transfer was not reported to the local agency at the time of application, and the applicant received medical assistance services during what would have been the period of ineligibility if the transfer had been reported, a cause of action exists against the transferee for the cost of medical assistance services provided during the period of ineligibility, or for the uncompensated amount of the transfer, whichever is less. The action may be brought by the state or the local agency responsible for providing medical assistance under chapter 256G. The uncompensated transfer amount is the fair market value of the asset at the time it was given away, sold, or disposed of, less the amount of compensation received.

(c) If the total value of all uncompensated transfers made in a month exceeds $1,000, the disregards allowed under paragraph (b) do not apply.

Subd. 3. **Homestead exception to transfer prohibition.** (a) An institutionalized person is not ineligible for long-term care services due to a transfer of assets for less than fair market value if the asset transferred was a homestead and:

(1) title to the homestead was transferred to the individual's

(i) spouse;

(ii) child who is under age 21;

(iii) blind or permanently and totally disabled child as defined in the supplemental security income program;

(iv) sibling who has equity interest in the home and who was residing in the home for a period of at least one year immediately before the date of the individual's admission to the facility; or

(v) son or daughter who was residing in the individual's home for a period of at least two years immediately before the date of the individual's admission to the facility, and who provided care to the individual that permitted the individual to reside at home rather than in an institution or facility;

(2) a satisfactory showing is made that the individual intended to dispose of the homestead at fair market value or for other valuable consideration; or

(3) the local agency grants a waiver of the excess resources created by the uncompensated transfer because denial of eligibility would cause undue hardship for the individual, based on imminent threat to the individual's health and well-being.

(b) When a waiver is granted under paragraph (a), clause (3), a cause of action exists against the person to whom the homestead was transferred for that portion of long-term care services granted within 30 months of the transfer or the amount of the uncompensated transfer, whichever is less, together with the costs incurred due to the action. The action may be brought by the state or the local agency responsible for providing medical assistance under chapter 256G.

(c) Effective for transfers made on or after July 1, 1993, or upon federal approval, whichever is later, an institutionalized person is not ineligible for medical assistance services due to a transfer of assets for less than fair market value if the asset transferred was a homestead and:

(1) title to the homestead was transferred to the individual's

(i) spouse;

(ii) child who is under age 21;

(iii) blind or permanently and totally disabled child as defined in the supplemental security income program;

(iv) sibling who has equity interest in the home and who was residing in the home for a period of at least one year immediately before the date of the individual's admission to the facility; or

(v) son or daughter who was residing in the individual's home for a period of at least two years immediately before the date of the individual's admission to the facility, and who provided care to the individual that permitted the individual to reside at home rather than in an institution or facility;

(2) a satisfactory showing is made that the individual intended to dispose of the homestead at fair market value or for other valuable consideration; or

(3) the local agency grants a waiver of the excess resources created by the uncompensated transfer because denial of eligibility would cause undue hardship for the individual, based on imminent threat to the individual's health and well-being.

(d) When a waiver is granted under paragraph (c), clause (3), a cause of action exists against the person to whom the homestead was transferred for that portion of medical assistance services granted during the period of ineligibility under subdivision 2, or the amount of the uncompensated transfer, whichever is less, together with the costs incurred due to the action. The action may be brought by the state or the local agency responsible for providing medical assistance under chapter 256G.

Subd. 4. **Other exceptions to transfer prohibition.** (a) An institutionalized person who has made, or whose spouse has made a transfer prohibited by subdivision 1, is not ineligible for long-term care services if one of the following conditions applies:

(1) the assets were transferred to the community spouse, as defined in section 256B.059; or

(2) the institutionalized spouse, prior to being institutionalized, transferred assets to a spouse, provided that the spouse to whom the assets were transferred does not then transfer those assets to another person for less than fair market value. (At the time when one spouse is institutionalized, assets must be allocated between the spouses as provided under section 256B.059); or

(3) the assets were transferred to the individual's child who is blind or permanently and totally disabled as determined in the supplemental security income program; or

(4) a satisfactory showing is made that the individual intended to dispose of the assets either at fair market value or for other valuable consideration; or

(5) the local agency determines that denial of eligibility for long-term care services would work an undue hardship and grants a waiver of excess assets. When a waiver is granted, a cause of action exists against the person to whom the assets were transferred for that portion of long-term care services granted within 30 months of the transfer, or the amount of the uncompensated transfer, whichever is less, together with the costs incurred due to the action. The action may be brought by the state or the local agency responsible for providing medical assistance under this chapter.

(b) Effective for transfers made on or after July 1, 1993, or upon federal approval, whichever is later, an institutionalized person who has made, or whose spouse has made a transfer prohibited by subdivision 1, is not ineligible for medical assistance services if one of the following conditions applies:

(1) the assets were transferred to the community spouse, as defined in section 256B.059; or

(2) the institutionalized spouse, prior to being institutionalized, transferred assets to a spouse, provided that the spouse to whom the assets were transferred does not then transfer those assets to another person for less than fair market value. (At the time when

one spouse is institutionalized, assets must be allocated between the spouses as provided under section 256B.059); or

(3) the assets were transferred to the individual's child who is blind or permanently and totally disabled as determined in the supplemental security income program; or

(4) a satisfactory showing is made that the individual intended to dispose of the assets either at fair market value or for other valuable consideration; or

(5) the local agency determines that denial of eligibility for medical assistance services would work an undue hardship and grants a waiver of excess assets. When a waiver is granted, a cause of action exists against the person to whom the assets were transferred for that portion of medical assistance services granted during the period of ineligibility determined under subdivision 2 or the amount of the uncompensated transfer, whichever is less, together with the costs incurred due to the action. The action may be brought by the state or the local agency responsible for providing medical assistance under this chapter.

Subd. 5. **Notice of receipt of federal waiver.** In every instance in which a federal waiver that allows the implementation of a provision in this section is granted, the commissioner shall publish notice of receipt of the waiver in the State Register.

History: *1Sp1993 c 1 art 5 s 35*

256B.0625 COVERED SERVICES.

[For text of subds 1 and 2, see M.S.1992]

Subd. 3. **Physicians' services.** Medical assistance covers physicians' services. Rates paid for anesthesiology services provided by physicians shall be according to the formula utilized in the Medicare program and shall use a conversion factor "at percentile of calendar year set by legislature."

[For text of subds 4 to 5, see M.S.1992]

Subd. 6a. **Home health services.** Home health services are those services specified in Minnesota Rules, part 9505.0290. Medical assistance covers home health services at a recipient's home residence. Medical assistance does not cover home health services for residents of a hospital, nursing facility, intermediate care facility, or a health care facility licensed by the commissioner of health, unless the program is funded under a home and community-based services waiver or unless the commissioner of human services has prior authorized skilled nurse visits for less than 90 days for a resident at an intermediate care facility for persons with mental retardation, to prevent an admission to a hospital or nursing facility or unless a resident who is otherwise eligible is on leave from the facility and the facility either pays for the home health services or forgoes the facility per diem for the leave days that home health services are used. Home health services must be provided by a Medicare certified home health agency. All nursing and home health aide services must be provided according to section 256B.0627.

Subd. 7. **Private duty nursing.** Medical assistance covers private duty nursing services in a recipient's home. Recipients who are authorized to receive private duty nursing services in their home may use approved hours outside of the home during hours when normal life activities take them outside of their home and when, without the provision of private duty nursing, their health and safety would be jeopardized. Medical assistance does not cover private duty nursing services for residents of a hospital, nursing facility, intermediate care facility, or a health care facility licensed by the commissioner of health, except as authorized in section 256B.64 for ventilator-dependent recipients in hospitals or unless a resident who is otherwise eligible is on leave from the facility and the facility either pays for the private duty nursing services or forgoes the facility per diem for the leave days that private duty nursing services are used. Total hours of service and payment allowed for services outside the home cannot exceed that which is otherwise allowed in an in-home setting according to section 256B.0627. All

private duty nursing services must be provided according to the limits established under section 256B.0627. Private duty nursing services may not be reimbursed if the nurse is the spouse of the recipient or the parent or foster care provider of a recipient who is under age 18, or the recipient's legal guardian.

[For text of subds 8 to 10, see M.S.1992]

Subd. 11. **Nurse anesthetist services.** Medical assistance covers nurse anesthetist services. Rates paid for anesthesiology services provided by certified registered nurse anesthetists shall be according to the formula utilized in the Medicare program and shall use the conversion factor that is used by the Medicare program.

[For text of subd 12, see M.S.1992]

Subd. 13. **Drugs.** (a) Medical assistance covers drugs if prescribed by a licensed practitioner and dispensed by a licensed pharmacist, or by a physician enrolled in the medical assistance program as a dispensing physician. The commissioner, after receiving recommendations from professional medical associations and professional pharmacist associations, shall designate a formulary committee to advise the commissioner on the names of drugs for which payment is made, recommend a system for reimbursing providers on a set fee or charge basis rather than the present system, and develop methods encouraging use of generic drugs when they are less expensive and equally effective as trademark drugs. The formulary committee shall consist of nine members, four of whom shall be physicians who are not employed by the department of human services, and a majority of whose practice is for persons paying privately or through health insurance, three of whom shall be pharmacists who are not employed by the department of human services, and a majority of whose practice is for persons paying privately or through health insurance, a consumer representative, and a nursing home representative. Committee members shall serve three-year terms and shall serve without compensation. Members may be reappointed once.

(b) The commissioner shall establish a drug formulary. Its establishment and publication shall not be subject to the requirements of the administrative procedure act, but the formulary committee shall review and comment on the formulary contents. The formulary committee shall review and recommend drugs which require prior authorization. The formulary committee may recommend drugs for prior authorization directly to the commissioner, as long as opportunity for public input is provided. Prior authorization may be requested by the commissioner based on medical and clinical criteria before certain drugs are eligible for payment. Before a drug may be considered for prior authorization at the request of the commissioner:

(1) the drug formulary committee must develop criteria to be used for identifying drugs; the development of these criteria is not subject to the requirements of chapter 14, but the formulary committee shall provide opportunity for public input in developing criteria;

(2) the drug formulary committee must hold a public forum and receive public comment for an additional 15 days; and

(3) the commissioner must provide information to the formulary committee on the impact that placing the drug on prior authorization will have on the quality of patient care and information regarding whether the drug is subject to clinical abuse or misuse. Prior authorization may be required by the commissioner before certain formulary drugs are eligible for payment. The formulary shall not include:

(i) drugs or products for which there is no federal funding;

(ii) over-the-counter drugs, except for antacids, acetaminophen, family planning products, aspirin, insulin, products for the treatment of lice, vitamins for adults with documented vitamin deficiencies, and vitamins for children under the age of seven and pregnant or nursing women;

(iii) any other over-the-counter drug identified by the commissioner, in consultation with the drug formulary committee, as necessary, appropriate, and cost-effective

for the treatment of certain specified chronic diseases, conditions or disorders, and this determination shall not be subject to the requirements of chapter 14;

(iv) anorectics; and

(v) drugs for which medical value has not been established.

The commissioner shall publish conditions for prohibiting payment for specific drugs after considering the formulary committee's recommendations.

(c) The basis for determining the amount of payment shall be the lower of the actual acquisition costs of the drugs plus a fixed dispensing fee established by the commissioner, the maximum allowable cost set by the federal government or by the commissioner plus the fixed dispensing fee or the usual and customary price charged to the public. Actual acquisition cost includes quantity and other special discounts except time and cash discounts. The actual acquisition cost of a drug shall be estimated by the commissioner, at average wholesale price minus 7.6 percent effective January 1, 1994. The maximum allowable cost of a multisource drug may be set by the commissioner and it shall be comparable to, but no higher than, the maximum amount paid by other third party payors in this state who have maximum allowable cost programs. Establishment of the amount of payment for drugs shall not be subject to the requirements of the administrative procedure act. An additional dispensing fee of $.30 may be added to the dispensing fee paid to pharmacists for legend drug prescriptions dispensed to residents of long-term care facilities when a unit dose blister card system, approved by the department, is used. Under this type of dispensing system, the pharmacist must dispense a 30-day supply of drug. The National Drug Code (NDC) from the drug container used to fill the blister card must be identified on the claim to the department. The unit dose blister card containing the drug must meet the packaging standards set forth in Minnesota Rules, part 6800.2700, that govern the return of unused drugs to the pharmacy for reuse. The pharmacy provider will be required to credit the department for the actual acquisition cost of all unused drugs that are eligible for reuse. Over-the-counter medications must be dispensed in the manufacturer's unopened package. The commissioner may permit the drug clozapine to be dispensed in a quantity that is less than a 30-day supply. Whenever a generically equivalent product is available, payment shall be on the basis of the actual acquisition cost of the generic drug, unless the prescriber specifically indicates "dispense as written - brand necessary" on the prescription as required by section 151.21, subdivision 2. Implementation of any change in the fixed dispensing fee that has not been subject to the administrative procedure act is limited to not more than 180 days, unless, during that time, the commissioner initiates rulemaking through the administrative procedure act.

(d) Until the date the on-line, real-time Medicaid Management Information System (MMIS) upgrade is successfully implemented, as determined by the commissioner of administration, a pharmacy provider may require individuals who seek to become eligible for medical assistance under a one-month spend-down, as provided in section 256B.056, subdivision 5, to pay for services to the extent of the spend-down amount at the time the services are provided. A pharmacy provider choosing this option shall file a medical assistance claim for the pharmacy services provided. If medical assistance reimbursement is received for this claim, the pharmacy provider shall return to the individual the total amount paid by the individual for the pharmacy services reimbursed by the medical assistance program. If the claim is not eligible for medical assistance reimbursement because of the provider's failure to comply with the provisions of the medical assistance program, the pharmacy provider shall refund to the individual the total amount paid by the individual. Pharmacy providers may choose this option only if they apply similar credit restrictions to private pay or privately insured individuals. A pharmacy provider choosing this option must inform individuals who seek to become eligible for medical assistance under a one-month spend-down of (1) their right to appeal the denial of services on the grounds that they have satisfied the spend-down requirement, and (2) their potential eligibility for the health right program or the children's health plan.

Subd. 13a. **Drug utilization review board.** A 12-member drug utilization review

board is established. The board is comprised of six licensed physicians actively engaged in the practice of medicine in Minnesota; five licensed pharmacists actively engaged in the practice of pharmacy in Minnesota; and one consumer representative. The board shall be staffed by an employee of the department who shall serve as an ex officio nonvoting member of the board. The members of the board shall be appointed by the commissioner and shall serve three-year terms. The physician members shall be selected from lists submitted by professional medical associations. The pharmacist members shall be selected from lists submitted by professional pharmacist associations. The commissioner shall appoint the initial members of the board for terms expiring as follows: four members for terms expiring June 30, 1995; four members for terms expiring June 30, 1994; and four members for terms expiring June 30, 1993. Members may be reappointed once. The board shall annually elect a chair from among the members.

The commissioner shall, with the advice of the board:

(1) implement a medical assistance retrospective and prospective drug utilization review program as required by United States Code, title 42, section 1396r-8(g)(3);

(2) develop and implement the predetermined criteria and practice parameters for appropriate prescribing to be used in retrospective and prospective drug utilization review;

(3) develop, select, implement, and assess interventions for physicians, pharmacists, and patients that are educational and not punitive in nature;

(4) establish a grievance and appeals process for physicians and pharmacists under this section;

(5) publish and disseminate educational information to physicians and pharmacists regarding the board and the review program;

(6) adopt and implement procedures designed to ensure the confidentiality of any information collected, stored, retrieved, assessed, or analyzed by the board, staff to the board, or contractors to the review program that identifies individual physicians, pharmacists, or recipients;

(7) establish and implement an ongoing process to (i) receive public comment regarding drug utilization review criteria and standards, and (ii) consider the comments along with other scientific and clinical information in order to revise criteria and standards on a timely basis; and

(8) adopt any rules necessary to carry out this section.

The board may establish advisory committees. The commissioner may contract with appropriate organizations to assist the board in carrying out the board's duties. The commissioner may enter into contracts for services to develop and implement a retrospective and prospective review program.

The board shall report to the commissioner annually on December 1. The commissioner shall make the report available to the public upon request. The report must include information on the activities of the board and the program; the effectiveness of implemented interventions; administrative costs; and any fiscal impact resulting from the program.

Subd. 14. **Diagnostic, screening, and preventive services.** (a) Medical assistance covers diagnostic, screening, and preventive services.

(b) "Preventive services" include services related to pregnancy, including services for those conditions which may complicate a pregnancy and which may be available to a pregnant woman determined to be at risk of poor pregnancy outcome. Preventive services available to a woman at risk of poor pregnancy outcome may differ in an amount, duration, or scope from those available to other individuals eligible for medical assistance.

(c) "Screening services" include, but are not limited to, blood lead tests.

Subd. 15. **Health plan premiums and copayments.** Medical assistance covers health care prepayment plan premiums, insurance premiums, and copayments if determined to be cost-effective by the commissioner. For purposes of obtaining Medicare part A

and part B, and copayments, expenditures may be made even if federal funding is not available.

[For text of subd 16, see M.S.1992]

Subd. 17. **Transportation costs.** (a) Medical assistance covers transportation costs incurred solely for obtaining emergency medical care or transportation costs incurred by nonambulatory persons in obtaining emergency or nonemergency medical care when paid directly to an ambulance company, common carrier, or other recognized providers of transportation services. For the purpose of this subdivision, a person who is incapable of transport by taxicab or bus shall be considered to be nonambulatory.

(b) Medical assistance covers special transportation, as defined in Minnesota Rules, part 9505.0315, subpart 1, item F, if the provider receives and maintains a current physician's order by the recipient's attending physician. The commissioner shall establish maximum medical assistance reimbursement rates for special transportation services for persons who need a wheelchair lift van or stretcher-equipped vehicle and for those who do not need a wheelchair lift van or stretcher-equipped vehicle. The average of these two rates must not exceed $14 for the base rate and $1.10 per mile. Special transportation provided to nonambulatory persons who do not need a wheelchair lift van or stretcher-equipped vehicle, may be reimbursed at a lower rate than special transportation provided to persons who need a wheelchair lift van or stretcher-equipped vehicle.

[For text of subd 18, see M.S.1992]

Subd. 19a. **Personal care services.** Medical assistance covers personal care services in a recipient's home. Recipients who can direct their own care, or persons who cannot direct their own care when authorized by the responsible party, may use approved hours outside the home when normal life activities take them outside the home and when, without the provision of personal care, their health and safety would be jeopardized. Medical assistance does not cover personal care services for residents of a hospital, nursing facility, intermediate care facility, health care facility licensed by the commissioner of health, or unless a resident who is otherwise eligible is on leave from the facility and the facility either pays for the personal care services or forgoes the facility per diem for the leave days that personal care services are used except as authorized in section 256B.64 for ventilator-dependent recipients in hospitals. Total hours of service and payment allowed for services outside the home cannot exceed that which is otherwise allowed for personal care services in an in-home setting according to section 256B.0627. All personal care services must be provided according to section 256B.0627. Personal care services may not be reimbursed if the personal care assistant is the spouse of the recipient or the parent of a recipient under age 18, the responsible party or the foster care provider of a recipient who cannot direct the recipient's own care or the recipient's legal guardian unless, in the case of a foster provider, a county or state case manager visits the recipient as needed, but no less than every six months, to monitor the health and safety of the recipient and to ensure the goals of the care plan are met. Parents of adult recipients, adult children of the recipient or adult siblings of the recipient may be reimbursed for personal care services if they are granted a waiver under section 256B.0627.

[For text of subds 19b and 19c, see M.S.1992]

Subd. 20. **Mental illness case management.** (a) To the extent authorized by rule of the state agency, medical assistance covers case management services to persons with serious and persistent mental illness or subject to federal approval, children with severe emotional disturbance. Entities meeting program standards set out in rules governing family community support services as defined in section 245.4871, subdivision 17, are eligible for medical assistance reimbursement for case management services for children with severe emotional disturbance when these services meet the program standards in Minnesota Rules, parts 9520.0900 to 9520.0926 and 9505.0322, excluding subpart 6.

(b) In counties where fewer than 50 percent of children estimated to be eligible under medical assistance to receive case management services for children with severe emotional disturbance actually receive these services in state fiscal year 1995, community mental health centers serving those counties, entities meeting program standards in Minnesota Rules, parts 9520.0570 to 9520.0870, and other entities authorized by the commissioner are eligible for medical assistance reimbursement for case management services for children with severe emotional disturbance when these services meet the program standards in Minnesota Rules, parts 9520.0900 to 9520.0926 and 9505.0322, excluding subpart 6.

[For text of subds 20a to 26, see M.S.1992]

Subd. 27. **Organ and tissue transplants.** Medical assistance coverage for organ transplant procedures is limited to those procedures covered by the Medicare program; heart-lung transplants for persons with primary pulmonary hypertension and performed at Minnesota transplant centers meeting united network for organ sharing criteria to perform heart-lung transplants; lung transplants using cadaveric donors and performed at Minnesota transplant centers meeting united network for organ sharing criteria to perform lung transplants; pancreas transplants for uremic diabetic recipients of kidney transplants and performed at Minnesota facilities meeting united network for organ sharing criteria to perform pancreas transplants; and allogenic bone marrow transplants for persons with stage III or IV Hodgkin's disease. Transplant procedures must comply with all applicable laws, rules, and regulations governing (1) coverage by the Medicare program, (2) federal financial participation by the Medicaid program, and (3) coverage by the Minnesota medical assistance program. Transplant centers must meet american society of hematology and clinical oncology criteria for bone marrow transplants and be located in Minnesota to receive reimbursement for bone marrow transplants.

Subd. 28. **Certified nurse practitioner services.** Medical assistance covers services performed by a certified pediatric nurse practitioner, a certified family nurse practitioner, a certified adult nurse practitioner, a certified obstetric/gynecological nurse practitioner, or a certified geriatric nurse practitioner in independent practice, if the services are otherwise covered under this chapter as a physician service, and if the service is within the scope of practice of the nurse practitioner's license as a registered nurse, as defined in section 148.171.

Subd. 29. **Public health nursing clinic services.** Medical assistance covers the services of a certified public health nurse or a registered nurse practicing in a public health nursing clinic that is a department of, or that operates under the direct authority of, a unit of government, if the service is within the scope of practice of the public health or registered nurse's license as a registered nurse, as defined in section 148.171.

[For text of subds 30 and 31, see M.S.1992]

Subd. 32. **Nutritional products.** (a) Medical assistance covers nutritional products needed for nutritional supplementation because solid food or nutrients thereof cannot be properly absorbed by the body or needed for treatment of phenylketonuria, hyperlysinemia, maple syrup urine disease, a combined allergy to human milk, cow's milk, and soy formula, or any other childhood or adult diseases, conditions, or disorders identified by the commissioner as requiring a similarly necessary nutritional product. Nutritional products needed for the treatment of a combined allergy to human milk, cow's milk, and soy formula require prior authorization. Separate payment shall not be made for nutritional products for residents of long-term care facilities. Payment for dietary requirements is a component of the per diem rate paid to these facilities.

(b) The commissioner shall designate a nutritional supplementation products advisory committee to advise the commissioner on nutritional supplementation products for which payment is made. The committee shall consist of nine members, one of whom shall be a physician, one of whom shall be a pharmacist, two of whom shall be registered dietitians, one of whom shall be a public health nurse, one of whom shall be

a representative of a home health care agency, one of whom shall be a provider of long-term care services, and two of whom shall be consumers of nutritional supplementation products. Committee members shall serve two-year terms and shall serve without compensation.

(c) The advisory committee shall review and recommend nutritional supplementation products which require prior authorization. The commissioner shall develop procedures for the operation of the advisory committee so that the advisory committee operates in a manner parallel to the drug formulary committee.

Subd. 33. **Child welfare targeted case management.** Medical assistance, subject to federal approval, covers child welfare targeted case management services as defined in section 256B.094 to children under age 21 who have been assessed and determined in accordance with section 256F.095 to be:

(1) at risk of placement or in placement as defined in section 257.071, subdivision 1;

(2) at risk of maltreatment or experiencing maltreatment as defined in section 626.556, subdivision 10e; or

(3) in need of protection or services as defined in section 260.015, subdivision 2a.

Subd. 34. **American Indian health services facilities.** Medical assistance payments to American Indian health services facilities for outpatient medical services billed after June 30, 1990, must be in accordance with the rate published by the United States Assistant Secretary for Health under the authority of United States Code, title 42, sections 248(a) and 249(b). General assistance medical care payments to American Indian health services facilities for the provision of outpatient medical care services billed after June 30, 1990, must be in accordance with the general assistance medical care rates paid for the same services when provided in a facility other than an American Indian health service facility.

Subd. 35. **Family community support services.** Medical assistance covers family community support services as defined in section 245.4871, subdivision 17.

Subd. 36. **Therapeutic support of foster care.** Medical assistance covers therapeutic support of foster care as defined in section 245.4871, subdivision 34.

Subd. 37. **Wraparound services.** Medical assistance covers wraparound services as defined in section 245.492, subdivision 20, that are provided through a local children's mental health collaborative, as that entity is defined in section 245.492, subdivision 11.

History: *1993 c 246 s 1,2; 1993 c 345 art 13 s 1; 1Sp1993 c 1 art 3 s 23; art 5 s 36-49; art 7 s 41-44; art 9 s 71; 1Sp1993 c 6 s 10*

NOTE: The amendment to subdivision 20, paragraph (b), by Laws 1993, First Special Session chapter 1, article 7, section 41, is effective October 1, 1995. See Laws 1993, First Special Session chapter 1, article 7, section 51, subdivision 4.

NOTE: Subdivisions 35 and 36, as added by Laws 1993, First Special Session chapter 1, article 7, sections 42 and 43, are effective October 1, 1994. See Laws 1993, First Special Session chapter 1, article 7, section 51, subdivision 5.

256B.0626 ESTIMATION OF 50TH PERCENTILE OF PREVAILING CHARGES.

(a) The 50th percentile of the prevailing charge for the base year identified in statute must be estimated by the commissioner in the following situations:

(1) there were less than ten billings in the calendar year specified in legislation governing maximum payment rates;

(2) the service was not available in the calendar year specified in legislation governing maximum payment rates;

(3) the payment amount is the result of a provider appeal;

(4) the procedure code description has changed since the calendar year specified in legislation governing maximum payment rates, and, therefore, the prevailing charge information reflects the same code but a different procedure description; or

(5) the 50th percentile reflects a payment which is grossly inequitable when compared with payment rates for procedures or services which are substantially similar.

(b) When one of the situations identified in paragraph (a) occurs, the commissioner shall use the following methodology to reconstruct a rate comparable to the 50th percentile of the prevailing rate:

(1) refer to information which exists for the first nine billings in the calendar year specified in legislation governing maximum payment rates; or

(2) refer to surrounding or comparable procedure codes; or

(3) refer to the 50th percentile of years subsequent to the calendar year specified in legislation governing maximum payment rates, and reduce that amount by applying an appropriate Consumer Price Index formula; or

(4) refer to relative value indexes; or

(5) refer to reimbursement information from other third parties, such as Medicare.

History: *1Sp1993 c 1 art 5 s 50*

256B.0627 COVERED SERVICE; HOME CARE SERVICES.

Subdivision 1. **Definition.** (a) "Home care services" means a health service, determined by the commissioner as medically necessary, that is ordered by a physician and documented in a care plan that is reviewed by the physician at least once every 60 days for the provision of home health services, or private duty nursing, or at least once every 365 days for personal care. Home care services are provided to the recipient at the recipient's residence that is a place other than a hospital or long-term care facility or as specified in section 256B.0625.

(b) "Medically necessary" has the meaning given in Minnesota Rules, parts 9505.0170 to 9505.0475.

(c) "Care plan" means a written description of the services needed which is developed by the supervisory nurse together with the recipient or responsible party and includes a detailed description of the covered home care services, who is providing the services, frequency and duration of services, and expected outcomes and goals. The provider must give the recipient or responsible party a copy of the completed care plan within 30 days of beginning home care services.

(d) "Responsible party" means an individual residing with a recipient of personal care services who is capable of providing the supportive care necessary to assist the recipient to live in the community, is at least 18 years old, and is not a personal care assistant. Responsible parties who are parents of minors or guardians of minors or incapacitated persons may delegate the responsibility to another adult during a temporary absence of at least 24 hours but not more than six months. The person delegated as a responsible party must be able to meet the definition of responsible party, except that the delegated responsible party is required to reside with the recipient only while serving as the responsible party. Foster care license holders may be designated the responsible party for residents of the foster care home if case management is provided as required in section 256B.0625, subdivision 19a. For persons who, as of April 1, 1992, are sharing personal care services in order to obtain the availability of 24-hour coverage, an employee of the personal care provider organization may be designated as the responsible party if case management is provided as required in section 256B.0625, subdivision 19a.

[For text of subd 2, see M.S.1992]

Subd. 4. **Personal care services.** (a) The personal care services that are eligible for payment are the following:

(1) bowel and bladder care;

(2) skin care to maintain the health of the skin;

(3) delegated therapy tasks specific to maintaining a recipient's optimal level of functioning, including range of motion and muscle strengthening exercises;

(4) respiratory assistance;

(5) transfers and ambulation;

(6) bathing, grooming, and hairwashing necessary for personal hygiene;

(7) turning and positioning;

(8) assistance with furnishing medication that is normally self-administered;

(9) application and maintenance of prosthetics and orthotics;

(10) cleaning medical equipment;

(11) dressing or undressing;

(12) assistance with food, nutrition, and diet activities;

(13) accompanying a recipient to obtain medical diagnosis or treatment;

(14) assisting, monitoring, or prompting the recipient to complete the services in clauses (1) to (13);

(15) redirection, monitoring, and observation that are medically necessary and an integral part of completing the personal cares described in clauses (1) to (14);

(16) redirection and intervention for behavior, including observation and monitoring;

(17) interventions for seizure disorders including monitoring and observation if the recipient has had a seizure that requires intervention within the past three months; and

(18) incidental household services that are an integral part of a personal care service described in clauses (1) to (17).

For purposes of this subdivision, monitoring and observation means watching for outward visible signs that are likely to occur and for which there is a covered personal care service or an appropriate personal care intervention.

(b) The personal care services that are not eligible for payment are the following:

(1) personal care services that are not in the care plan developed by the supervising registered nurse in consultation with the personal care assistants and the recipient or the responsible party directing the care of the recipient;

(2) services that are not supervised by the registered nurse;

(3) services provided by the recipient's spouse, legal guardian, or parent of a minor child;

(4) services provided by a foster care provider of a recipient who cannot direct their own care, unless monitored by a county or state case manager under section 256B.0625, subdivision 19a;

(5) services provided by the residential or program license holder in a residence for more than four persons;

(6) services that are the responsibility of a residential or program license holder under the terms of a service agreement and administrative rules;

(7) sterile procedures;

(8) injections of fluids into veins, muscles, or skin;

(9) services provided by parents of adult recipients, adult children, or siblings, unless these relatives meet one of the following hardship criteria and the commissioner waives this requirement:

(i) the relative resigns from a part-time or full-time job to provide personal care for the recipient;

(ii) the relative goes from a full-time to a part-time job with less compensation to provide personal care for the recipient;

(iii) the relative takes a leave of absence without pay to provide personal care for the recipient;

(iv) the relative incurs substantial expenses by providing personal care for the recipient; or

(v) because of labor conditions, the relative is needed in order to provide an adequate number of qualified personal care assistants to meet the medical needs of the recipient;

(10) homemaker services that are not an integral part of a personal care services; and

(11) home maintenance, or chore services.

Subd. 5. **Limitation on payments.** Medical assistance payments for home care services shall be limited according to this subdivision.

(a) **Exemption from payment limitations.** The level, or the number of hours or visits of a specific service, of home care services to a recipient that began before and is continued without increase on or after December 1987, shall be exempt from the payment limitations of this section, as long as the services are medically necessary.

(b) **Limits on services without prior authorization.** A recipient may receive the following amounts of home care services during a calendar year:

(1) a total of 40 home health aide visits or skilled nurse visits under section 256B.0625, subdivision 6a; and

(2) up to two assessments by a supervising registered nurse to determine a recipient's need for personal care services, develop a care plan, and obtain prior authorization. Additional visits may be authorized by the commissioner if there are circumstances that necessitate a change in provider.

(c) **Prior authorization; exceptions.** All home care services above the limits in paragraph (b) must receive the commissioner's prior authorization, except when:

(1) the home care services were required to treat an emergency medical condition that if not immediately treated could cause a recipient serious physical or mental disability, continuation of severe pain, or death. The provider must request retroactive authorization no later than five working days after giving the initial service. The provider must be able to substantiate the emergency by documentation such as reports, notes, and admission or discharge histories;

(2) the home care services were provided on or after the date on which the recipient's eligibility began, but before the date on which the recipient was notified that the case was opened. Authorization will be considered if the request is submitted by the provider within 20 working days of the date the recipient was notified that the case was opened;

(3) a third party payor for home care services has denied or adjusted a payment. Authorization requests must be submitted by the provider within 20 working days of the notice of denial or adjustment. A copy of the notice must be included with the request; or

(4) the commissioner has determined that a county or state human services agency has made an error.

(d) **Retroactive authorization.** A request for retroactive authorization under paragraph (c) will be evaluated according to the same criteria applied to prior authorization requests. Implementation of this provision shall begin no later than October 1, 1991, except that recipients who are currently receiving medically necessary services above the limits established under this subdivision may have a reasonable amount of time to arrange for waivered services under section 256B.49 or to establish an alternative living arrangement. All current recipients shall be phased down to the limits established under paragraph (b) on or before April 1, 1992.

(e) **Assessment and care plan.** The home care provider shall conduct initially, and at least annually thereafter, a face-to-face assessment of the recipient and complete a care plan using forms specified by the commissioner. For the recipient to receive, or continue to receive, home care services, the provider must submit evidence necessary for the commissioner to determine the medical necessity of the home care services. The provider shall submit to the commissioner the assessment, the care plan, and other information necessary to determine medical necessity such as diagnostic or testing information, social or medical histories, and hospital or facility discharge summaries. To continue to receive home care services when the recipient displays no significant change, the supervising nurse has the option to review with the commissioner, or the commissioner's designee, the care plan on record and receive authorization for up to an additional 12 months.

(f) **Prior authorization.** The commissioner, or the commissioner's designee, shall review the assessment, the care plan, and any additional information that is submitted. The commissioner shall, within 30 days after receiving a complete request, assessment, and care plan, authorize home care services as follows:

(1) **Home health services.** All home health services provided by a nurse or a home health aide that exceed the limits established in paragraph (b) must be prior authorized by the commissioner or the commissioner's designee. Prior authorization must be based on medical necessity and cost-effectiveness when compared with other care options. When home health services are used in combination with personal care and private duty nursing, the cost of all home care services shall be considered for cost-effectiveness. The commissioner shall limit nurse and home health aide visits to no more than one visit each per day.

(2) **Personal care services.** (i) All personal care services must be prior authorized by the commissioner or the commissioner's designee except for the limits on supervision established in paragraph (b). The amount of personal care services authorized must be based on the recipient's home care rating. A child may not be found to be dependent in an activity of daily living if because of the child's age an adult would either perform the activity for the child or assist the child with the activity and the amount of assistance needed is similar to the assistance appropriate for a typical child of the same age. Based on medical necessity, the commissioner may authorize:

(A) up to two times the average number of direct care hours provided in nursing facilities for the recipient's comparable case mix level; or

(B) up to three times the average number of direct care hours provided in nursing facilities for recipients who have complex medical needs or are dependent in at least seven activities of daily living and need physical assistance with eating or have a neurological diagnosis; or

(C) up to 60 percent of the average reimbursement rate, as of July 1, 1991, plus any inflation adjustment provided, for care provided in a regional treatment center for recipients who have Level I behavior; or

(D) up to the amount the commissioner would pay, as of July 1, 1991, plus any inflation adjustment provided, for care provided in a regional treatment center for recipients referred to the commissioner by a regional treatment center preadmission evaluation team. For purposes of this clause, home care services means all services provided in the home or community that would be included in the payment to a regional treatment center; or

(E) up to the amount medical assistance would reimburse for facility care for recipients referred to the commissioner by a preadmission screening team established under section 256B.0911 or 256B.092; and

(F) a reasonable amount of time for the necessary provision of nursing supervision of personal care services.

(ii) The number of direct care hours shall be determined according to the annual cost report submitted to the department by nursing facilities. The average number of direct care hours, as established by May 1, 1992, shall be calculated and incorporated into the home care limits on July 1, 1992. These limits shall be calculated to the nearest quarter hour.

(iii) The home care rating shall be determined by the commissioner or the commissioner's designee based on information submitted to the commissioner by the personal care provider on forms specified by the commissioner. The home care rating shall be a combination of current assessment tools developed under sections 256B.0911 and 256B.501 with an addition for seizure activity that will assess the frequency and severity of seizure activity and with adjustments, additions, and clarifications that are necessary to reflect the needs and conditions of children and nonelderly adults who need home care. The commissioner shall establish these forms and protocols under this section and shall use the advisory group established in section 256B.04, subdivision 16, for consultation in establishing the forms and protocols by October 1, 1991.

(iv) A recipient shall qualify as having complex medical needs if the care required is difficult to perform and because of recipient's medical condition requires more time than community-based standards allow or requires more skill than would ordinarily be required and the recipient needs or has one or more of the following:

(A) daily tube feedings;

(B) daily parenteral therapy;

(C) wound or decubiti care;

(D) postural drainage, percussion, nebulizer treatments, suctioning, tracheotomy care, oxygen, mechanical ventilation;

(E) catheterization;

(F) ostomy care;

(G) quadriplegia; or

(H) other comparable medical conditions or treatments the commissioner determines would otherwise require institutional care.

(v) A recipient shall qualify as having Level I behavior if there is reasonable supporting evidence that the recipient exhibits, or that without supervision, observation, or redirection would exhibit, one or more of the following behaviors that cause, or have the potential to cause:

(A) injury to his or her own body;

(B) physical injury to other people; or

(C) destruction of property.

(vi) Time authorized for personal care relating to Level I behavior in subclause (v), items (A) to (C), shall be based on the predictability, frequency, and amount of intervention required.

(vii) A recipient shall qualify as having Level II behavior if the recipient exhibits on a daily basis one or more of the following behaviors that interfere with the completion of personal care services under subdivision 4, paragraph (a):

(A) unusual or repetitive habits;

(B) withdrawn behavior; or

(C) offensive behavior.

(viii) A recipient with a home care rating of Level II behavior in subclause (vii), items (A) to (C), shall be rated as comparable to a recipient with complex medical needs under subclause (iv). If a recipient has both complex medical needs and Level II behavior, the home care rating shall be the next complex category up to the maximum rating under subclause (i), item (B).

(3) **Private duty nursing services.** All private duty nursing services shall be prior authorized by the commissioner or the commissioner's designee. Prior authorization for private duty nursing services shall be based on medical necessity and cost-effectiveness when compared with alternative care options. The commissioner may authorize medically necessary private duty nursing services in quarter-hour units when:

(i) the recipient requires more individual and continuous care than can be provided during a nurse visit; or

(ii) the cares are outside of the scope of services that can be provided by a home health aide or personal care assistant.

The commissioner may authorize:

(A) up to two times the average amount of direct care hours provided in nursing facilities statewide for case mix classification "K" as established by the annual cost report submitted to the department by nursing facilities in May 1992;

(B) private duty nursing in combination with other home care services up to the total cost allowed under clause (2);

(C) up to 16 hours per day if the recipient requires more nursing than the maximum number of direct care hours as established in item (A) and the recipient meets

the hospital admission criteria established under Minnesota Rules, parts 9505.0500 to 9505.0540.

The commissioner may authorize up to 16 hours per day of private duty nursing services or up to 24 hours per day of private duty nursing services until such time as the commissioner is able to make a determination of eligibility for recipients who are cooperatively applying for home care services under the community alternative care program developed under section 256B.49, or until it is determined by the appropriate regulatory agency that a health benefit plan is or is not required to pay for appropriate medically necessary health care services. Recipients or their representatives must cooperatively assist the commissioner in obtaining this determination. Recipients who are eligible for the community alternative care program may not receive more hours of nursing under this section than would otherwise be authorized under section 256B.49.

(4) **Ventilator-dependent recipients.** If the recipient is ventilator-dependent, the monthly medical assistance authorization for home care services shall not exceed what the commissioner would pay for care at the highest cost hospital designated as a long-term hospital under the Medicare program. For purposes of this clause, home care services means all services provided in the home that would be included in the payment for care at the long-term hospital. "Ventilator-dependent" means an individual who receives mechanical ventilation for life support at least six hours per day and is expected to be or has been dependent for at least 30 consecutive days.

(g) **Prior authorization; time limits.** The commissioner or the commissioner's designee shall determine the time period for which a prior authorization shall be effective. If the recipient continues to require home care services beyond the duration of the prior authorization, the home care provider must request a new prior authorization through the process described above. Under no circumstances, other than the exceptions in subdivision 5, paragraph (c), shall a prior authorization be valid prior to the date the commissioner receives the request or for more than 12 months. A recipient who appeals a reduction in previously authorized home care services may continue previously authorized services, other than temporary services under paragraph (i), pending an appeal under section 256.045. The commissioner must provide a detailed explanation of why the authorized services are reduced in amount from those requested by the home care provider.

(h) **Approval of home care services.** The commissioner or the commissioner's designee shall determine the medical necessity of home care services, the level of caregiver according to subdivision 2, and the institutional comparison according to this subdivision, the cost-effectiveness of services, and the amount, scope, and duration of home care services reimbursable by medical assistance, based on the assessment, the care plan, the recipient's age, the cost of services, the recipient's medical condition, and diagnosis or disability. The commissioner may publish additional criteria for determining medical necessity according to section 256B.04.

(i) **Prior authorization requests; temporary services.** Providers may request a temporary authorization for home care services by telephone. The commissioner may approve a temporary level of home care services based on the assessment and care plan information provided by an appropriately licensed nurse. Authorization for a temporary level of home care services is limited to the time specified by the commissioner, but shall not exceed 45 days. The level of services authorized under this provision shall have no bearing on a future prior authorization.

(j) **Prior authorization required in foster care setting.** Home care services provided in an adult or child foster care setting must receive prior authorization by the department according to the limits established in paragraph (b).

The commissioner may not authorize:

(1) home care services that are the responsibility of the foster care provider under the terms of the foster care placement agreement and administrative rules;

(2) personal care services when the foster care license holder is also the personal care provider or personal care assistant unless the recipient can direct the recipient's

own care, or case management is provided as required in section 256B.0625, subdivision 19a;

(3) personal care services when the responsible party is an employee of, or under contract with, or has any direct or indirect financial relationship with the personal care provider or personal care assistant, unless case management is provided as required in section 256B.0625, subdivision 19a;

(4) home care services when the number of foster care residents is greater than four unless the county responsible for the recipient's foster placement made the placement prior to April 1, 1992, requests that home care services be provided, and case management is provided as required in section 256B.0625, subdivision 19a; or

(5) home care services when combined with foster care payments, other than room and board payments plus the cost of home and community-based waivered services unless the costs of home care services and waivered services are combined and managed under the waiver program, that exceed the total amount that public funds would pay for the recipient's care in a medical institution.

[For text of subd 6, see M.S.1992]

History: *1Sp1993 c 1 art 5 s 51-53*

256B.0628 PRIOR AUTHORIZATION AND REVIEW OF HOME CARE SERVICES.

[For text of subd 1, see M.S.1992]

Subd. 2. **Duties.** (a) The commissioner may contract with or employ qualified registered nurses and necessary support staff, or contract with qualified agencies, to provide home care prior authorization and review services for medical assistance recipients who are receiving home care services.

(b) Reimbursement for the prior authorization function shall be made through the medical assistance administrative authority. The state shall pay the nonfederal share. The functions will be to:

(1) assess the recipient's individual need for services required to be cared for safely in the community;

(2) ensure that a care plan that meets the recipient's needs is developed by the appropriate agency or individual;

(3) ensure cost-effectiveness of medical assistance home care services;

(4) recommend the approval or denial of the use of medical assistance funds to pay for home care services when home care services exceed thresholds established by the commissioner under Minnesota Rules, parts 9505.0170 to 9505.0475;

(5) reassess the recipient's need for and level of home care services at a frequency determined by the commissioner; and

(6) conduct on-site assessments when determined necessary by the commissioner and recommend changes to care plans that will provide more efficient and appropriate home care.

(c) In addition, the commissioner or the commissioner's designee may:

(1) review care plans and reimbursement data for utilization of services that exceed community-based standards for home care, inappropriate home care services, medical necessity, home care services that do not meet quality of care standards, or unauthorized services and make appropriate referrals within the department or to other appropriate entities based on the findings;

(2) assist the recipient in obtaining services necessary to allow the recipient to remain safely in or return to the community;

(3) coordinate home care services with other medical assistance services under section 256B.0625;

(4) assist the recipient with problems related to the provision of home care services; and

(5) assure the quality of home care services.

(d) For the purposes of this section, "home care services" means medical assistance services defined under section 256B.0625, subdivisions 6a, 7, and 19a.

History: *1Sp1993 c 1 art 5 s 54*

256B.0629 ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON ORGAN AND TISSUE TRANSPLANTS.

[For text of subds 1 and 2, see M.S.1992]

Subd. 3. **Annual report.** The advisory committee shall present an annual report to the commissioner and the chairs of the health and housing finance division of the house health and human services committee and the health care and family services division of the senate family services and health care committees by January 1 of each year on the findings and recommendations of the committee.

Subd. 4. **Responsibilities of the commissioner.** (a) The commissioner shall periodically:

(1) Recommend to the legislature criteria governing the eligibility of organ and tissue transplant procedures for reimbursement from medical assistance and general assistance medical care. Procedures approved by Medicare are automatically eligible for medical assistance and general assistance medical care reimbursement. Additional procedures are eligible for reimbursement only if they are recommended by both the task force and the commissioner.

(2) Recommend to the legislature criteria for certifying transplant centers within and outside of Minnesota where Minnesotans receiving medical assistance and general assistance medical care may obtain transplants. Additional centers may be certified only upon approval of the legislature. Only centers recommended by the task force and the commissioner may be considered by the legislature.

History: *1993 c 4 s 29; 1993 c 339 s 24; 1Sp1993 c 1 art 5 s 55; 1Sp1993 c 6 s 11*

NOTE: Subdivision 4 was also amended by Laws 1993, chapter 337, section 16, to read as follows:

"Subd. 4. **Responsibilities of the commissioner.** The commissioner shall periodically:

(1) Recommend to the legislature criteria governing the eligibility of organ and tissue transplant procedures for reimbursement from medical assistance and general assistance medical care. Procedures approved by Medicare are automatically eligible for medical assistance and general assistance medical care reimbursement. Additional procedures are eligible for reimbursement only upon approval by the legislature. Only procedures recommended by the commissioner may be considered by the legislature.

(2) Recommend to the legislature criteria for certifying transplant centers within and outside of Minnesota where Minnesotans receiving medical assistance and general assistance medical care may obtain transplants. Additional centers may be certified only upon approval of the legislature. Only centers recommended by the commissioner may be considered by the legislature."

256B.0644 PARTICIPATION REQUIRED FOR REIMBURSEMENT UNDER OTHER STATE HEALTH CARE PROGRAMS.

A vendor of medical care, as defined in section 256B.02, subdivision 7, and a health maintenance organization, as defined in chapter 62D, must participate as a provider or contractor in the medical assistance program, general assistance medical care program, and MinnesotaCare as a condition of participating as a provider in health insurance plans or contractor for state employees established under section 43A.18, the public employees insurance plan under section 43A.316, for health insurance plans offered to local statutory or home rule charter city, county, and school district employees, the workers' compensation system under section 176.135, and insurance plans provided through the Minnesota comprehensive health association under sections 62E.01 to 62E.16. The limitations on insurance plans offered to local government employees shall not be applicable in geographic areas where provider participation is limited by managed care contracts with the department of human services. For providers other than health maintenance organizations, participation in the medical assistance program means that (1) the provider accepts new medical assistance, general assistance medical care, and MinnesotaCare patients or (2) at least 20 percent of the provider's

patients are covered by medical assistance, general assistance medical care, and MinnesotaCare as their primary source of coverage. The commissioner shall establish participation requirements for health maintenance organizations. The commissioner shall provide lists of participating medical assistance providers on a quarterly basis to the commissioner of employee relations, the commissioner of labor and industry, and the commissioner of commerce. Each of the commissioners shall develop and implement procedures to exclude as participating providers in the program or programs under their jurisdiction those providers who do not participate in the medical assistance program. The commissioner of employee relations shall implement this section through contracts with participating health and dental carriers.

History: *1993 c 13 art 2 s 7; 1993 c 247 art 4 s 9; 1993 c 339 s 14; 1993 c 345 art 9 s 14*

256B.0911 NURSING FACILITY PREADMISSION SCREENING.

[For text of subd 1, see M.S.1992]

Subd. 2. **Persons required to be screened; exemptions.** All applicants to Medicaid certified nursing facilities must be screened prior to admission, regardless of income, assets, or funding sources, except the following:

(1) patients who, having entered acute care facilities from certified nursing facilities, are returning to a certified nursing facility;

(2) residents transferred from other certified nursing facilities;

(3) individuals who have a contractual right to have their nursing facility care paid for indefinitely by the veteran's administration; or

(4) individuals who are enrolled in the Ebenezer/Group Health social health maintenance organization project at the time of application to a nursing home.

Regardless of the exemptions in clauses (2) to (4), persons who have a diagnosis or possible diagnosis of mental illness, mental retardation, or a related condition must be screened before admission unless the admission prior to screening is authorized by the local mental health authority or the local developmental disabilities case manager, or unless authorized by the county agency according to Public Law Number 101-508.

Before admission to a Medicaid certified nursing home or boarding care home, all persons must be screened and approved for admission through an assessment process. The nursing facility is authorized to conduct case mix assessments which are not conducted by the county public health nurse under Minnesota Rules, part 9549.0059. The designated county agency is responsible for distributing the quality assurance and review form for all new applicants to nursing homes.

Other persons who are not applicants to nursing facilities must be screened if a request is made for a screening.

Subd. 2a. **Screening requirements.** Persons may be screened by telephone or in a face-to-face consultation. The screener will identify each individual's needs according to the following categories: (1) needs no face-to-face screening; (2) needs an immediate face-to-face screening interview; or (3) needs a face-to-face screening interview after admission to a certified nursing facility or after a return home. Persons who are not admitted to a Medicaid certified nursing facility must be screened within ten working days after the date of referral. Persons admitted on a nonemergency basis to a Medicaid certified nursing facility must be screened prior to the certified nursing facility admission. Persons admitted to the Medicaid certified nursing facility from the community on an emergency basis or from an acute care facility on a nonworking day must be screened the first working day after admission and the reason for the emergency admission must be certified by the attending physician in the person's medical record.

Subd. 3. **Persons responsible for conducting the preadmission screening.** (a) A local screening team shall be established by the county board of commissioners. Each local screening team shall consist of screeners who are a social worker and a public health nurse from their respective county agencies. If a county does not have a public health

nurse available, it may request approval from the commissioner to assign a county registered nurse with at least one year experience in home care to participate on the team. Two or more counties may collaborate to establish a joint local screening team or teams.

(b) In assessing a person's needs, screeners shall have a physician available for consultation and shall consider the assessment of the individual's attending physician, if any. The individual's physician shall be included if the physician chooses to participate. Other personnel may be included on the team as deemed appropriate by the county agencies.

Subd. 4. **Responsibilities of the county and the screening team.** (a) The county shall:

(1) provide information and education to the general public regarding availability of the preadmission screening program;

(2) accept referrals from individuals, families, human service and health professionals, and hospital and nursing facility personnel;

(3) assess the health, psychological, and social needs of referred individuals and identify services needed to maintain these persons in the least restrictive environments;

(4) determine if the individual screened needs nursing facility level of care;

(5) assess specialized service needs based upon an evaluation by:

(i) a qualified independent mental health professional for persons with a primary or secondary diagnosis of a serious mental illness; and

(ii) a qualified mental retardation professional for persons with a primary or secondary diagnosis of mental retardation or related conditions. For purposes of this clause, a qualified mental retardation professional must meet the standards for a qualified mental retardation professional in Code of Federal Regulations, title 42, section 483.430;

(6) make recommendations for individuals screened regarding cost-effective community services which are available to the individual;

(7) make recommendations for individuals screened regarding nursing home placement when there are no cost-effective community services available;

(8) develop an individual's community care plan and provide follow-up services as needed; and

(9) prepare and submit reports that may be required by the commissioner of human services.

(b) The screener shall document that the most cost-effective alternatives available were offered to the individual or the individual's legal representative. For purposes of this section, "cost-effective alternatives" means community services and living arrangements that cost the same or less than nursing facility care.

(c) For persons who are eligible for medical assistance or who would be eligible within 180 days of admission to a nursing facility and who are admitted to a nursing facility, the nursing facility must include a screener or the case manager in the discharge planning process for those individuals who the team has determined have discharge potential. The screener or the case manager must ensure a smooth transition and follow-up for the individual's return to the community.

Screeners shall cooperate with other public and private agencies in the community, in order to offer a variety of cost-effective services to the disabled and elderly. The screeners shall encourage the use of volunteers from families, religious organizations, social clubs, and similar civic and service organizations to provide services.

[For text of subd 5, see M.S.1992]

Subd. 6. **Payment for preadmission screening.** (a) The total screening payment for each county must be paid monthly by certified nursing facilities in the county. The monthly amount to be paid by each nursing facility for each fiscal year must be determined by dividing the county's annual allocation for screenings by 12 to determine the monthly payment and allocating the monthly payment to each nursing facility based on the number of licensed beds in the nursing facility.

(b) Payments for screening activities are available to the county or counties to cover staff salaries and expenses to provide the screening function. The lead agency shall employ, or contract with other agencies to employ, within the limits of available funding, sufficient personnel to conduct the preadmission screening activity while meeting the state's long-term care outcomes and objectives as defined in section 256B.0917, subdivision 1. The local agency shall be accountable for meeting local objectives as approved by the commissioner in the CSSA biennial plan.

(c) Notwithstanding section 256B.0641, overpayments attributable to payment of the screening costs under the medical assistance program may not be recovered from a facility.

(d) The commissioner of human services shall amend the Minnesota medical assistance plan to include reimbursement for the local screening teams.

Subd. 7. **Reimbursement for certified nursing facilities.** (a) Medical assistance reimbursement for nursing facilities shall be authorized for a medical assistance recipient only if a preadmission screening has been conducted prior to admission or the local county agency has authorized an exemption. Medical assistance reimbursement for nursing facilities shall not be provided for any recipient who the local screener has determined does not meet the level of care criteria for nursing facility placement or, if indicated, has not had a level II PASARR evaluation completed unless an admission for a recipient with mental illness is approved by the local mental health authority or an admission for a recipient with mental retardation or related condition is approved by the state mental retardation authority. The commissioner shall make a request to the health care financing administration for a waiver allowing screening team approval of Medicaid payments for certified nursing facility care. An individual has a choice and makes the final decision between nursing facility placement and community placement after the screening team's recommendation, except as provided in paragraphs (b) and (c).

(b) The local county mental health authority or the state mental retardation authority under Public Law Numbers 100-203 and 101-508 may prohibit admission to a nursing facility, if the individual does not meet the nursing facility level of care criteria or needs specialized services as defined in Public Law Numbers 100-203 and 101-508. For purposes of this section, "specialized services" for a person with mental retardation or a related condition means "active treatment" as that term is defined in Code of Federal Regulations, title 42, section 483.440(a)(1).

(c) Upon the receipt by the commissioner of approval by the Secretary of Health and Human Services of the waiver requested under paragraph (a), the local screener shall deny medical assistance reimbursement for nursing facility care for an individual whose long-term care needs can be met in a community-based setting and whose cost of community-based home care services is less than 75 percent of the average payment for nursing facility care for that individual's case mix classification, and who is either:

(i) a current medical assistance recipient being screened for admission to a nursing facility; or

(ii) an individual who would be eligible for medical assistance within 180 days of entering a nursing facility and who meets a nursing facility level of care.

(d) Appeals from the screening team's recommendation or the county agency's final decision shall be made according to section 256.045, subdivision 3.

[For text of subds 8 and 9, see M.S.1992]

History: *1Sp1993 c 1 art 5 s 56-61*

NOTE: The amendment to subdivision 7, paragraph (c), by Laws 1993, First Special Session chapter 1, article 5, section 61, is effective upon the receipt by the commissioner of human services of the requested waiver from the Secretary of Human Services, for persons screened for admission to a nursing facility on or after the date the waiver is received. See Laws 1993, First Special Session chapter 1, article 5, section 135.

256B.0913 ALTERNATIVE CARE PROGRAM.

[For text of subds 1 to 3, see M.S.1992]

Subd. 4. **Eligibility for funding for services for nonmedical assistance recipients.** (a) Funding for services under the alternative care program is available to persons who meet the following criteria:

(1) the person has been screened by the county screening team or, if previously screened and served under the alternative care program, assessed by the local county social worker or public health nurse;

(2) the person is age 65 or older;

(3) the person would be financially eligible for medical assistance within 180 days of admission to a nursing facility;

(4) the person meets the asset transfer requirements of the medical assistance program;

(5) the screening team would recommend nursing facility admission or continued stay for the person if alternative care services were not available;

(6) the person needs services that are not available at that time in the county through other county, state, or federal funding sources; and

(7) the monthly cost of the alternative care services funded by the program for this person does not exceed 75 percent of the statewide average monthly medical assistance payment for nursing facility care at the individual's case mix classification to which the individual would be assigned under Minnesota Rules, parts 9549.0050 to 9549.0059.

(b) Individuals who meet the criteria in paragraph (a) and who have been approved for alternative care funding are called 180-day eligible clients.

(c) The statewide average payment for nursing facility care is the statewide average monthly nursing facility rate in effect on July 1 of the fiscal year in which the cost is incurred, less the statewide average monthly income of nursing facility residents who are age 65 or older and who are medical assistance recipients in the month of March of the previous fiscal year. This monthly limit does not prohibit the 180-day eligible client from paying for additional services needed or desired.

(d) In determining the total costs of alternative care services for one month, the costs of all services funded by the alternative care program, including supplies and equipment, must be included.

(e) Alternative care funding under this subdivision is not available for a person who is a medical assistance recipient or who would be eligible for medical assistance without a spend-down if the person applied, unless authorized by the commissioner. A person whose application for medical assistance is being processed may be served under the alternative care program for a period up to 60 days. If the individual is found to be eligible for medical assistance, the county must bill medical assistance from the date the individual was found eligible for the medical assistance services provided that are reimbursable under the elderly waiver program.

(f) Alternative care funding is not available for a person who resides in a licensed nursing home or boarding care home, except for case management services which are being provided in support of the discharge planning process.

Subd. 5. **Services covered under alternative care.** (a) Alternative care funding may be used for payment of costs of:

(1) adult foster care;

(2) adult day care;

(3) home health aide;

(4) homemaker services;

(5) personal care;

(6) case management:

(7) respite care;

(8) assisted living;

(9) residential care services;

(10) care-related supplies and equipment;

(11) meals delivered to the home;

(12) transportation;

(13) skilled nursing;

(14) chore services;

(15) companion services;

(16) nutrition services; and

(17) training for direct informal caregivers.

(b) The county agency must ensure that the funds are used only to supplement and not supplant services available through other public assistance or services programs.

(c) Unless specified in statute, the service standards for alternative care services shall be the same as the service standards defined in the elderly waiver. Persons or agencies must be employed by or under a contract with the county agency or the public health nursing agency of the local board of health in order to receive funding under the alternative care program.

(d) The adult foster care rate shall be considered a difficulty of care payment and shall not include room and board. The adult foster care daily rate shall be negotiated between the county agency and the foster care provider. The rate established under this section shall not exceed 75 percent of the state average monthly nursing home payment for the case mix classification to which the individual receiving foster care is assigned, and it must allow for other alternative care services to be authorized by the case manager.

(e) Personal care services may be provided by a personal care provider organization. A county agency may contract with a relative of the client to provide personal care services, but must ensure nursing supervision. Covered personal care services defined in section 256B.0627, subdivision 4, must meet applicable standards in Minnesota Rules, part 9505.0335.

(f) Costs for supplies and equipment that exceed $150 per item per month must have prior approval from the commissioner. A county may use alternative care funds to purchase supplies and equipment from a non-Medicaid certified vendor if the cost for the items is less than that of a Medicaid vendor.

(g) For purposes of this section, residential care services are services which are provided to individuals living in residential care homes. Residential care homes are currently licensed as board and lodging establishments and are registered with the department of health as providing special services. Residential care services are defined as "supportive services" and "health-related services." "Supportive services" means the provision of up to 24-hour supervision and oversight. Supportive services includes: (1) transportation, when provided by the residential care center only; (2) socialization, when socialization is part of the plan of care, has specific goals and outcomes established, and is not diversional or recreational in nature; (3) assisting clients in setting up meetings and appointments; (4) assisting clients in setting up medical and social services; (5) providing assistance with personal laundry, such as carrying the client's laundry to the laundry room. Assistance with personal laundry does not include any laundry, such as bed linen, that is included in the room and board rate. Health-related services are limited to minimal assistance with dressing, grooming, and bathing and providing reminders to residents to take medications that are self-administered or providing storage for medications, if requested. Individuals receiving residential care services cannot receive both personal care services and residential care services.

(h) For the purposes of this section, "assisted living" refers to supportive services provided by a single vendor to clients who reside in the same apartment building of three or more units. Assisted living services are defined as up to 24-hour supervision, and oversight, supportive services as defined in clause (1), individualized home care aide tasks as defined in clause (2), and individualized home management tasks as defined in clause (3) provided to residents of a residential center living in their units or apartments with a full kitchen and bathroom. A full kitchen includes a stove, oven, refrigerator, food preparation counter space, and a kitchen utensil storage compart-

ment. Assisted living services must be provided by the management of the residential center or by providers under contract with the management or with the county.

(1) Supportive services include:

(i) socialization, when socialization is part of the plan of care, has specific goals and outcomes established, and is not diversional or recreational in nature;

(ii) assisting clients in setting up meetings and appointments; and

(iii) providing transportation, when provided by the residential center only.

Individuals receiving assisted living services will not receive both assisted living services and homemaking or personal care services. Individualized means services are chosen and designed specifically for each resident's needs, rather than provided or offered to all residents regardless of their illnesses, disabilities, or physical conditions.

(2) Home care aide tasks means:

(i) preparing modified diets, such as diabetic or low sodium diets;

(ii) reminding residents to take regularly scheduled medications or to perform exercises;

(iii) household chores in the presence of technically sophisticated medical equipment or episodes of acute illness or infectious disease;

(iv) household chores when the resident's care requires the prevention of exposure to infectious disease or containment of infectious disease; and

(v) assisting with dressing, oral hygiene, hair care, grooming, and bathing, if the resident is ambulatory, and if the resident has no serious acute illness or infectious disease. Oral hygiene means care of teeth, gums, and oral prosthetic devices.

(3) Home management tasks means:

(i) housekeeping;

(ii) laundry;

(iii) preparation of regular snacks and meals; and

(iv) shopping.

A person's eligibility to reside in the building must not be contingent on the person's acceptance or use of the assisted living services. Assisted living services as defined in this section shall not be authorized in boarding and lodging establishments licensed according to sections 157.01 to 157.031.

Reimbursement for assisted living services and residential care services shall be made by the lead agency to the vendor as a monthly rate negotiated with the county agency. The rate shall not exceed the nonfederal share of the greater of either the statewide or any of the geographic groups' weighted average monthly medical assistance nursing facility payment rate of the case mix resident class to which the 180-day eligible client would be assigned under Minnesota Rules, parts 9549.0050 to 9549.0059, except for alternative care assisted living projects established under Laws 1988, chapter 689, article 2, section 256, whose rates may not exceed 65 percent of either the statewide or any of the geographic groups' weighted average monthly medical assistance nursing facility payment rate of the case mix resident class to which the 180-day eligible client would be assigned under Minnesota Rules, parts 9549.0050 to 9549.0059. The rate may not cover rent and direct food costs.

(i) For purposes of this section, companion services are defined as nonmedical care, supervision and oversight, provided to a functionally impaired adult. Companions may assist the individual with such tasks as meal preparation, laundry and shopping, but do not perform these activities as discrete services. The provision of companion services does not entail hands-on medical care. Providers may also perform light housekeeping tasks which are incidental to the care and supervision of the recipient. This service must be approved by the case manager as part of the care plan. Companion services must be provided by individuals or nonprofit organizations who are under contract with the local agency to provide the service. Any person related to the waiver recipient by blood, marriage or adoption cannot be reimbursed under this service. Persons providing companion services will be monitored by the case manager.

(j) For purposes of this section, training for direct informal caregivers is defined as a classroom or home course of instruction which may include: transfer and lifting skills, nutrition, personal and physical cares, home safety in a home environment, stress reduction and management, behavioral management, long-term care decision making, care coordination and family dynamics. The training is provided to an informal unpaid caregiver of a 180-day eligible client which enables the caregiver to deliver care in a home setting with high levels of quality. The training must be approved by the case manager as part of the individual care plan. Individuals, agencies, and educational facilities which provide caregiver training and education will be monitored by the case manager.

[For text of subds 6 to 8, see M.S.1992]

Subd. 9. **Contracting provisions for providers.** The lead agency shall document to the commissioner that the agency made reasonable efforts to inform potential providers of the anticipated need for services under the alternative care program or waiver programs under sections 256B.0915 and 256B.49, including a minimum of 14 days' written advance notice of the opportunity to be selected as a service provider and an annual public meeting with providers to explain and review the criteria for selection. The lead agency shall also document to the commissioner that the agency allowed potential providers an opportunity to be selected to contract with the county agency. Funds reimbursed to counties under this subdivision are subject to audit by the commissioner for fiscal and utilization control.

The lead agency must select providers for contracts or agreements using the following criteria and other criteria established by the county:

(1) the need for the particular services offered by the provider;

(2) the population to be served, including the number of clients, the length of time services will be provided, and the medical condition of clients;

(3) the geographic area to be served;

(4) quality assurance methods, including appropriate licensure, certification, or standards, and supervision of employees when needed;

(5) rates for each service and unit of service exclusive of county administrative costs;

(6) evaluation of services previously delivered by the provider; and

(7) contract or agreement conditions, including billing requirements, cancellation, and indemnification.

The county must evaluate its own agency services under the criteria established for other providers. The county shall provide a written statement of the reasons for not selecting providers.

[For text of subds 10 and 11, see M.S.1992]

Subd. 12. **Client premiums.** (a) A premium is required for all 180-day eligible clients to help pay for the cost of participating in the program. The amount of the premium for the alternative care client shall be determined as follows:

(1) when the alternative care client's income less recurring and predictable medical expenses is greater than the medical assistance income standard but less than 150 percent of the federal poverty guideline, and total assets are less than $6,000, the fee is zero;

(2) when the alternative care client's income less recurring and predictable medical expenses is greater than 150 percent of the federal poverty guideline and total assets are less than $6,000, the fee is 25 percent of the cost of alternative care services or the difference between 150 percent of the federal poverty guideline and the client's income less recurring and predictable medical expenses, whichever is less; and

(3) when the alternative care client's total assets are greater than $6,000, the fee is 25 percent of the cost of alternative care services.

For married persons, total assets are defined as the total marital assets less the estimated community spouse asset allowance, under section 256B.059, if applicable. For married persons, total income is defined as the client's income less the monthly spousal allotment, under section 256B.058.

All alternative care services except case management shall be included in the estimated costs for the purpose of determining 25 percent of the costs.

The monthly premium shall be calculated and be payable in the month in which the alternative care services begin and shall continue unaltered for six months until the semiannual reassessment unless the actual cost of services falls below the fee.

(b) The fee shall be waived by the commissioner when:

(1) a person who is residing in a nursing facility is receiving case management only;

(2) a person is applying for medical assistance;

(3) a married couple is requesting an asset assessment under the spousal impoverishment provisions;

(4) a person is a medical assistance recipient, but has been approved for alternative care-funded assisted living services;

(5) a person is found eligible for alternative care, but is not yet receiving alternative care services;

(6) a person is an adult foster care resident for whom alternative care funds are being used to meet a portion of the person's medical assistance spend-down, as authorized in subdivision 4; and

(7) a person's fee under paragraph (a) is less than $25.

(c) The county agency must collect the premium from the client and forward the amounts collected to the commissioner in the manner and at the times prescribed by the commissioner. Money collected must be deposited in the general fund and is appropriated to the commissioner for the alternative care program. The client must supply the county with the client's social security number at the time of application. If a client fails or refuses to pay the premium due, the county shall supply the commissioner with the client's social security number and other information the commissioner requires to collect the premium from the client. The commissioner shall collect unpaid premiums using the revenue recapture act in chapter 270A and other methods available to the commissioner. The commissioner may require counties to inform clients of the collection procedures that may be used by the state if a premium is not paid.

(d) The commissioner shall begin to adopt emergency or permanent rules governing client premiums within 30 days after July 1, 1991, including criteria for determining when services to a client must be terminated due to failure to pay a premium.

Subd. 13. **County biennial plan.** The county biennial plan for the preadmission screening program, the alternative care program, waivers for the elderly under section 256B.0915, and waivers for the disabled under section 256B.49, shall be incorporated into the biennial community social services act plan and shall meet the regulations and timelines of that plan. This county biennial plan shall include:

(1) information on the administration of the preadmission screening program;

(2) information on the administration of the home and community-based services waivers for the elderly under section 256B.0915, and for the disabled under section 256B.49; and

(3) information on the administration of the alternative care program.

Subd. 14. **Reimbursement and rate adjustments.** (a) Reimbursement for expenditures for the alternative care services shall be through the invoice processing procedures of the department's Medicaid Management Information System (MMIS), only with the approval of the client's case manager. To receive reimbursement, the county or vendor must submit invoices within 120 days following the month of service. The county agency and its vendors under contract shall not be reimbursed for services which exceed the county allocation.

(b) If a county collects less than 50 percent of the client premiums due under subdivision 12, the commissioner may withhold up to three percent of the county's final alternative care program allocation determined under subdivisions 10 and 11.

(c) Beginning July 1, 1991, the state will reimburse counties, up to the limits of state appropriations, according to the payment schedule in section 256.025 for the county share of costs incurred under this subdivision on or after January 1, 1991, for individuals who would be eligible for medical assistance within 180 days of admission to a nursing home.

(d) For fiscal years beginning on or after July 1, 1993, the commissioner of human services shall not provide automatic annual inflation adjustments for alternative care services. The commissioner of finance shall include as a budget change request in each biennial detailed expenditure budget submitted to the legislature under section 16A.11 annual adjustments in reimbursement rates for alternative care services based on the forecasted percentage change in the Home Health Agency Market Basket of Operating Costs, for the fiscal year beginning July 1, compared to the previous fiscal year, unless otherwise adjusted by statute. The Home Health Agency Market Basket of Operating Costs is published by Data Resources, Inc. The forecast to be used is the one published for the calendar quarter beginning January 1, six months prior to the beginning of the fiscal year for which rates are set.

(e) The county shall negotiate individual rates with vendors and may be reimbursed for actual costs up to the greater of the county's current approved rate or 60 percent of the maximum rate in fiscal year 1994 and 65 percent of the maximum rate in fiscal year 1995 for each alternative care service. Notwithstanding any other rule or statutory provision to the contrary, the commissioner shall not be authorized to increase rates by an annual inflation factor, unless so authorized by the legislature.

(f) On July 1, 1993, the commissioner shall increase the maximum rate for home delivered meals to $4.50 per meal.

History: *1Sp1993 c 1 art 5 s 62-67; 1Sp1993 c 6 s 12*

256B.0915 MEDICAID WAIVER FOR HOME AND COMMUNITY-BASED SERVICES.

Subdivision 1. **Authority.** The commissioner is authorized to apply for a home and community-based services waiver for the elderly, authorized under section 1915(c) of the Social Security Act, in order to obtain federal financial participation to expand the availability of services for persons who are eligible for medical assistance. The commissioner may apply for additional waivers or pursue other federal financial participation which is advantageous to the state for funding home care services for the frail elderly who are eligible for medical assistance. The provision of waivered services to elderly and disabled medical assistance recipients must comply with the criteria approved in the waiver.

Subd. 1a. **Elderly waiver case management services.** Elderly case management services under the home and community-based services waiver for elderly individuals are available from providers meeting qualification requirements and the standards specified in subdivision 1b. Eligible recipients may choose any qualified provider of elderly case management services.

Subd. 1b. **Provider qualifications and standards.** The commissioner must enroll qualified providers of elderly case management services under the home and community-based waiver for the elderly under section 1915(c) of the Social Security Act. The enrollment process shall ensure the provider's ability to meet the qualification requirements and standards in this subdivision and other federal and state requirements of this service. A elderly case management provider is an enrolled medical assistance provider who is determined by the commissioner to have all of the following characteristics:

(1) the legal authority for alternative care program administration under section 256B.0913;

(2) the demonstrated capacity and experience to provide the components of case

management to coordinate and link community resources needed by the eligible population;

(3) administrative capacity and experience in serving the target population for whom it will provide services and in ensuring quality of services under state and federal requirements;

(4) the legal authority to provide preadmission screening under section 256B.0911, subdivision 4;

(5) a financial management system that provides accurate documentation of services and costs under state and federal requirements; and

(6) the capacity to document and maintain individual case records under state and federal requirements.

Subd. 1c. **Case management activities under the state plan.** The commissioner shall seek an amendment to the home and community-based services waiver for the elderly to implement the provisions of subdivisions 1a and 1b. If the commissioner is unable to secure the approval of the secretary of health and human services for the requested waiver amendment by December 31, 1993, the commissioner shall amend the medical assistance state plan to provide that case management provided under the home and community-based services waiver for the elderly is performed by counties as an administrative function for the proper and effective administration of the state medical assistance plan. Notwithstanding section 256.025, subdivision 3, the state shall reimburse counties for the nonfederal share of costs for case management performed as an administrative function under the home and community-based services waiver for the elderly.

[For text of subd 2, see M.S.1992]

Subd. 3. **Limits of cases, rates, reimbursement, and forecasting.** (a) The number of medical assistance waiver recipients that a county may serve must be allocated according to the number of medical assistance waiver cases open on July 1 of each fiscal year. Additional recipients may be served with the approval of the commissioner.

(b) The monthly limit for the cost of waivered services to an individual waiver client shall be the statewide average payment rate of the case mix resident class to which the waiver client would be assigned under medical assistance case mix reimbursement system. The statewide average payment rate is calculated by determining the statewide average monthly nursing home rate effective July 1 of the fiscal year in which the cost is incurred, less the statewide average monthly income of nursing home residents who are age 65 or older, and who are medical assistance recipients in the month of March of the previous state fiscal year. The following costs must be included in determining the total monthly costs for the waiver client:

(1) cost of all waivered services, including extended medical supplies and equipment; and

(2) cost of skilled nursing, home health aide, and personal care services reimbursable by medical assistance.

(c) Medical assistance funding for skilled nursing services, home health aide, and personal care services for waiver recipients must be approved by the case manager and included in the individual care plan.

(d) Expenditures for extended medical supplies and equipment that cost over $150 per month for both the elderly waiver and the disabled waiver must have the commissioner's prior approval.

(e) For the fiscal year beginning on July 1, 1993, and for subsequent fiscal years, the commissioner of human services shall not provide automatic annual inflation adjustments for home and community-based waivered services. The commissioner of finance shall include as a budget change request in each biennial detailed expenditure budget submitted to the legislature under section 16A.11 annual adjustments in reimbursement rates for home and community-based waivered services, based on the forecasted percentage change in the Home Health Agency Market Basket of Operating Costs, for the fiscal year beginning July 1, compared to the previous fiscal year, unless

otherwise adjusted by statute. The Home Health Agency Market Basket of Operating Costs is published by Data Resources, Inc. The forecast to be used is the one published for the calendar quarter beginning January 1, six months prior to the beginning of the fiscal year for which rates are set. The adult foster care rate shall be considered a difficulty of care payment and shall not include room and board.

(f) The adult foster care daily rate for the elderly and disabled waivers shall be negotiated between the county agency and the foster care provider. The rate established under this section shall not exceed the state average monthly nursing home payment for the case mix classification to which the individual receiving foster care is assigned, and it must allow for other waiver and medical assistance home care services to be authorized by the case manager.

(g) The assisted living and residential care service rates for elderly and disabled waivers shall be made to the vendor as a monthly rate negotiated with the county agency. The rate shall not exceed the nonfederal share of the greater of either the statewide or any of the geographic groups' weighted average monthly medical assistance nursing facility payment rate of the case mix resident class to which the elderly or disabled client would be assigned under Minnesota Rules, parts 9549.0050 to 9549.0059, except for alternative care assisted living projects established under Laws 1988, chapter 689, article 2, section 256, whose rates may not exceed 65 percent of the greater of either the statewide or any of the geographic groups' weighted average monthly medical assistance nursing facility payment rate for the case mix resident class to which the elderly or disabled client would be assigned under Minnesota Rules, parts 9549.0050 to 9549.0059. The rate may not cover direct rent or food costs.

(h) The county shall negotiate individual rates with vendors and may be reimbursed for actual costs up to the greater of the county's current approved rate or 60 percent of the maximum rate in fiscal year 1994 and 65 percent of the maximum rate in fiscal year 1995 for each service within each program.

(i) On July 1, 1993, the commissioner shall increase the maximum rate for home-delivered meals to $4.50 per meal.

(j) Reimbursement for the medical assistance recipients under the approved waiver shall be made from the medical assistance account through the invoice processing procedures of the department's Medicaid Management Information System (MMIS), only with the approval of the client's case manager. The budget for the state share of the Medicaid expenditures shall be forecasted with the medical assistance budget, and shall be consistent with the approved waiver.

(k) Beginning July 1, 1991, the state shall reimburse counties according to the payment schedule in section 256.025 for the county share of costs incurred under this subdivision on or after January 1, 1991, for individuals who are receiving medical assistance.

[For text of subds 4 and 5, see M.S.1992]

History: *1Sp1993 c 1 art 5 s 68-72; 1Sp1993 c 6 s 13*

256B.0916 EXPANSION OF HOME AND COMMUNITY-BASED SERVICES.

(a) The commissioner shall expand availability of home and community-based services for persons with mental retardation and related conditions to the extent allowed by federal law and regulation and shall assist counties in transferring persons from semi-independent living services to home and community-based services. The commissioner may transfer funds from the state semi-independent living services account available under section 252.275, subdivision 8, and state community social services aids available under section 256E.15 to the medical assistance account to pay for the nonfederal share of nonresidential and residential home and community-based services authorized under section 256B.092 for persons transferring from semi-independent living services.

(b) Upon federal approval, county boards are not responsible for funding semi-

independent living services as a social service for those persons who have transferred to the home and community-based waiver program as a result of the expansion under this subdivision. The county responsibility for those persons transferred shall be assumed under section 256B.092. Notwithstanding the provisions of section 252.275, the commissioner shall continue to allocate funds under that section for semi-independent living services and county boards shall continue to fund services under sections 256E.06 and 256E.14 for those persons who cannot access home and community-based services under section 256B.092.

(c) Eighty percent of the state funds made available to the commissioner under section 252.275 as a result of persons transferring from the semi-independent living services program to the home and community-based services program shall be used to fund additional persons in the semi-independent living services program.

History: *1Sp1993 c 1 art 4 s 8*

256B.0917 SENIORS' AGENDA FOR INDEPENDENT LIVING (SAIL) PROJECTS FOR A NEW LONG-TERM CARE STRATEGY.

Subdivision 1. **Purpose, mission, goals, and objectives.** (a) The purpose of implementing seniors' agenda for independent living (SAIL) projects under this section is to demonstrate a new cooperative strategy for the long-term care system in the state of Minnesota.

The projects are part of the initial plan for a 20-year strategy. The mission of the 20-year strategy is to create a new community-based care paradigm for long-term care in Minnesota in order to maximize independence of the older adult population, and to ensure cost-effective use of financial and human resources. The goals for the 20-year strategy are to:

(1) achieve a broad awareness and use of low-cost home care and other residential alternatives to nursing homes;

(2) develop a statewide system of information and assistance to enable easy access to long-term care services;

(3) develop sufficient alternatives to nursing homes to serve the increased number of people needing long-term care;

(4) maintain the moratorium on new construction of nursing home beds and to lower the percentage of elderly persons served in institutional settings; and

(5) build a community-based approach and community commitment to delivering long-term care services for elderly persons in their homes.

(b) The objective for the fiscal years 1994 and 1995 biennial plan is to continue at least four but not more than six projects in anticipation of a statewide program. These projects will continue the process of implementing:

(1) a coordinated planning and administrative process;

(2) a refocused function of the preadmission screening program;

(3) the development of additional home, community, and residential alternatives to nursing homes;

(4) a program to support the informal caregivers for elderly persons;

(5) programs to strengthen the use of volunteers; and

(6) programs to support the building of community commitment to provide long-term care for elderly persons.

This is done in conjunction with an expanded role of the interagency long-term care planning committee as described in section 144A.31. The services offered through these projects will be available to those who have their own funds to pay for services, as well as to persons who are eligible for medical assistance and to persons who are 180-day eligible clients to the extent authorized in this section.

Subd. 2. **Design of SAIL projects; local long-term care coordinating team.** (a) The commissioner of human services in conjunction with the interagency long-term care planning committee's long-range strategic plan shall contract with SAIL projects in four

to six counties or groups of counties to demonstrate the feasibility and cost-effectiveness of a local long-term care strategy that is consistent with the state's long-term care goals identified in subdivision 1. The commissioner shall publish a notice in the State Register announcing the availability of project funding and giving instructions for making an application. The instructions for the application shall identify the amount of funding available for project components.

(b) To be selected for the project, a county board or boards must establish a long-term care coordinating team consisting of county social service agencies, public health nursing service agencies, local boards of health, and the area agencies on aging in a geographic area which is responsible for:

(1) developing a local long-term care strategy consistent with state goals and objectives;

(2) submitting an application to be selected as a project;

(3) coordinating planning for funds to provide services to elderly persons, including funds received under Title III of the Older Americans Act, Community Social Services Act, Title XX of the Social Security Act and the Local Public Health Act; and

(4) ensuring efficient services provision and nonduplication of funding.

(c) The board or boards shall designate a public agency to serve as the lead agency. The lead agency receives and manages the project funds from the state and is responsible for the implementation of the local strategy. If selected as a project, the local long-term care coordinating team must semiannually evaluate the progress of the local long-term care strategy in meeting state measures of performance and results as established in the contract.

(d) Each member of the local coordinating team must indicate its endorsement of the local strategy. The local long-term care coordinating team may include in its membership other units of government which provide funding for services to the frail elderly. The team must cooperate with consumers and other public and private agencies, including nursing homes, in the geographic area in order to develop and offer a variety of cost-effective services to the elderly and their caregivers.

(e) The board or boards shall apply to be selected as a project. If the project is selected, the commissioner of human services shall contract with the lead agency for the project and shall provide additional administrative funds for implementing the provisions of the contract, within the appropriation available for this purpose.

(f) Projects shall be selected according to the following conditions.

No project may be selected unless it demonstrates that:

(i) the objectives of the local project will help to achieve the state's long-term care goals as defined in subdivision 1;

(ii) in the case of a project submitted jointly by several counties, all of the participating counties are contiguous;

(iii) there is a designated local lead agency that is empowered to make contracts with the state and local vendors on behalf of all participants;

(iv) the project proposal demonstrates that the local cooperating agencies have the ability to perform the project as described and that the implementation of the project has a reasonable chance of achieving its objectives;

(v) the project will serve an area that covers at least four counties or contains at least 2,500 persons who are 85 years of age or older, according to the projections of the state demographer or the census if the data is more recent; and

(vi) the local coordinating team documents efforts of cooperation with consumers and other agencies and organizations, both public and private, in planning for service delivery.

Subd. 3. **Local long-term care strategy.** The local long-term care strategy must list performance outcomes and indicators which meet the state's objectives. The local strategy must provide for:

(1) accessible information, assessment, and preadmission screening activities as described in subdivision 4;

(2) an increase in numbers of alternative care clients served under section 256B.0913, including those who are relocated from nursing homes, which results in a reduction of the medical assistance nursing home caseload; and

(3) the development of additional services such as adult family foster care homes; family adult day care; assisted living projects and congregate housing service projects in apartment buildings; expanded home care services for evenings and weekends; expanded volunteer services; and caregiver support and respite care projects.

The county or groups of counties selected for the projects shall be required to comply with federal regulations, alternative care funding policies in section 256B.0913, and the federal waiver programs' policies in section 256B.0915. The requirements for preadmission screening are defined in section 256B.0911, subdivisions 1 to 6. Requirements for an access, screening, and assessment function are defined in subdivision 4. Requirements for the service development and service provision are defined in subdivision 5.

Subd. 4. **Accessible information, screening, and assessment function.** (a) The projects selected by and under contract with the commissioner shall establish an accessible information, screening, and assessment function for persons who need assistance and information regarding long-term care. This accessible information, screening, and assessment activity shall include information and referral, early intervention, follow-up contacts, telephone screening, home visits, assessments, preadmission screening, and relocation case management for the frail elderly and their caregivers in the area served by the county or counties. The purpose is to ensure that information and help is provided to elderly persons and their families in a timely fashion, when they are making decisions about long-term care. These functions may be split among various agencies, but must be coordinated by the local long-term care coordinating team.

(b) Accessible information, screening, and assessment functions shall be reimbursed as follows:

(1) The screenings of all persons entering nursing homes shall be reimbursed as defined in section 256B.0911, subdivision 6; and

(2) Additional state administrative funds shall be available for the access, screening, and assessment activities that are not reimbursed under clause (1). This amount shall not exceed the amount authorized in the guidelines and in instructions for the application and must be within the amount appropriated for this activity.

(c) Any information and referral functions funded by other sources, such as Title III of the Older Americans Act and Title XX of the Social Security Act and the Community Social Services Act, shall be considered by the local long-term care coordinating team in establishing this function to avoid duplication and to ensure access to information for persons needing help and information regarding long-term care.

(d) The lead agency or the agencies under contract with the lead agency which are responsible for the accessible information, screening, and assessment function must complete the forms and reports required by the commissioner as specified in the contract.

Subd. 5. **Service development and service delivery.** (a) In addition to the access, screening, and assessment activity, each local strategy may include provisions for the following:

(1) the addition of a full-time staff person who is responsible to develop the following services and recruit providers as established in the contract:

(i) additional adult family foster care homes;

(ii) family adult day care providers as defined in section 256B.0919, subdivision 2;

(iii) an assisted living program in an apartment;

(iv) a congregate housing service project in a subsidized housing project; and

(v) the expansion of evening and weekend coverage of home care services as deemed necessary by the local strategic plan;

(2) small incentive grants to new adult family care providers for renovations needed to meet licensure requirements;

(3) a plan to apply for a congregate housing service project as identified in section 256.9751, authorized by the Minnesota board on aging, to the extent that funds are available;

(4) a plan to divert new applicants to nursing homes and to relocate a targeted population from nursing homes, using the individual's own resources or the funding available for services;

(5) one or more caregiver support and respite care projects, as described in subdivision 6; and

(6) one or more living-at-home/block nurse projects, as described in subdivisions 7 to 10.

(b) The expansion of alternative care clients under paragraph (a) shall be accomplished with the funds provided under section 256B.0913, and includes the allocation of targeted funds. The funding for all participating counties must be coordinated by the local long-term care coordinating team and must be part of the local long-term care strategy. Alternative care funds may be transferred from one SAIL county to another within a designated SAIL project area during a fiscal year as authorized by the local long-term care coordinating team and approved by the commissioner. The base allocation used for a future year shall reflect the final transfer. Each county retains responsibility for reimbursement as defined in section 256B.0913, subdivision 12. All other requirements for the alternative care program must be met unless an exception is provided in this section. The commissioner may establish by contract a reimbursement mechanism for alternative care that does not require invoice processing through the Medical Assistance Management Information System (MMIS). The commissioner and local agencies must assure that the same client and reimbursement data is obtained as is available under MMIS.

(c) The administration of these components is the responsibility of the agencies selected by the local coordinating team and under contract with the local lead agency. However, administrative funds for paragraph (a), clauses (2) to (5), and grant funds for paragraph (a), clauses (6) and (7), shall be granted to the local lead agency. The funding available for each component is based on the plan submitted and the amount negotiated in the contract.

[For text of subds 6 to 10, see M.S.1992]

Subd. 11. **SAIL evaluation and expansion.** The commissioner shall evaluate the success of the SAIL projects against the objective stated in subdivision 1, paragraph (b), and recommend to the legislature the continuation or expansion of the long-term care strategy by February 15, 1995.

Subd. 12. **Public awareness campaign.** The commissioner, with assistance from the commissioner of health and with the advice of the long-term care planning committee, shall contract for a public awareness campaign to educate the general public, seniors, consumers, caregivers, and professionals about the aging process, the long-term care system, and alternatives available including alternative care and residential alternatives. Particular emphasis will be given to informing consumers on how to access the alternatives and obtain information on the long-term care system. The commissioner shall pursue the development of new names for preadmission screening, alternative care, foster care, and other services as deemed necessary for the public awareness campaign.

History: *1Sp1993 c 1 art 5 s 73-79*

256B.092 CASE MANAGEMENT OF PERSONS WITH MENTAL RETARDATION OR RELATED CONDITIONS.

Subdivision 1. **County of financial responsibility; duties.** Before any services shall be rendered to persons with mental retardation or related conditions who are in need

of social service and medical assistance, the county of financial responsibility shall conduct or arrange for a diagnostic evaluation in order to determine whether the person has or may have mental retardation or has or may have a related condition. If the county of financial responsibility determines that the person has mental retardation or a related condition, the county shall inform the person of case management services available under this section. Except as provided in subdivision 1g or 4b, if a person is diagnosed as having mental retardation or a related condition, the county of financial responsibility shall conduct or arrange for a needs assessment, develop or arrange for an individual service plan, provide or arrange for ongoing case management services at the level identified in the individual service plan, provide or arrange for case management administration, and authorize services identified in the person's individual service plan developed according to subdivision 1b. Diagnostic information, obtained by other providers or agencies, may be used by the county agency in determining eligibility for case management. Nothing in this section shall be construed as requiring: (1) assessment in areas agreed to as unnecessary by the case manager and the person, or the person's legal guardian or conservator, or the parent if the person is a minor, or (2) assessments in areas where there has been a functional assessment completed in the previous 12 months for which the case manager and the person or person's guardian or conservator, or the parent if the person is a minor, agree that further assessment is not necessary. For persons under state guardianship, the case manager shall seek authorization from the public guardianship office for waiving any assessment requirements. Assessments related to health, safety, and protection of the person for the purpose of identifying service type, amount, and frequency or assessments required to authorize services may not be waived. To the extent possible, for wards of the commissioner the county shall consider the opinions of the parent of the person with mental retardation or a related condition when developing the person's individual service plan.

[For text of subd 1a, see M.S.1992]

Subd. 1b. **Individual service plan.** The individual service plan must:

(1) include the results of the assessment information on the person's need for service, including identification of service needs that will be or that are met by the person's relatives, friends, and others, as well as community services used by the general public;

(2) identify the person's preferences for services as stated by the person, the person's legal guardian or conservator, or the parent if the person is a minor;

(3) identify long- and short-range goals for the person;

(4) identify specific services and the amount and frequency of the services to be provided to the person based on assessed needs, preferences, and available resources. The individual service plan shall also specify other services the person needs that are not available;

(5) identify the need for an individual program plan to be developed by the provider according to the respective state and federal licensing and certification standards, and additional assessments to be completed or arranged by the provider after service initiation;

(6) identify provider responsibilities to implement and make recommendations for modification to the individual service plan;

(7) include notice of the right to request a conciliation conference or a hearing under section 256.045;

(8) be agreed upon and signed by the person, the person's legal guardian or conservator, or the parent if the person is a minor, and the authorized county representative; and

(9) be reviewed by a health professional if the person has overriding medical needs that impact the delivery of services.

Service planning formats developed for interagency planning such as transition, vocational, and individual family service plans may be substituted for service planning formats developed by county agencies.

[For text of subds 1e and 1f, see M.S.1992]

Subd. 1g. **Conditions not requiring development of individual service plan.** Unless otherwise required by federal law, the county agency is not required to complete an individual service plan as defined in subdivision 1b for:

(1) persons whose families are requesting respite care for their family member who resides with them, or whose families are requesting a family support grant and are not requesting purchase or arrangement of habilitative services; and

(2) persons with mental retardation or related conditions, living independently without authorized services or receiving funding for services at a rehabilitation facility as defined in section 268A.01, subdivision 6, and not in need of or requesting additional services.

[For text of subds 2 to 6, see M.S.1992]

Subd. 7. **Screening teams.** For persons with mental retardation or a related condition, screening teams shall be established which shall evaluate the need for the level of care provided by residential-based habilitation services, residential services, training and habilitation services, and nursing facility services. The evaluation shall address whether home and community-based services are appropriate for persons who are at risk of placement in an intermediate care facility for persons with mental retardation or related conditions, or for whom there is reasonable indication that they might require this level of care. The screening team shall make an evaluation of need within 60 working days of a request for service by a person with mental retardation or related conditions, and within five working days of an emergency admission of a person to an intermediate care facility for persons with mental retardation or related conditions. The screening team shall consist of the case manager for persons with mental retardation or related conditions, the person, the person's legal guardian or conservator, or the parent if the person is a minor, and a qualified mental retardation professional, as defined in the Code of Federal Regulations, title 42, section 483.430, as amended through June 3, 1988. The case manager may also act as the qualified mental retardation professional if the case manager meets the federal definition. County social service agencies may contract with a public or private agency or individual who is not a service provider for the person for the public guardianship representation required by the screening or individual service planning process. The contract shall be limited to public guardianship representation for the screening and individual service planning activities. The contract shall require compliance with the commissioner's instructions and may be for paid or voluntary services. For persons determined to have overriding health care needs and are seeking admission to a nursing facility or an ICF/MR, or seeking access to home and community-based waivered services, a registered nurse must be designated as either the case manager or the qualified mental retardation professional. For persons under the jurisdiction of a correctional agency, the case manager must consult with the corrections administrator regarding additional health, safety, and supervision needs. The case manager, with the concurrence of the person, the person's legal guardian or conservator, or the parent if the person is a minor, may invite other individuals to attend meetings of the screening team. No member of the screening team shall have any direct or indirect service provider interest in the case. Nothing in this section shall be construed as requiring the screening team meeting to be separate from the service planning meeting.

[For text of subd 8, see M.S.1992]

Subd. 8a. **County concurrence.** (a) If the county of financial responsibility wishes to place a person in another county for services, the county of financial responsibility shall seek concurrence from the proposed county of service and the placement shall be made cooperatively between the two counties. Arrangements shall be made between the two counties for ongoing social service, including annual reviews of the person's individual service plan. The county where services are provided may not make changes in the person's service plan without approval by the county of financial responsibility.

(b) When a person has been screened and authorized for services in an intermediate care facility for persons with mental retardation or related conditions or for home and community-based services for persons with mental retardation or related conditions, the case manager shall assist that person in identifying a service provider who is able to meet the needs of the person according to the person's individual service plan. If the identified service is to be provided in a county other than the county of financial responsibility, the county of financial responsibility shall request concurrence of the county where the person is requesting to receive the identified services. The county of service may refuse to concur if:

(1) it can demonstrate that the provider is unable to provide the services identified in the person's individual service plan as services that are needed and are to be provided;

(2) in the case of an intermediate care facility for persons with mental retardation or related conditions, there has been no authorization for admission by the admission review team as required in section 256B.0926; or

(3) in the case of home and community-based services for persons with mental retardation or related conditions, the county of service can demonstrate that the prospective provider has failed to substantially comply with the terms of a past contract or has had a prior contract terminated within the last 12 months for failure to provide adequate services, or has received a notice of intent to terminate the contract.

(c) The county of service shall notify the county of financial responsibility of concurrence or refusal to concur no later than 20 working days following receipt of the written request. Unless other mutually acceptable arrangements are made by the involved county agencies, the county of financial responsibility is responsible for costs of social services and the costs associated with the development and maintenance of the placement. The county of service may request that the county of financial responsibility purchase case management services from the county of service or from a contracted provider of case management when the county of financial responsibility is not providing case management as defined in this section and rules adopted under this section, unless other mutually acceptable arrangements are made by the involved county agencies. Standards for payment limits under this section may be established by the commissioner. Financial disputes between counties shall be resolved as provided in section 256G.09.

[For text of subds 9 and 10, see M.S.1992]

History: *1993 c 339 s 15-19*

256B.0925 ALTERNATIVE DELIVERY OF CASE MANAGEMENT FOR PERSONS WITH MENTAL RETARDATION OR RELATED CONDITIONS.

[For text of subds 1 and 2, see M.S.1992]

Subd. 3. **Rule waiver.** The commissioner is authorized to grant a waiver from portions of Minnesota Rules, parts 9525.0015 to 9525.0165. The commissioner shall report to the health care committee of the senate and the health and human services committee of the house of representatives on any portion of the rule that the commissioner is requested to waive and the disposition of the request.

[For text of subds 4 and 5, see M.S.1992]

History: *1993 c 4 s 30*

256B.093 SERVICES FOR PERSONS WITH TRAUMATIC BRAIN INJURIES.

Subdivision 1. **State traumatic brain injury program.** The commissioner of human services shall:

(1) establish and maintain statewide traumatic brain injury program;

(2) designate a full-time position to supervise and coordinate services and policies for persons with traumatic brain injuries;

(3) contract with qualified agencies or employ staff to provide statewide administrative case management;

(4) establish an advisory committee to provide recommendations in a report to the commissioner regarding program and service needs of persons with traumatic brain injuries. The advisory committee shall consist of no less than ten members and no more than 30 members. The commissioner shall appoint all advisory committee members to one- or two-year terms and appoint one member as chair; and

(5) investigate the need for the development of rules or statutes for:

(i) traumatic brain injury home and community-based services waiver; and

(ii) traumatic brain injury services not covered by any other statute or rule.

[For text of subd 2, see M.S.1992]

Subd. 3. **Traumatic brain injury program duties.** The department shall fund case management under this subdivision using medical assistance administrative funds. The traumatic brain injury program duties include:

(1) assessing the person's individual needs for services required to prevent institutionalization;

(2) ensuring that a care plan that addresses the person's needs is developed, implemented, and monitored on an ongoing basis by the appropriate agency or individual;

(3) assisting the person in obtaining services necessary to allow the person to remain in the community;

(4) coordinating home care services with other medical assistance services under section 256B.0625;

(5) ensuring appropriate, accessible, and cost-effective medical assistance services;

(6) recommending to the commissioner the approval or denial of the use of medical assistance funds to pay for home care services when home care services exceed thresholds established by the commissioner under section 256B.0627;

(7) assisting the person with problems related to the provision of home care services;

(8) ensuring the quality of home care services;

(9) reassessing the person's need for and level of home care services at a frequency determined by the commissioner;

(10) recommending to the commissioner the approval or denial of medical assistance funds to pay for out-of-state placements for traumatic brain injury services and in-state traumatic brain injury services provided by designated Medicare long-term care hospitals;

(11) coordinating the traumatic brain injury home and community-based waiver; and

(12) approving traumatic brain injury waiver care plans.

[For text of subd 4, see M.S.1992]

History: *1Sp1993 c 1 art 5 s 80,81*

256B.094 CHILD WELFARE TARGETED CASE MANAGEMENT SERVICES.

Subdivision 1. **Definition.** "Child welfare targeted case management services" means activities that coordinate social and other services designed to help the child under age 21 and the child's family gain access to needed social services, mental health services, habilitative services, educational services, health services, vocational services, recreational services, and related services including, but not limited to, the areas of volunteer services, advocacy, transportation, and legal services. Case management services include developing an individual service plan and assisting the child and the child's family in obtaining needed services through coordination with other agencies and assuring continuity of care. Case managers must assess the delivery, appropriateness, and effectiveness of services on a regular basis.

Subd. 2. **Eligible services.** Services eligible for medical assistance reimbursement include:

(1) assessment of the recipient's need for case management services to gain access to medical, social, educational, and other related services;

(2) development, completion, and regular review of a written individual service plan based on the assessment of need for case management services to ensure access to medical, social, educational, and other related services;

(3) routine contact or other communication with the client, the client's family, primary caregiver, legal representative, substitute care provider, service providers, or other relevant persons identified as necessary to the development or implementation of the goals of the individual service plan, regarding the status of the client, the individual service plan, or the goals for the client, exclusive of transportation of the child;

(4) coordinating referrals for, and the provision of, case management services for the client with appropriate service providers, consistent with section 1902(a)(23) of the Social Security Act;

(5) coordinating and monitoring the overall service delivery to ensure quality of services;

(6) monitoring and evaluating services on a regular basis to ensure appropriateness and continued need;

(7) completing and maintaining necessary documentation that supports and verifies the activities in this subdivision;

(8) traveling to conduct a visit with the client or other relevant person necessary to the development or implementation of the goals of the individual service plan; and

(9) coordinating with the medical assistance facility discharge planner in the 30-day period before the client's discharge into the community. This case management service provided to patients or residents in a medical assistance facility is limited to a maximum of two 30-day periods per calendar year.

Subd. 3. **Coordination and provision of services.** (a) In a county where a prepaid medical assistance provider has contracted under section 256B.031 or 256B.69 to provide mental health services, the case management provider shall coordinate with the prepaid provider to ensure that all necessary mental health services required under the contract are provided to recipients of case management services.

(b) When the case management provider determines that a prepaid provider is not providing mental health services as required under the contract, the case management provider shall assist the recipient to appeal the prepaid provider's denial pursuant to section 256.045, and may make other arrangements for provision of the covered services.

(c) The case management provider may bill the provider of prepaid health care services for any mental health services provided to a recipient of case management services which the county arranges for or provides and which are included in the prepaid provider's contract, and which were determined to be medically necessary as a result of an appeal pursuant to section 256.045. The prepaid provider must reimburse the mental health provider, at the prepaid provider's standard rate for that service, for any services delivered under this subdivision.

(d) If the county has not obtained prior authorization for this service, or an appeal results in a determination that the services were not medically necessary, the county may not seek reimbursement from the prepaid provider.

Subd. 4. **Case management provider.** To be eligible to receive medical assistance reimbursement, the case management provider must meet all provider qualification and certification standards under section 256F.10.

Subd. 5. **Case manager.** To provide case management services, a case manager must be employed by and authorized by the case management provider to provide case management services and meet all requirements under section 256F.10.

Subd. 6. **Medical assistance reimbursement of case management services.** (a) Medi-

cal assistance reimbursement for services under this section shall be made on a monthly basis. Payment is based on face-to-face or telephone contacts between the case manager and the client, client's family, primary caregiver, legal representative, or other relevant person identified as necessary to the development or implementation of the goals of the individual service plan regarding the status of the client, the individual service plan, or the goals for the client. These contacts must meet the minimum standards in clauses (1) and (2):

(1) there must be a face-to-face contact at least once a month except as provided in clause (2); and

(2) for a client placed outside of the county of financial responsibility in an excluded time facility under section 256G.02, subdivision 6, or through the interstate compact on the placement of children, section 257.40, and the placement in either case is more than 60 miles beyond the county boundaries, there must be at least one contact per month and not more than two consecutive months without a face-to-face contact.

(b) The payment rate is established using time study data on activities of provider service staff and reports required under sections 245.482, 256.01, subdivision 2, paragraph (17), and 256E.08, subdivision 8.

Separate payment rates may be established for different groups of providers to maximize reimbursement as determined by the commissioner. The payment rate will be reviewed annually and revised periodically to be consistent with the most recent time study and other data. Payment for services will be made upon submission of a valid claim and verification of proper documentation described in subdivision 7. Federal administrative revenue earned through the time study shall be distributed according to earnings, to counties or groups of counties which have the same payment rate under this subdivision, and to the group of counties which are not certified providers under section 256F.10. The commissioner shall modify the requirements set out in Minnesota Rules, parts 9550.0300 to 9550.0370, as necessary to accomplish this.

Subd. 7. **Documentation for case record and claim.** (a) The assessment, case finding, and individual service plan shall be maintained in the individual case record under the data practices act, chapter 13. The individual service plan must be reviewed at least annually and updated as necessary. Each individual case record must maintain documentation of routine, ongoing, contacts and services. Each claim must be supported by written documentation in the individual case record.

(b) Each claim must include:

(1) the name of the recipient;

(2) the date of the service;

(3) the name of the provider agency and the person providing service;

(4) the nature and extent of services; and

(5) the place of the services.

Subd. 8. **Payment limitation.** Services that are not eligible for payment as a child welfare targeted case management service include, but are not limited to:

(1) assessments prior to opening a case;

(2) therapy and treatment services;

(3) legal services, including legal advocacy, for the client;

(4) information and referral services that are part of a county's community social services plan, that are not provided to an eligible recipient;

(5) outreach services including outreach services provided through the community support services program;

(6) services that are not documented as required under subdivision 7 and Minnesota Rules, parts 9505.1800 to 9505.1880;

(7) services that are otherwise eligible for payment on a separate schedule under rules of the department of human services;

(8) services to a client that duplicate the same case management service from another case manager;

(9) case management services provided to patients or residents in a medical assistance facility except as described under subdivision 2, clause (9); and

(10) for children in foster care, group homes, or residential care, payment for case management services is limited to case management services that focus on permanency planning or return to the family home and that do not duplicate the facility's discharge planning services.

History: *1Sp1993 c 1 art 3 s 24*

256B.15 CLAIMS AGAINST ESTATES.

Subdivision 1. **Definition.** For purposes of this section, "medical assistance" includes the medical assistance program under this chapter and the general assistance medical care program under chapter 256D, but does not include the alternative care program for nonmedical assistance recipients under section 256B.0913, subdivision 4.

[For text of subd 1a, see M.S.1992]

Subd. 2. **Limitations on claims.** The claim shall include only the total amount of medical assistance rendered after age 65 or during a period of institutionalization described in subdivision 1a, clause (b), and the total amount of general assistance medical care rendered, and shall not include interest. Claims that have been allowed but not paid shall bear interest according to section 524.3-806, paragraph (d). A claim against the estate of a surviving spouse who did not receive medical assistance, for medical assistance rendered for the predeceased spouse, is limited to the value of the assets of the estate that were marital property or jointly owned property at any time during the marriage.

[For text of subds 3 and 4, see M.S.1992]

History: *1Sp1993 c 1 art 5 s 82,83*

256B.19 DIVISION OF COST.

[For text of subd 1, see M.S.1992]

Subd. 1a. **State reimbursement of counties.** Beginning July 1, 1991, the state will reimburse counties according to the payment schedule in section 256.025 for the county share of costs incurred under subdivision 1 on and after January 1, 1991, except for costs described in subdivision 1, clause (2). Payment to counties under this subdivision is subject to the provisions of section 256.017.

Subd. 1b. **Portion of nonfederal share to be paid by government hospitals.** (a) In addition to the percentage contribution paid by a county under subdivision 1, the governmental units designated in this subdivision shall be responsible for an additional portion of the nonfederal share of medical assistance costs attributable to them. For purposes of this subdivision, "designated governmental unit" means Hennepin county and the University of Minnesota. For purposes of this subdivision, "public hospital" means the Hennepin County Medical Center and the University of Minnesota hospital.

(b) From July 1, 1993 through June 30, 1994, Hennepin county shall on a monthly basis transfer an amount equal to 1.8 percent of the public hospital's net patient revenues, excluding net Medicare revenue to the state Medicaid agency.

(c) Effective July 1, 1994, each of the governmental units designated in paragraph (a) shall on a monthly basis transfer an amount equal to 1.8 percent of the public hospital's net patient revenues, excluding net Medicare revenue, to the state Medicaid agency.

(d) These sums shall be part of the designated governmental unit's portion of the nonfederal share of medical assistance costs, but shall not be subject to payback provisions of section 256.025.

Subd. 1c. **Additional portion of nonfederal share.** In addition to any payment required under subdivision 1b, Hennepin county and the University of Minnesota shall

be responsible for a monthly transfer payment of $1,000,000, due before noon on the 15th of each month beginning July 15, 1993. These sums shall be part of the designated governmental unit's portion of the nonfederal share of medical assistance costs, but shall not be subject to payback provisions of section 256.025.

Subd. 1d. **Portion of nonfederal share to be paid by certain counties.** In addition to the percentage contribution paid by a county under subdivision 1, the governmental units designated in this subdivision shall be responsible for an additional portion of the nonfederal share of medical assistance cost. For purposes of this subdivision, "designated governmental unit" means the counties of Becker, Beltrami, Clearwater, Cook, Dodge, Hubbard, Itasca, Lake, Mahnomen, Pennington, Pipestone, Ramsey, St. Louis, Steele, Todd, Traverse, and Wadena.

Beginning in 1994, each of the governmental units designated in this subdivision shall transfer before noon on May 31 to the state Medicaid agency an amount equal to the number of licensed beds in any nursing home owned by the county multiplied by $5,723. If two or more counties own a nursing home, the payment shall be prorated. These sums shall be part of the designated governmental unit's portion of the nonfederal share of medical assistance costs, but shall not be subject to payback provisions of section 256.025.

[For text of subds 2 to 3, see M.S.1992]

History: *1993 c 13 art 1 s 32; 1Sp1993 c 1 art 5 s 84-86*

256B.37 PRIVATE INSURANCE POLICIES, CAUSES OF ACTION.

[For text of subds 1 and 2, see M.S.1992]

Subd. 3. **Notice.** The state agency must be given notice of monetary claims against a person, firm, or corporation that may be liable in damages, or otherwise obligated to pay part or all of the cost of medical care when the state agency has paid or become liable for the cost of care. Notice must be given as follows:

(a) Applicants for medical assistance shall notify the state or local agency of any possible claims when they submit the application. Recipients of medical assistance shall notify the state or local agency of any possible claims when those claims arise.

(b) A person providing medical care services to a recipient of medical assistance shall notify the state agency when the person has reason to believe that a third party may be liable for payment of the cost of medical care.

(c) A person who is party to a claim upon which the state agency may be entitled to subrogation under this section shall notify the state agency of its potential subrogation claim before filing a claim, commencing an action, or negotiating a settlement. A person who is a party to a claim includes the plaintiff, the defendants, and any other party to the cause of action.

Notice given to the local agency is not sufficient to meet the requirements of paragraphs (b) and (c).

[For text of subd 4, see M.S.1992]

Subd. 5. **Private benefits to be used first.** Private accident and health care coverage for medical services is primary coverage and must be exhausted before medical assistance is paid. When a person who is otherwise eligible for medical assistance has private accident or health care coverage, including a prepaid health plan, the private health care benefits available to the person must be used first and to the fullest extent.

Subd. 5a. **Supplemental payment by medical assistance.** Medical assistance payment will not be made when either covered charges are paid in full by a third party or the provider has an agreement to accept payment for less than charges as payment in full. Payment for patients that are simultaneously covered by medical assistance and a liable third party other than Medicare will be determined as the lesser of clauses (1) to (3):

(1) the patient liability according to the provider/insurer agreement;

(2) covered charges minus the third party payment amount; or

(3) the medical assistance rate minus the third party payment amount.

A negative difference will not be implemented.

[For text of subd 6, see M.S.1992]

History: *1Sp1993 c 1 art 5 s 87-89*

256B.431 RATE DETERMINATION.

[For text of subds 1 to 2a, see M.S.1992]

Subd. 2b. **Operating costs, after July 1, 1985.** (a) For rate years beginning on or after July 1, 1985, the commissioner shall establish procedures for determining per diem reimbursement for operating costs.

(b) The commissioner shall contract with an econometric firm with recognized expertise in and access to national economic change indices that can be applied to the appropriate cost categories when determining the operating cost payment rate.

(c) The commissioner shall analyze and evaluate each nursing facility's cost report of allowable operating costs incurred by the nursing facility during the reporting year immediately preceding the rate year for which the payment rate becomes effective.

(d) The commissioner shall establish limits on actual allowable historical operating cost per diems based on cost reports of allowable operating costs for the reporting year that begins October 1, 1983, taking into consideration relevant factors including resident needs, geographic location, size of the nursing facility, and the costs that must be incurred for the care of residents in an efficiently and economically operated nursing facility. In developing the geographic groups for purposes of reimbursement under this section, the commissioner shall ensure that nursing facilities in any county contiguous to the Minneapolis-St. Paul seven-county metropolitan area are included in the same geographic group. The limits established by the commissioner shall not be less, in the aggregate, than the 60th percentile of total actual allowable historical operating cost per diems for each group of nursing facilities established under subdivision 1 based on cost reports of allowable operating costs in the previous reporting year. For rate years beginning on or after July 1, 1989, facilities located in geographic group I as described in Minnesota Rules, part 9549.0052, on January 1, 1989, may choose to have the commissioner apply either the care related limits or the other operating cost limits calculated for facilities located in geographic group II, or both, if either of the limits calculated for the group II facilities is higher. The efficiency incentive for geographic group I nursing facilities must be calculated based on geographic group I limits. The phase-in must be established utilizing the chosen limits. For purposes of these exceptions to the geographic grouping requirements, the definitions in Minnesota Rules, parts 9549.0050 to 9549.0059 (Emergency), and 9549.0010 to 9549.0080, apply. The limits established under this paragraph remain in effect until the commissioner establishes a new base period. Until the new base period is established, the commissioner shall adjust the limits annually using the appropriate economic change indices established in paragraph (e). In determining allowable historical operating cost per diems for purposes of setting limits and nursing facility payment rates, the commissioner shall divide the allowable historical operating costs by the actual number of resident days, except that where a nursing facility is occupied at less than 90 percent of licensed capacity days, the commissioner may establish procedures to adjust the computation of the per diem to an imputed occupancy level at or below 90 percent. The commissioner shall establish efficiency incentives as appropriate. The commissioner may establish efficiency incentives for different operating cost categories. The commissioner shall consider establishing efficiency incentives in care related cost categories. The commissioner may combine one or more operating cost categories and may use different methods for calculating payment rates for each operating cost category or combination of operating cost categories. For the rate year beginning on July 1, 1985, the commissioner shall:

(1) allow nursing facilities that have an average length of stay of 180 days or less in their skilled nursing level of care, 125 percent of the care related limit and 105 percent of the other operating cost limit established by rule; and

(2) exempt nursing facilities licensed on July 1, 1983, by the commissioner to provide residential services for the physically handicapped under Minnesota Rules, parts 9570.2000 to 9570.3600, from the care related limits and allow 105 percent of the other operating cost limit established by rule.

For the purpose of calculating the other operating cost efficiency incentive for nursing facilities referred to in clause (1) or (2), the commissioner shall use the other operating cost limit established by rule before application of the 105 percent.

(e) The commissioner shall establish a composite index or indices by determining the appropriate economic change indicators to be applied to specific operating cost categories or combination of operating cost categories.

(f) Each nursing facility shall receive an operating cost payment rate equal to the sum of the nursing facility's operating cost payment rates for each operating cost category. The operating cost payment rate for an operating cost category shall be the lesser of the nursing facility's historical operating cost in the category increased by the appropriate index established in paragraph (e) for the operating cost category plus an efficiency incentive established pursuant to paragraph (d) or the limit for the operating cost category increased by the same index. If a nursing facility's actual historic operating costs are greater than the prospective payment rate for that rate year, there shall be no retroactive cost settle-up. In establishing payment rates for one or more operating cost categories, the commissioner may establish separate rates for different classes of residents based on their relative care needs.

(g) The commissioner shall include the reported actual real estate tax liability or payments in lieu of real estate tax of each nursing facility as an operating cost of that nursing facility. Allowable costs under this subdivision for payments made by a nonprofit nursing facility that are in lieu of real estate taxes shall not exceed the amount which the nursing facility would have paid to a city or township and county for fire, police, sanitation services, and road maintenance costs had real estate taxes been levied on that property for those purposes. For rate years beginning on or after July 1, 1987, the reported actual real estate tax liability or payments in lieu of real estate tax of nursing facilities shall be adjusted to include an amount equal to one-half of the dollar change in real estate taxes from the prior year. The commissioner shall include a reported actual special assessment, and reported actual license fees required by the Minnesota department of health, for each nursing facility as an operating cost of that nursing facility. For rate years beginning on or after July 1, 1989, the commissioner shall include a nursing facility's reported public employee retirement act contribution for the reporting year as apportioned to the care-related operating cost categories and other operating cost categories multiplied by the appropriate composite index or indices established pursuant to paragraph (e) as costs under this paragraph. Total adjusted real estate tax liability, payments in lieu of real estate tax, actual special assessments paid, the indexed public employee retirement act contribution, and license fees paid as required by the Minnesota department of health, for each nursing facility (1) shall be divided by actual resident days in order to compute the operating cost payment rate for this operating cost category, (2) shall not be used to compute the care-related operating cost limits or other operating cost limits established by the commissioner, and (3) shall not be increased by the composite index or indices established pursuant to paragraph (e), unless otherwise indicated in this paragraph.

(h) For rate years beginning on or after July 1, 1987, the commissioner shall adjust the rates of a nursing facility that meets the criteria for the special dietary needs of its residents and the requirements in section 31.651. The adjustment for raw food cost shall be the difference between the nursing facility's allowable historical raw food cost per diem and 115 percent of the median historical allowable raw food cost per diem of the corresponding geographic group.

The rate adjustment shall be reduced by the applicable phase-in percentage as provided under subdivision 2h.

[For text of subds 2c to 2n, see M.S.1992]

Subd. 2o. **Special payment rates for short-stay nursing facilities.** Notwithstanding contrary provisions of this section and rules adopted by the commissioner, for the rate years beginning on or after July 1, 1993, a nursing facility whose average length of stay for the preceding reporting year is (1) less than 180 days; or (2) less than 225 days in a nursing facility with more than 315 licensed beds must be reimbursed for allowable costs up to 125 percent of the total care-related limit and 105 percent of the other-operating-cost limit for hospital-attached nursing facilities. A nursing facility that received the benefit of this limit during the rate year beginning July 1, 1992, continues to receive this rate during the rate year beginning July 1, 1993, even if the facility's average length of stay is more than 180 days in the rate years subsequent to the rate year beginning July 1, 1991. For purposes of this subdivision, a nursing facility shall compute its average length of stay by dividing the nursing facility's actual resident days for the reporting year by the nursing facility's total resident discharges for that reporting year.

[For text of subds 2p and 2q, see M.S.1992]

Subd. 2r. **Payment restrictions on leave days.** Effective July 1, 1993, the commissioner shall limit payment for leave days in a nursing facility to 79 percent of that nursing facility's total payment rate for the involved resident.

[For text of subds 3 to 9a, see M.S.1992]

Subd. 10. **Property rate adjustments and construction projects.** A nursing facility's request for a property-related payment rate adjustment and the related supporting documentation of project construction cost information must be submitted to the commissioner within 60 days after the construction project's completion date to be considered eligible for a property-related payment rate adjustment. Construction projects with completion dates within one year of the completion date associated with the property rate adjustment request and phased projects with project completion dates within three years of the last phase of the phased project must be aggregated for purposes of the minimum thresholds in subdivisions 16 and 17, and the maximum threshold in section 144A.071, subdivision 2. "Construction project," "project construction costs," and "phased project" have the meanings given them in Minnesota Rules, part 4655.1110 (Emergency).

[For text of subds 11 and 12, see M.S.1992]

Subd. 13. **Hold-harmless property-related rates.** (a) Terms used in subdivisions 13 to 21 shall be as defined in Minnesota Rules, parts 9549.0010 to 9549.0080, and this section.

(b) Except as provided in this subdivision, for rate periods beginning on October 1, 1992, and for rate years beginning after June 30, 1993, the property-related rate for a nursing facility shall be the greater of $4 or the property-related payment rate in effect on September 30, 1992. In addition, the incremental increase in the nursing facility's rental rate will be determined under Minnesota Rules, parts 9549.0010 to 9549.0080, and this section.

(c) Notwithstanding Minnesota Rules, part 9549.0060, subpart 13, item F, a nursing facility that has a sale permitted under subdivision 14 after June 30, 1992, shall receive the property-related payment rate in effect at the time of the sale or reorganization. For rate periods beginning after October 1, 1992, and for rate years beginning after June 30, 1993, a nursing facility shall receive, in addition to its property-related payment rate in effect at the time of the sale, the incremental increase allowed under subdivision 14.

(d) For rate years beginning after June 30, 1993, the property-related rate for a nursing facility licensed after July 1, 1989, after relocating its beds from a separate nursing home to a building formerly used as a hospital and sold during the cost reporting

year ending September 30, 1991, shall be its property-related rate prior to the sale in addition to the incremental increases provided under this section effective on October 1, 1992, of 29 cents per day, and any incremental increases after October 1, 1992, calculated by using its rental rate under Minnesota Rules, parts 9549.0010 to 9549.0080, and this section, recognizing the current appraised value of the facility at the new location, and including as allowable debt otherwise allowable debt incurred to remodel the facility in the new location prior to the relocation of beds.

Subd. 14. **Limitations on sales of nursing facilities.** (a) For rate periods beginning on October 1, 1992, and for rate years beginning after June 30, 1993, a nursing facility's property-related payment rate as established under subdivision 13 shall be adjusted by either paragraph (b) or (c) for the sale of the nursing facility, including sales occurring after June 30, 1992, as provided in this subdivision.

(b) If the nursing facility's property-related payment rate under subdivision 13 prior to sale is greater than the nursing facility's rental rate under Minnesota Rules, parts 9549.0010 to 9549.0080, and this section prior to sale, the nursing facility's property-related payment rate after sale shall be the greater of its property-related payment rate under subdivision 13 prior to sale or its rental rate under Minnesota Rules, parts 9549.0010 to 9549.0080, and this section calculated after sale.

(c) If the nursing facility's property-related payment rate under subdivision 13 prior to sale is equal to or less than the nursing facility's rental rate under Minnesota Rules, parts 9549.0010 to 9549.0080, and this section prior to sale, the nursing facility's property-related payment rate after sale shall be the nursing facility's property-related payment rate under subdivision 13 plus the difference between its rental rate calculated under Minnesota Rules, parts 9549.0010 to 9549.0080, and this section prior to sale and its rental rate calculated under Minnesota Rules, parts 9549.0010 to 9549.0080, and this section calculated after sale.

(d) For purposes of this subdivision, "sale" means the purchase of a nursing facility's capital assets with cash or debt. The term sale does not include a stock purchase of a nursing facility or any of the following transactions:

(1) a sale and leaseback to the same licensee that does not constitute a change in facility license;

(2) a transfer of an interest to a trust;

(3) gifts or other transfers for no consideration;

(4) a merger of two or more related organizations;

(5) a change in the legal form of doing business, other than a publicly held organization that becomes privately held or vice versa;

(6) the addition of a new partner, owner, or shareholder who owns less than 20 percent of the nursing facility or the issuance of stock; and

(7) a sale, merger, reorganization, or any other transfer of interest between related organizations other than those permitted in this section.

(e) For purposes of this subdivision, "sale" includes the sale or transfer of a nursing facility to a close relative as defined in Minnesota Rules, part 9549.0020, subpart 38, item C, upon the death of an owner, due to serious illness or disability, as defined under the Social Security Act, under United States Code, title 42, section 423(d)(1)(A), or upon retirement of an owner from the business of owning or operating a nursing home at 62 years of age or older. For sales to a close relative allowed under this paragraph, otherwise nonallowable debt resulting from seller financing of all or a portion of the debt resulting from the sale shall be allowed and shall not be subject to Minnesota Rules, part 9549.0060, subpart 5, item E, provided that in addition to existing requirements for allowance of debt and interest, the debt is subject to repayment through annual principal payments and the interest rate on the related organization debt does not exceed three percentage points above the posted yield for standard conventional fixed rate mortgages of the Federal Home Loan Mortgage Corporation for delivery in 60 days in effect on the day of sale. If at any time, the seller forgives the related organization debt allowed under this paragraph for other than equal amount of payment on that

debt, then the buyer shall pay to the state the total revenue received by the nursing facility after the sale attributable to the amount of allowable debt which has been forgiven. Any assignment, sale, or transfer of the debt instrument entered into by the close relatives, either directly or indirectly, which grants to the close relative buyer the right to receive all or a portion of the payments under the debt instrument shall, effective on the date of the transfer, result in the prospective reduction in the corresponding portion of the allowable debt and interest expense. Upon the death of the close relative seller, any remaining balance of the close relative debt must be refinanced and such refinancing shall be subject to the provisions of Minnesota Rules, part 9549.0060, subpart 7, item G. This paragraph shall not apply to sales occurring on or after June 30, 1997.

(f) For purposes of this subdivision, "effective date of sale" means the later of either the date on which legal title to the capital assets is transferred or the date on which closing for the sale occurred.

(g) The effective day for the property-related payment rate determined under this subdivision shall be the first day of the month following the month in which the effective date of sale occurs or October 1, 1992, whichever is later, provided that the notice requirements under section 256B.47, subdivision 2, have been met.

(h) Notwithstanding Minnesota Rules, part 9549.0060, subparts 5, item A, subitems (3) and (4), and 7, items E and F, the commissioner shall limit the total allowable debt and related interest for sales occurring after June 30, 1992, to the sum of clauses (1) to (3):

(1) the historical cost of capital assets, as of the nursing facility's most recent previous effective date of sale or, if there has been no previous sale, the nursing facility's initial historical cost of constructing capital assets;

(2) the average annual capital asset additions after deduction for capital asset deletions, not including depreciations; and

(3) one-half of the allowed inflation on the nursing facility's capital assets. The commissioner shall compute the allowed inflation as described in paragraph (h).

(i) For purposes of computing the amount of allowed inflation, the commissioner must apply the following principles:

(1) the lesser of the Consumer Price Index for all urban consumers or the Dodge Construction Systems Costs for Nursing Homes for any time periods during which both are available must be used. If the Dodge Construction Systems Costs for Nursing Homes becomes unavailable, the commissioner shall substitute the index in subdivision 3f, or such other index as the secretary of the health care financing administration may designate;

(2) the amount of allowed inflation to be applied to the capital assets in paragraph (g), clauses (1) and (2), must be computed separately;

(3) the amount of allowed inflation must be determined on an annual basis, prorated on a monthly basis for partial years and if the initial month of use is not determinable for a capital asset, then one-half of that calendar year shall be used for purposes of prorating;

(4) the amount of allowed inflation to be applied to the capital assets in paragraph (g), clauses (1) and (2), must not exceed 300 percent of the total capital assets in any one of those clauses; and

(5) the allowed inflation must be computed starting with the month following the nursing facility's most recent previous effective date of sale or, if there has been no previous sale, the month following the date of the nursing facility's initial occupancy, and ending with the month preceding the effective date of sale.

(j) If the historical cost of a capital asset is not readily available for the date of the nursing facility's most recent previous sale or if there has been no previous sale for the date of the nursing facility's initial occupancy, then the commissioner shall limit the total allowable debt and related interest after sale to the extent recognized by the Medicare intermediary after the sale. For a nursing facility that has no historical capital asset cost data available and does not have allowable debt and interest calculated by the Med-

icare intermediary, the commissioner shall use the historical cost of capital asset data from the point in time for which capital asset data is recorded in the nursing facility's audited financial statements.

(k) The limitations in this subdivision apply only to debt resulting from a sale of a nursing facility occurring after June 30, 1992, including debt assumed by the purchaser of the nursing facility.

Subd. 15. **Capital repair and replacement cost reporting and rate calculation.** For rate years beginning after June 30, 1993, a nursing facility's capital repair and replacement payment rate shall be established annually as provided in paragraphs (a) to (d).

(a) Notwithstanding Minnesota Rules, part 9549.0060, subpart 12, the costs of acquiring any of the following items, including cash payment for equity investment and principal and interest expense for debt financing, shall be reported in the capital repair and replacement cost category when the cost of the item exceeds $500:

(1) wall coverings;

(2) paint;

(3) floor coverings;

(4) window coverings;

(5) roof repair;

(6) heating or cooling system repair or replacement;

(7) window repair or replacement;

(8) initiatives designed to reduce energy usage by the facility if accompanied by an energy audit prepared by a professional engineer or architect registered in Minnesota, or by an auditor certified under Minnesota Rules, part 7635.0130, to do energy audits and the energy audit identifies the initiative as a conservation measure; and

(9) repair or replacement of capital assets not included in the equity incentive computations under subdivision 16.

(b) To compute the capital repair and replacement payment rate, the allowable annual repair and replacement costs for the reporting year must be divided by actual resident days for the reporting year. The annual allowable capital repair and replacement costs shall not exceed $150 per licensed bed. The excess of the allowed capital repair and replacement costs over the capital repair and replacement limit shall be a cost carryover to succeeding cost reporting periods, except that sale of a facility, under subdivision 14, shall terminate the carryover of all costs except those incurred in the most recent cost reporting year. The termination of the carryover shall have effect on the capital repair and replacement rate on the same date as provided in subdivision 14, paragraph (f), for the sale. For rate years beginning after June 30, 1994, the capital repair and replacement limit shall be subject to the index provided in subdivision 3f, paragraph (a). For purposes of this subdivision, the number of licensed beds shall be the number used to calculate the nursing facility's capacity days. The capital repair and replacement rate must be added to the nursing facility's total payment rate.

(c) Capital repair and replacement costs under this subdivision shall not be counted as either care-related or other operating costs, nor subject to care-related or other operating limits.

(d) If costs otherwise allowable under this subdivision are incurred as the result of a project approved under the moratorium exception process in section 144A.073, or in connection with an addition to or replacement of buildings, attached fixtures, or land improvements for which the total historical cost of these assets exceeds the lesser of $150,000 or ten percent of the nursing facility's appraised value, these costs must be claimed under subdivision 16 or 17, as appropriate.

[For text of subds 16 to 20, see M.S.1992]

Subd. 21. **Indexing thresholds.** Beginning January 1, 1993, and each January 1 thereafter, the commissioner shall annually update the dollar thresholds in subdivisions 15, paragraph (d), 16, and 17, and in section 144A.071, subdivisions 2 and 4a, clauses (b) and (e), by the inflation index referenced in subdivision 3f, paragraph (a).

Subd. 22. **Changes to nursing facility reimbursement.** The nursing facility reimbursement changes in paragraphs (a) to (e) apply to Minnesota Rules, parts 9549.0010 to 9549.0080, and this section, and are effective for rate years beginning on or after July 1, 1993, unless otherwise indicated.

(a) In addition to the approved pension or profit sharing plans allowed by the reimbursement rule, the commissioner shall allow those plans specified in Internal Revenue Code, sections 403(b) and 408(k).

(b) The commissioner shall allow as workers' compensation insurance costs under section 256B.421, subdivision 14, the costs of workers' compensation coverage obtained under the following conditions:

(1) a plan approved by the commissioner of commerce as a Minnesota group or individual self-insurance plan as provided in section 79A.03;

(2) a plan in which:

(i) the nursing facility, directly or indirectly, purchases workers' compensation coverage in compliance with section 176.181, subdivision 2, from an authorized insurance carrier;

(ii) a related organization to the nursing facility reinsures the workers' compensation coverage purchased, directly or indirectly, by the nursing facility; and

(iii) all of the conditions in clause (4) are met;

(3) a plan in which:

(i) the nursing facility, directly or indirectly, purchases workers' compensation coverage in compliance with section 176.181, subdivision 2, from an authorized insurance carrier;

(ii) the insurance premium is calculated retrospectively, including a maximum premium limit, and paid using the paid loss retro method; and

(iii) all of the conditions in clause (4) are met;

(4) additional conditions are:

(i) the costs of the plan are allowable under the federal Medicare program;

(ii) the reserves for the plan are maintained in an account controlled and administered by a person which is not a related organization to the nursing facility;

(iii) the reserves for the plan cannot be used, directly or indirectly, as collateral for debts incurred or other obligations of the nursing facility or related organizations to the nursing facility;

(iv) if the plan provides workers' compensation coverage for non-Minnesota nursing facilities, the plan's cost methodology must be consistent among all nursing facilities covered by the plan, and if reasonable, is allowed notwithstanding any reimbursement laws regarding cost allocation to the contrary;

(v) central, affiliated, corporate, or nursing facility costs related to their administration of the plan are costs which must remain in the nursing facility's administrative cost category and must not be allocated to other cost categories; and

(vi) required security deposits, whether in the form of cash, investments, securities, assets, letters of credit, or in any other form are not allowable costs for purposes of establishing the facilities payment rate.

(5) any costs allowed pursuant to clauses (1) to (3) are subject to the following requirements:

(i) if the nursing facility is sold or otherwise ceases operations, the plan's reserves must be subject to an actuarially based settle-up after 36 months from the date of sale or the date on which operations ceased. The facility's medical assistance portion of the total excess plan reserves must be paid to the state within 30 days following the date on which excess plan reserves are determined;

(ii) any distribution of excess plan reserves made to or withdrawals made by the nursing facility or a related organization are applicable credits and must be used to reduce the nursing facility's workers' compensation insurance costs in the reporting period in which a distribution or withdrawal is received;

(iii) if reimbursement for the plan is sought under the federal Medicare program, and is audited pursuant to the Medicare program, the nursing facility must provide a copy of Medicare's final audit report, including attachments and exhibits, to the commissioner within 30 days of receipt by the nursing facility or any related organization. The commissioner shall implement the audit findings associated with the plan upon receipt of Medicare's final audit report. The department's authority to implement the audit findings is independent of its authority to conduct a field audit.

(6) the commissioner shall have authority to adopt emergency rules to implement this paragraph.

(c) In the determination of incremental increases in the nursing facility's rental rate as required in subdivisions 14 to 21, except for a refinancing permitted under subdivision 19, the commissioner must adjust the nursing facility's property-related payment rate for both incremental increases and decreases in recomputations of its rental rate;

(d) A nursing facility's administrative cost limitation must be modified as follows:

(1) if the nursing facility's licensed beds exceed 195 licensed beds, the general and administrative cost category limitation shall be 13 percent;

(2) if the nursing facility's licensed beds are more than 150 licensed beds, but less than 196 licensed beds, the general and administrative cost category limitation shall be 14 percent; or

(3) if the nursing facility's licensed beds is less than 151 licensed beds, the general and administrative cost category limitation shall remain at 15 percent.

(e) The care related operating rate shall be increased by eight cents to reimburse facilities for unfunded federal mandates, including costs related to hepatitis B vaccinations.

Subd. 23. **County nursing home payment adjustments.** (a) Beginning in 1994, the commissioner shall pay a nursing home payment adjustment on May 31 after noon to a county in which is located a nursing home that, as of January 1 of the previous year, was county-owned and had over 40 beds and medical assistance occupancy in excess of 50 percent during the reporting year ending September 30, 1991. The adjustment shall be an amount equal to $16 per calendar day multiplied by the number of beds licensed in the facility as of September 30, 1991.

(b) Payments under paragraph (a) are excluded from medical assistance per diem rate calculations. These payments are required notwithstanding any rule prohibiting medical assistance payments from exceeding payments from private pay residents. A facility receiving a payment under paragraph (a) may not increase charges to private pay residents by an amount equivalent to the per diem amount payments under paragraph (a) would equal if converted to a per diem.

Subd. 24. **Modified efficiency incentive.** Notwithstanding section 256B.74, subdivision 3, for the rate year beginning July 1, 1993, the maximum efficiency incentive is $2.20, and for rate years beginning on or after July 1, 1994, the commissioner shall determine a nursing facility's efficiency incentive by first computing the amount by which the facility's other operating cost limit exceeds its nonadjusted other operating cost per diem for that rate year. The commissioner shall then use the following table to compute the nursing facility's efficiency incentive. Each increment or partial increment the nursing facility's nonadjusted other operating per diem is below its other operating cost limit shall be multiplied by the corresponding percentage for that per diem increment. The sum of each of those computations shall be the nursing facility's efficiency incentive.

Other Operating Cost Per Diem Increment Below Facility Limit	Percentage Applied to Each Per Diem Increment
Less than $0.50	70 percent
$0.50 to less than $0.70	10 percent
$0.70 to less than $0.90	15 percent

$0.90 to less than $1.10	20 percent
$1.10 to less than $1.30	25 percent
$1.30 to less than $1.50	30 percent
$1.50 to less than $1.70	35 percent
$1.70 to less than $1.90	40 percent
$1.90 to less than $2.10	45 percent
$2.10 to less than $2.30	50 percent
$2.30 to less than $2.50	55 percent
$2.50 to less than $2.70	60 percent
$2.70 to less than $2.90	65 percent
$2.90 to less than $3.10	70 percent
$3.10 to less than $3.30	75 percent
$3.30 to less than $3.50	80 percent
$3.50 to less than $3.70	85 percent
$3.70 to less than $3.90	90 percent
$3.90 to less than $4.10	95 percent
$4.10 to less than $4.30	100 percent

The maximum efficiency incentive is $2.44 per resident day.

History: *1993 c 339 s 20; 1Sp1993 c 1 art 5 s 90-99*

256B.432 LONG-TERM CARE FACILITIES; CENTRAL, AFFILIATED, OR CORPORATE OFFICE COSTS.

[For text of subds 1 to 4, see M.S.1992]

Subd. 5. **Allocation of remaining costs; allocation ratio.** (a) After the costs that can be directly identified according to subdivisions 3 and 4 have been allocated, the remaining central, affiliated, or corporate office costs must be allocated between the long-term care facility operations and the other activities or facilities unrelated to the long-term care facility operations based on the ratio of total operating costs.

(b) For purposes of allocating these remaining central, affiliated, or corporate office costs, the numerator for the allocation ratio shall be determined as follows:

(1) for long-term care facilities that are related organizations or are controlled by a central, affiliated, or corporate office under a management agreement, the numerator of the allocation ratio shall be equal to the sum of the total operating costs incurred by each related organization or controlled long-term care facility;

(2) for a central, affiliated, or corporate office providing goods or services to related organizations that are not long-term care facilities, the numerator of the allocation ratio shall be equal to the sum of the total operating costs incurred by the non-long-term care related organizations;

(3) for a central, affiliated, or corporate office providing goods or services to unrelated long-term care facilities under a consulting agreement, the numerator of the allocation ratio shall be equal to the greater of directly identified central, affiliated, or corporate costs or the contracted amount; or

(4) for business activities that involve the providing of goods or services to unrelated parties which are not long-term care facilities, the numerator of the allocation ratio shall be equal to the greater of directly identified costs or revenues generated by the activity or function.

(c) The denominator for the allocation ratio is the sum of the numerators in paragraph (b), clauses (1) to (4).

[For text of subds 6 and 7, see M.S.1992]

Subd. 8. **Adequate documentation supporting long-term care facility payrolls.** Beginning July 1, 1993, payroll records supporting compensation costs claimed by long-term care facilities must be supported by affirmative time and attendance records prepared by each individual at intervals of not more than one month. The affirmative time and

attendance record must identify the individual's name; the days worked during each pay period; the number of hours worked each day; and the number of hours taken each day by the individual for vacation, sick, and other leave. The affirmative time and attendance record must include a signed verification by the individual and the individual's supervisor, if any, that the entries reported on the record are correct.

History: *1Sp1993 c 1 art 5 s 100,101*

256B.433 ANCILLARY SERVICES.

Subdivision 1. **Setting payment; monitoring use of therapy services.** The commissioner shall promulgate rules pursuant to the administrative procedure act to set the amount and method of payment for ancillary materials and services provided to recipients residing in nursing facilities. Payment for materials and services may be made to either the nursing facility in the operating cost per diem, to the vendor of ancillary services pursuant to Minnesota Rules, parts 9505.0170 to 9505.0475 or to a nursing facility pursuant to Minnesota Rules, parts 9505.0170 to 9505.0475. Payment for the same or similar service to a recipient shall not be made to both the nursing facility and the vendor. The commissioner shall ensure the avoidance of double payments through audits and adjustments to the nursing facility's annual cost report as required by section 256B.47, and that charges and arrangements for ancillary materials and services are cost-effective and as would be incurred by a prudent and cost-conscious buyer. Therapy services provided to a recipient must be medically necessary and appropriate to the medical condition of the recipient. If the vendor, nursing facility, or ordering physician cannot provide adequate medical necessity justification, as determined by the commissioner, the commissioner may recover or disallow the payment for the services and may require prior authorization for therapy services as a condition of payment or may impose administrative sanctions to limit the vendor, nursing facility, or ordering physician's participation in the medical assistance program. If the provider number of a nursing facility is used to bill services provided by a vendor of therapy services that is not related to the nursing facility by ownership, control, affiliation, or employment status, no withholding of payment shall be imposed against the nursing facility for services not medically necessary except for funds due the unrelated vendor of therapy services as provided in subdivision 3, paragraph (c). For the purpose of this subdivision, no monetary recovery may be imposed against the nursing facility for funds paid to the unrelated vendor of therapy services as provided in subdivision 3, paragraph (c), for services not medically necessary. For purposes of this section and section 256B.47, therapy includes physical therapy, occupational therapy, speech therapy, audiology, and mental health services that are covered services according to Minnesota Rules, parts 9505.0170 to 9505.0475, and that could be reimbursed separately from the nursing facility per diem.

[For text of subds 2 and 3, see M.S.1992]

Subd. 4. [Repealed, 1993 c 337 s 20]

History: *1993 c 337 s 17*

256B.47 NONALLOWABLE COSTS; NOTICE OF INCREASES TO PRIVATE PAYING RESIDENTS; ALLOCATION OF COSTS.

[For text of subds 1 and 2, see M.S.1992]

Subd. 3. **Allocation of costs.** To ensure the avoidance of double payments as required by section 256B.433, the direct and indirect reporting year costs of providing residents of nursing facilities that are not hospital attached with therapy services that are billed separately from the nursing facility payment rate or according to Minnesota Rules, parts 9500.0750 to 9500.1080, must be determined and deducted from the appropriate cost categories of the annual cost report as follows:

(a) The costs of wages and salaries for employees providing or participating in pro-

viding and consultants providing services shall be allocated to the therapy service based on direct identification.

(b) The costs of fringe benefits and payroll taxes relating to the costs in paragraph (a) must be allocated to the therapy service based on direct identification or the ratio of total costs in paragraph (a) to the sum of total allowable salaries and the costs in paragraph (a).

(c) The costs of housekeeping, plant operations and maintenance, real estate taxes, special assessments, and insurance, other than the amounts classified as a fringe benefit, must be allocated to the therapy service based on the ratio of service area square footage to total facility square footage.

(d) The costs of bookkeeping and medical records must be allocated to the therapy service either by the method in paragraph (e) or based on direct identification. Direct identification may be used if adequate documentation is provided to, and accepted by, the commissioner.

(e) The costs of administrators, bookkeeping, and medical records salaries, except as provided in paragraph (d), must be allocated to the therapy service based on the ratio of the total costs in paragraphs (a) to (d) to the sum of total allowable nursing facility costs and the costs in paragraphs (a) to (d).

(f) The cost of property must be allocated to the therapy service and removed from the nursing facility's property-related payment rate, based on the ratio of service area square footage to total facility square footage multiplied by the property-related payment rate.

[For text of subd.4, see M.S.1992]

History: *1Sp1993 c 1 art 5 s 102*

256B.48 CONDITIONS FOR PARTICIPATION.

Subdivision 1. **Prohibited practices.** A nursing facility is not eligible to receive medical assistance payments unless it refrains from all of the following:

(a) Charging private paying residents rates for similar services which exceed those which are approved by the state agency for medical assistance recipients as determined by the prospective desk audit rate, except under the following circumstances: the nursing facility may (1) charge private paying residents a higher rate for a private room, and (2) charge for special services which are not included in the daily rate if medical assistance residents are charged separately at the same rate for the same services in addition to the daily rate paid by the commissioner. Services covered by the payment rate must be the same regardless of payment source. Special services, if offered, must be available to all residents in all areas of the nursing facility and charged separately at the same rate. Residents are free to select or decline special services. Special services must not include services which must be provided by the nursing facility in order to comply with licensure or certification standards and that if not provided would result in a deficiency or violation by the nursing facility. Services beyond those required to comply with licensure or certification standards must not be charged separately as a special service if they were included in the payment rate for the previous reporting year. A nursing facility that charges a private paying resident a rate in violation of this clause is subject to an action by the state of Minnesota or any of its subdivisions or agencies for civil damages. A private paying resident or the resident's legal representative has a cause of action for civil damages against a nursing facility that charges the resident rates in violation of this clause. The damages awarded shall include three times the payments that result from the violation, together with costs and disbursements, including reasonable attorneys' fees or their equivalent. A private paying resident or the resident's legal representative, the state, subdivision or agency, or a nursing facility may request a hearing to determine the allowed rate or rates at issue in the cause of action. Within 15 calendar days after receiving a request for such a hearing, the commissioner shall request assignment of an administrative law judge under sections 14.48 to 14.56 to conduct the hearing as soon as possible or according to agreement by the parties. The administrative

law judge shall issue a report within 15 calendar days following the close of the hearing. The prohibition set forth in this clause shall not apply to facilities licensed as boarding care facilities which are not certified as skilled or intermediate care facilities level I or II for reimbursement through medical assistance.

(b) Requiring an applicant for admission to the facility, or the guardian or conservator of the applicant, as a condition of admission, to pay any fee or deposit in excess of $100, loan any money to the nursing facility, or promise to leave all or part of the applicant's estate to the facility.

(c) Requiring any resident of the nursing facility to utilize a vendor of health care services chosen by the nursing facility.

(d) Providing differential treatment on the basis of status with regard to public assistance.

(e) Discriminating in admissions, services offered, or room assignment on the basis of status with regard to public assistance or refusal to purchase special services. Admissions discrimination shall include, but is not limited to:

(1) basing admissions decisions upon assurance by the applicant to the nursing facility, or the applicant's guardian or conservator, that the applicant is neither eligible for nor will seek public assistance for payment of nursing facility care costs; and

(2) engaging in preferential selection from waiting lists based on an applicant's ability to pay privately or an applicant's refusal to pay for a special service.

The collection and use by a nursing facility of financial information of any applicant pursuant to a preadmission screening program established by law shall not raise an inference that the nursing facility is utilizing that information for any purpose prohibited by this paragraph.

(f) Requiring any vendor of medical care as defined by section 256B.02, subdivision 7, who is reimbursed by medical assistance under a separate fee schedule, to pay any amount based on utilization or service levels or any portion of the vendor's fee to the nursing facility except as payment for renting or leasing space or equipment or purchasing support services from the nursing facility as limited by section 256B.433. All agreements must be disclosed to the commissioner upon request of the commissioner. Nursing facilities and vendors of ancillary services that are found to be in violation of this provision shall each be subject to an action by the state of Minnesota or any of its subdivisions or agencies for treble civil damages on the portion of the fee in excess of that allowed by this provision and section 256B.433. Damages awarded must include three times the excess payments together with costs and disbursements including reasonable attorney's fees or their equivalent.

(g) Refusing, for more than 24 hours, to accept a resident returning to the same bed or a bed certified for the same level of care, in accordance with a physician's order authorizing transfer, after receiving inpatient hospital services.

The prohibitions set forth in clause (b) shall not apply to a retirement facility with more than 325 beds including at least 150 licensed nursing facility beds and which:

(1) is owned and operated by an organization tax-exempt under section 290.05, subdivision 1, clause (i); and

(2) accounts for all of the applicant's assets which are required to be assigned to the facility so that only expenses for the cost of care of the applicant may be charged against the account; and

(3) agrees in writing at the time of admission to the facility to permit the applicant, or the applicant's guardian, or conservator, to examine the records relating to the applicant's account upon request, and to receive an audited statement of the expenditures charged against the applicant's individual account upon request; and

(4) agrees in writing at the time of admission to the facility to permit the applicant to withdraw from the facility at any time and to receive, upon withdrawal, the balance of the applicant's individual account.

For a period not to exceed 180 days, the commissioner may continue to make med-

ical assistance payments to a nursing facility or boarding care home which is in violation of this section if extreme hardship to the residents would result. In these cases the commissioner shall issue an order requiring the nursing facility to correct the violation. The nursing facility shall have 20 days from its receipt of the order to correct the violation. If the violation is not corrected within the 20-day period the commissioner may reduce the payment rate to the nursing facility by up to 20 percent. The amount of the payment rate reduction shall be related to the severity of the violation and shall remain in effect until the violation is corrected. The nursing facility or boarding care home may appeal the commissioner's action pursuant to the provisions of chapter 14 pertaining to contested cases. An appeal shall be considered timely if written notice of appeal is received by the commissioner within 20 days of notice of the commissioner's proposed action.

In the event that the commissioner determines that a nursing facility is not eligible for reimbursement for a resident who is eligible for medical assistance, the commissioner may authorize the nursing facility to receive reimbursement on a temporary basis until the resident can be relocated to a participating nursing facility.

Certified beds in facilities which do not allow medical assistance intake on July 1, 1984, or after shall be deemed to be decertified for purposes of section 144A.071 only.

[For text of subds 1a to 1c, see M.S.1992]

Subd. 2. **Reporting requirements.** No later than December 31 of each year, a skilled nursing facility or intermediate care facility, including boarding care facilities, which receives medical assistance payments or other reimbursements from the state agency shall:

(a) Provide the state agency with a copy of its audited financial statements. The audited financial statements must include a balance sheet, income statement, statement of the rate or rates charged to private paying residents, statement of retained earnings, statement of cash flows, notes to the financial statements, audited applicable supplemental information, and the certified public accountant's or licensed public accountant's opinion. The examination by the certified public accountant or licensed public accountant shall be conducted in accordance with generally accepted auditing standards as promulgated and adopted by the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants. Beginning with the reporting year which begins October 1, 1992, a nursing facility is no longer required to have a certified audit of its financial statements. The cost of a certified audit shall not be an allowable cost in that reporting year, nor in subsequent reporting years unless the nursing facility submits its certified audited financial statements in the manner otherwise specified in this subdivision. A nursing facility which does not submit a certified audit must submit its working trial balance;

(b) Provide the state agency with a statement of ownership for the facility;

(c) Provide the state agency with separate, audited financial statements as specified in clause (a) for every other facility owned in whole or part by an individual or entity which has an ownership interest in the facility;

(d) Upon request, provide the state agency with separate, audited financial statements as specified in clause (a) for every organization with which the facility conducts business and which is owned in whole or in part by an individual or entity which has an ownership interest in the facility;

(e) Provide the state agency with copies of leases, purchase agreements, and other documents related to the lease or purchase of the nursing facility;

(f) Upon request, provide the state agency with copies of leases, purchase agreements, and other documents related to the acquisition of equipment, goods, and services which are claimed as allowable costs; and

(g) Permit access by the state agency to the certified public accountant's and licensed public accountant's audit workpapers which support the audited financial statements required in clauses (a), (c), and (d).

Documents or information provided to the state agency pursuant to this subdivi-

sion shall be public. If the requirements of clauses (a) to (g) are not met, the reimbursement rate may be reduced to 80 percent of the rate in effect on the first day of the fourth calendar month after the close of the reporting year, and the reduction shall continue until the requirements are met.

Both nursing facilities and intermediate care facilities for the mentally retarded must maintain statistical and accounting records in sufficient detail to support information contained in the facility's cost report for at least six years, including the year following the submission of the cost report. For computerized accounting systems, the records must include copies of electronically generated media such as magnetic discs and tapes.

[For text of subd 3, see M.S.1992]

Subd. 3a. **Audit adjustments.** If the commissioner requests supporting documentation during an audit for an item of cost reported by a long-term care facility, and the long-term care facility's response does not adequately document the item of cost, the commissioner may make reasoned assumptions considered appropriate in the absence of the requested documentation to reasonably establish a payment rate rather than disallow the entire item of cost. This provision shall not diminish the long-term care facility's appeal rights.

[For text of subds 4 to 9, see M.S.1992]

History: *1993 c 339 s 21; 1Sp1993 c 1 art 5 s 103,104*

256B.49 CHRONICALLY ILL CHILDREN AND DISABLED PERSONS; HOME AND COMMUNITY-BASED WAIVER STUDY AND APPLICATION.

[For text of subds 1 to 4, see M.S.1992]

Subd. 5. **Provide waiver eligibility for certain chronically ill and certain disabled persons.** Chronically ill or disabled individuals, who are likely to reside in acute care if waiver services were not provided, could be found eligible for services under this section without regard to age.

History: *1Sp1993 c 1 art 5 s 105*

256B.50 APPEALS.

[For text of subds 1 and 1a, see M.S.1992]

Subd. 1b. **Filing an appeal.** To appeal, the provider shall file with the commissioner a written notice of appeal; the appeal must be postmarked or received by the commissioner within 60 days of the date the determination of the payment rate was mailed or personally received by a provider, whichever is earlier. The notice of appeal must specify each disputed item; the reason for the dispute; the total dollar amount in dispute for each separate disallowance, allocation, or adjustment of each cost item or part of a cost item; the computation that the provider believes is correct; the authority in statute or rule upon which the provider relies for each disputed item; the name and address of the person or firm with whom contacts may be made regarding the appeal; and other information required by the commissioner. The commissioner shall review an appeal by a nursing facility, if the appeal was sent by certified mail and postmarked prior to August 1, 1991, and would have been received by the commissioner within the 60-day deadline if it had not been delayed due to an error by the postal service.

[For text of subds 1c to 1g, see M.S.1992]

Subd. 1h. **Appeals review project.** (a) The appeals review procedure described in this subdivision is effective for desk audit appeals for rate years beginning between July 1, 1993 and June 30, 1997, and for field audit appeals filed during that time period. For appeals reviewed under this subdivision, subdivision 1c applies only to contested case demands under paragraph (d) and subdivision 1d does not apply.

(b) The commissioner shall review appeals and issue a written determination on each appealed item within one year of the due date of the appeal. Upon mutual agreement, the commissioner and the provider may extend the time for issuing a determination for a specified period. The commissioner shall notify the provider by first class mail of the determination. The determination takes effect 30 days following the date of issuance specified in the determination.

(c) In reviewing the appeal, the commissioner may request additional written or oral information from the provider. The provider has the right to present information by telephone or in person concerning the appeal to the commissioner prior to the issuance of the determination if a conference is requested within six months of the date the appeal was received by the commissioner. Statements made during the review process are not admissible in a contested case hearing under paragraph (d) absent an express stipulation by the parties to the contested case.

(d) For an appeal item on which the provider disagrees with the determination, the provider may file with the commissioner a written demand for a contested case hearing to determine the proper resolution of specified appeal items. The demand must be postmarked or received by the commissioner within 30 days of the date of issuance specified in the determination. The commissioner shall refer any contested case demand to the office of the attorney general. When a contested case demand is referred to the office of the attorney general, the contested case procedures described in subdivision 1c apply and the written determination issued by the commissioner is of no effect.

(e) The commissioner has discretion to issue to the provider a proposed resolution for specified appeal items upon a request from the provider filed separately from the notice of appeal. The proposed resolution is final upon written acceptance by the provider within 30 days of the date the proposed resolution was mailed to or personally received by the provider, whichever is earlier.

(f) The commissioner may use the procedures described in this subdivision to resolve appeals filed prior to July 1, 1993.

[For text of subd 2, see M.S.1992]

Subd. 3. **Time and attendance disputed items.** The commissioner shall settle unresolved appeals by a nursing facility of disallowances or adjustments of compensation costs for rate years beginning prior to June 30, 1994, by recognizing the compensation costs reported by the nursing facility when the appealed disallowances or adjustments were based on a determination of inadequate documentation of time and attendance or equivalent records to support payroll costs. The recognition of costs provided in this subdivision pertains only to appeals of disallowances and adjustments based solely on disputed time and attendance or equivalent records. Appeals of disallowances and adjustments of compensation costs based on other grounds, including misrepresentation of costs or failure to meet the general cost criteria under Minnesota Rules, parts 9549.0010 to 9549.0080, are not governed by this subdivision.

History: *1Sp1993 c 1 art 5 s 106-108*

256B.501 RATES FOR COMMUNITY-BASED SERVICES FOR PERSONS WITH MENTAL RETARDATION OR RELATED CONDITIONS.

[For text of subds 1 to 3f, see M.S.1992]

Subd. 3g. **Assessment of residents.** To establish the service characteristics of residents, the quality assurance and review teams in the department of health shall assess all residents annually beginning January 1, 1989, using a uniform assessment instrument developed by the commissioner. This instrument shall include assessment of the services identified as needed and provided to each client to address behavioral needs, integration into the community, ability to perform activities of daily living, medical and therapeutic needs, and other relevant factors determined by the commissioner. By January 30, 1994, the commissioner shall report to the legislature on:

(1) the assessment process and scoring system utilized;

(2) possible utilization of assessment information by facilities for management purposes; and

(3) possible application of the assessment for purposes of adjusting the operating cost rates of facilities based on a comparison of client services characteristics, resource needs, and costs.

[For text of subd 3h, see M.S.1992]

Subd. 3i. **Scope.** Subdivisions 3a to 3e and 3h do not apply to facilities whose payment rates are governed by Minnesota Rules, part 9553.0075.

[For text of subds 3j to 4b, see M.S.1992]

Subd. 5a. **Changes to ICF/MR reimbursement.** The reimbursement rule changes in paragraphs (a) to (e) apply to Minnesota Rules, parts 9553.0010 to 9553.0080, and this section, and are effective for rate years beginning on or after October 1, 1993, unless otherwise specified.

(a) The maximum efficiency incentive shall be $1.50 per resident per day.

(b) If a facility's capital debt reduction allowance is greater than 50 cents per resident per day, that facility's capital debt reduction allowance in excess of 50 cents per resident day shall be reduced by 25 percent.

(c) Beginning with the biennial reporting year which begins January 1, 1993, a facility is no longer required to have a certified audit of its financial statements. The cost of a certified audit shall not be an allowable cost in that reporting year, nor in subsequent reporting years unless the facility submits its certified audited financial statements in the manner otherwise specified in this subdivision. A nursing facility which does not submit a certified audit must submit its working trial balance.

(d) In addition to the approved pension or profit sharing plans allowed by the reimbursement rule, the commissioner shall allow those plans specified in Internal Revenue Code, sections 403(b) and 408(k).

(e) The commissioner shall allow as workers' compensation insurance costs under this section, the costs of workers' compensation coverage obtained under the following conditions:

(1) a plan approved by the commissioner of commerce as a Minnesota group or individual self-insurance plan as provided in sections 79A.03;

(2) a plan in which:

(i) the facility, directly or indirectly, purchases workers' compensation coverage in compliance with section 176.181, subdivision 2, from an authorized insurance carrier;

(ii) a related organization to the facility reinsures the workers' compensation coverage purchased, directly or indirectly, by the facility; and

(iii) all of the conditions in clause (4) are met;

(3) a plan in which:

(i) the facility, directly or indirectly, purchases workers' compensation coverage in compliance with section 176.181, subdivision 2, from an authorized insurance carrier;

(ii) the insurance premium is calculated retrospectively, including a maximum premium limit, and paid using the paid loss retro method; and

(iii) all of the conditions in clause (4) are met;

(4) additional conditions are:

(i) the reserves for the plan are maintained in an account controlled and administered by a person which is not a related organization to the facility;

(ii) the reserves for the plan cannot be used, directly or indirectly, as collateral for debts incurred or other obligations of the facility or related organizations to the facility;

(iii) if the plan provides workers' compensation coverage for non-Minnesota facilities, the plan's cost methodology must be consistent among all facilities covered by the plan, and if reasonable, is allowed notwithstanding any reimbursement laws regarding cost allocation to the contrary;

(iv) central, affiliated, corporate, or nursing facility costs related to their administration of the plan are costs which must remain in the nursing facility's administrative cost category, and must not be allocated to other cost categories; and

(v) required security deposits, whether in the form of cash, investments, securities, assets, letters of credit, or in any other form are not allowable costs for purposes of establishing the facilities payment rate;

(5) any costs allowed pursuant to clauses (1) to (3) are subject to the following requirements:

(i) if the facility is sold or otherwise ceases operations, the plan's reserves must be subject to an actuarially based settle-up after 36 months from the date of sale or the date on which operations ceased. The facility's medical assistance portion of the total excess plan reserves must be paid to the state within 30 days following the date on which excess plan reserves are determined;

(ii) any distribution of excess plan reserves made to or withdrawals made by the facility or a related organization are applicable credits and must be used to reduce the facility's workers' compensation insurance costs in the reporting period in which a distribution or withdrawal is received; and

(iii) if the plan is audited pursuant to the Medicare program, the facility must provide a copy of Medicare's final audit report, including attachments and exhibits, to the commissioner within 30 days of receipt by the facility or any related organization. The commissioner shall implement the audit findings associated with the plan upon receipt of Medicare's final audit report. The department's authority to implement the audit findings is independent of its authority to conduct a field audit; and

(6) the commissioner shall have authority to adopt emergency rules to implement this paragraph.

Subd. 8. **Payment for persons with special needs.** The commissioner shall establish by December 31, 1983, procedures to be followed by the counties to seek authorization from the commissioner for medical assistance reimbursement for very dependent persons with special needs in an amount in excess of the rates allowed pursuant to subdivision 2, including rates established under section 252.46 when they apply to services provided to residents of intermediate care facilities for persons with mental retardation or related conditions, and procedures to be followed for rate limitation exemptions for intermediate care facilities for persons with mental retardation or related conditions. No excess payment approved by the commissioner after June 30, 1991, shall be authorized unless:

(1) the need for specific level of service is documented in the individual service plan of the person to be served;

(2) the level of service needed can be provided within the rates established under section 252.46 and Minnesota Rules, parts 9553.0010 to 9553.0080, without a rate exception within 12 months;

(3) staff hours beyond those available under the rates established under section 252.46 and Minnesota Rules, parts 9553.0010 to 9553.0080, necessary to deliver services do not exceed 1,440 hours within 12 months;

(4) there is a basis for the estimated cost of services;

(5) the provider requesting the exception documents that current per diem rates are insufficient to support needed services;

(6) estimated costs, when added to the costs of current medical assistance-funded residential and day training and habilitation services and calculated as a per diem, do not exceed the per diem established for the regional treatment centers for persons with mental retardation and related conditions on July 1, 1990, indexed annually by the

urban consumer price index, all items, as forecasted by Data Resources Inc., for the next fiscal year over the current fiscal year;

(7) any contingencies for an approval as outlined in writing by the commissioner are met; and

(8) any commissioner orders for use of preferred providers are met.

The commissioner shall evaluate the services provided pursuant to this subdivision through program and fiscal audits.

The commissioner may terminate the rate exception at any time under any of the conditions outlined in Minnesota Rules, part 9510.1120, subpart 3, for county termination, or by reason of information obtained through program and fiscal audits which indicate the criteria outlined in this subdivision have not been, or are no longer being, met.

The commissioner may approve no more than one rate exception, up to 12 months duration, for an eligible client.

[For text of subds 10 and 11, see M.S.1992]

Subd. 12. **ICF/MR salary adjustments.** For the rate period beginning January 1, 1992, and ending September 30, 1993, the commissioner shall add the appropriate salary adjustment cost per diem calculated in paragraphs (a) to (d) to the total operating cost payment rate of each facility. The salary adjustment cost per diem must be determined as follows:

(a) **Computation and review guidelines.** Except as provided in paragraph (c), a state-operated community service, and any facility whose payment rates are governed by closure agreements, receivership agreements, or Minnesota Rules, part 9553.0075, are not eligible for a salary adjustment otherwise granted under this subdivision. For purposes of the salary adjustment per diem computation and reviews in this subdivision, the term "salary adjustment cost" means the facility's allowable program operating cost category employee training expenses, and the facility's allowable salaries, payroll taxes, and fringe benefits. The term does not include these same salary-related costs for both administrative or central office employees.

For the purpose of determining the amount of salary adjustment to be granted under this subdivision, the commissioner must use the reporting year ending December 31, 1990, as the base year for the salary adjustment per diem computation. For the purpose of both years' salary adjustment cost review, the commissioner must use the facility's salary adjustment cost for the reporting year ending December 31, 1991, as the base year. If the base year and the reporting years subject to review include salary cost reclassifications made by the department, the commissioner must reconcile those differences before completing the salary adjustment per diem review.

(b) **Salary adjustment per diem computation.** For the rate period beginning January 1, 1992, each facility shall receive a salary adjustment cost per diem equal to its salary adjustment costs multiplied by 1-1/2 percent, and then divided by the facility's resident days.

(c) **Adjustments for new facilities.** For newly constructed or newly established facilities, except for state-operated community services, whose payment rates are governed by Minnesota Rules, part 9553.0075, if the settle-up cost report includes a reporting year which is subject to review under this subdivision, the commissioner shall adjust the rule provision governing the maximum settle-up payment rate by increasing the .4166 percent for each full month of the settle-up cost report to .7083. For any subsequent rate period which is authorized for salary adjustments under this subdivision, the commissioner shall compute salary adjustment cost per diems by annualizing the salary adjustment costs for the settle-up cost report period and treat that period as the base year for purposes of reviewing salary adjustment cost per diems.

(d) **Salary adjustment per diem review.** The commissioner shall review the implementation of the salary adjustments on a per diem basis. For reporting years ending December 31, 1992, and December 31, 1993, the commissioner must review and deter-

mine the amount of change in salary adjustment costs in both of the above reporting years over the base year after the reporting year ending December 31, 1993. The commissioner must inflate the base year's salary adjustment costs by the cumulative percentage increase granted in paragraph (b), plus three percentage points for each of the two years reviewed. The commissioner must then compare each facility's salary adjustment costs for the reporting year divided by the facility's resident days for both reporting years to the base year's inflated salary adjustment cost divided by the facility's resident days for the base year. If the facility has had a one-time program operating cost adjustment settle-up during any of the reporting years subject to review, the commissioner must remove the per diem effect of the one-time program adjustment before completing the review and per diem comparison.

The review and per diem comparison must be done by the commissioner after the reporting year ending December 31, 1993. If the salary adjustment cost per diem for the reporting years being reviewed is less than the base year's inflated salary adjustment cost per diem, the commissioner must recover the difference within 120 days after the date of written notice. The amount of the recovery shall be equal to the per diem difference multiplied by the facility's resident days in the reporting years being reviewed. Written notice of the amount subject to recovery must be given by the commissioner following both reporting years reviewed. Interest charges must be assessed by the commissioner after the 120th day of that notice at the same interest rate the commissioner assesses for other balance outstanding.

History: *1993 c 339 s 22; 1Sp1993 c 1 art 5 s 109-112*