CHAPTER 256D

GENERAL ASSISTANCE

256D.01 DECLARATION OF POLICY; CITATION.

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

Subd. 1a. **Standards.** (a) A principal objective in providing general assistance is to provide for persons ineligible for federal programs who are unable to provide for themselves. The minimum standard of assistance determines the total amount of the general assistance grant without separate standards for shelter, utilities, or other needs.

(b) The commissioner shall set the standard of assistance for an assistance unit consisting of an adult recipient who is childless and unmarried or living apart from children and spouse and who does not live with a parent or parents or a legal custodian. When the other standards specified in this subdivision increase, this standard must also be increased by the same percentage.

(c) For an assistance unit consisting of a single adult who lives with a parent or parents, the general assistance standard of assistance is the amount that the aid to families with dependent children standard of assistance would increase if the recipient were added as an additional minor child to an assistance unit consisting of the recipient's parent and all of that parent's family members, except that the standard may not exceed the standard for a general assistance recipient living alone. Benefits received by a responsible relative of the assistance unit under the supplemental security income program, a workers' compensation program, the Minnesota supplemental aid program, or any other program based on the responsible relative's disability, and any benefits received by a responsible relative of the assistance unit under the social security retirement program, may not be counted in the determination of eligibility or benefit level for the assistance unit. Except as provided below, the assistance unit is ineligible for general assistance if the available resources or the countable income of the assistance unit and the parent or parents with whom the assistance unit lives are such that a family consisting of the assistance unit's parent or parents, the parent or parents' other family members and the assistance unit as the only or additional minor child would be financially ineligible for general assistance. For the purposes of calculating the countable income of the assistance unit's parent or parents, the calculation methods, income deductions, exclusions, and disregards used when calculating the countable income for a single adult or childless couple must be used.

(d) For an assistance unit consisting of a childless couple, the standards of assistance are the same as the first and second adult standards of the aid to families with dependent children program. If one member of the couple is not included in the general assistance grant, the standard of assistance for the other is the second adult standard of the aid to families with dependent children program.

(e) For an assistance unit consisting of all members of a family, the standards of assistance are the same as the standards of assistance that apply to a family under the aid to families with dependent children program if that family had the same number of parents and children as the assistance unit under general assistance and if all members of that family were eligible for the aid to families with dependent children program. If one or more members of the family are not included in the assistance unit for general assistance, the standards of assistance for the remaining members are the same as the standards of assistance that apply to an assistance unit composed of the entire

family, less the standards of assistance for a family of the same number of parents and children as those members of the family who are not in the assistance unit for general assistance. In no case shall the standard for family members who are in the assistance unit for general assistance, when combined with the standard for family members who are not in the general assistance unit, total more than the standard for the entire family if all members were in an AFDC assistance unit. A child may not be excluded from the assistance unit unless income intended for its benefit is received from a federally aided categorical assistance program or supplemental security income. The income of a child who is excluded from the assistance unit may not be counted in the determination of eligibility or benefit level for the assistance unit.

(f) An assistance unit consisting of one or more members of a family must have its grant determined using the policies and procedures of the aid to families with dependent children program, except that, until June 30, 1995, in cases where a county agency has developed or approved a case plan that includes reunification with the children, foster care maintenance payments made under state or local law for a child who is temporarily absent from the assistance unit must not be considered income to the child and the payments must not be counted in the determination of the eligibility or benefit level of the assistance unit. Otherwise, the standard of assistance must be determined according to paragraph (e); the first $50 of total child support received by an assistance unit in a month must be excluded and the balance counted as unearned income; and nonrecurring lump sums received by the family must be considered income in the month received and a resource in the following months.

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

History: *1Sp1993 c 1 art 6 s 26*

256D.02 DEFINITIONS.

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

Subd. 5. "Family" means the applicant or recipient and the following persons who reside with the applicant or recipient:

(1) the applicant's spouse;

(2) any minor child of whom the applicant is a parent, stepparent, or legal custodian, and that child's minor siblings, including half-siblings and stepsiblings;

(3) the other parent of the applicant's minor child or children together with that parent's minor children, and, if that parent is a minor, his or her parents, stepparents, legal guardians, and minor siblings; and

(4) if the applicant or recipient is a minor, the minor's parents, stepparents, or legal guardians, and any other minor children for whom those parents, stepparents, or legal guardians are financially responsible.

For the period July 1, 1993 to June 30, 1995, a minor child who is temporarily absent from the applicant's or recipient's home due to placement in foster care paid for from state or local funds, but who is expected to return within six months of the month of departure, is considered to be residing with the applicant or recipient.

A "family" must contain at least one minor child and at least one of that child's natural or adoptive parents, stepparents, or legal custodians.

[For text of subds 6 to 19, see M.S.1992]

History: *1Sp1993 c 1 art 6 s 27; 1Sp1993 c 6 s 14*

256D.03 RESPONSIBILITY TO PROVIDE GENERAL ASSISTANCE.

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

Subd. 3. **General assistance medical care; eligibility.** (a) General assistance medical care may be paid for any person who is not eligible for medical assistance under chapter

256B, including eligibility for medical assistance based on a spend-down of excess income according to section 256B.056, subdivision 5, and:

(1) who is receiving assistance under section 256D.05 or 256D.051, or who is having a payment made on the person's behalf under sections 256I.01 to 256I.06; or

(2)(i) who is a resident of Minnesota; and whose equity in assets is not in excess of $1,000 per assistance unit. No asset test shall be applied to children and their parents living in the same household. Exempt assets, the reduction of excess assets, and the waiver of excess assets must conform to the medical assistance program in chapter 256B, with the following exception: the maximum amount of undistributed funds in a trust that could be distributed to or on behalf of the beneficiary by the trustee, assuming the full exercise of the trustee's discretion under the terms of the trust, must be applied toward the asset maximum; and

(ii) who has countable income not in excess of the assistance standards established in section 256B.056, subdivision 4, or whose excess income is spent down pursuant to section 256B.056, subdivision 5, using a six-month budget period, except that a one-month budget period must be used for recipients residing in a long-term care facility. The method for calculating earned income disregards and deductions for a person who resides with a dependent child under age 21 shall be as specified in section 256.74, subdivision 1. However, if a disregard of $30 and one-third of the remainder described in section 256.74, subdivision 1, clause (4), has been applied to the wage earner's income, the disregard shall not be applied again until the wage earner's income has not been considered in an eligibility determination for general assistance, general assistance medical care, medical assistance, or aid to families with dependent children for 12 consecutive months. The earned income and work expense deductions for a person who does not reside with a dependent child under age 21 shall be the same as the method used to determine eligibility for a person under section 256D.06, subdivision 1, except the disregard of the first $50 of earned income is not allowed; or

(3) who would be eligible for medical assistance except that the person resides in a facility that is determined by the commissioner or the federal health care financing administration to be an institution for mental diseases.

(b) Eligibility is available for the month of application, and for three months prior to application if the person was eligible in those prior months. A redetermination of eligibility must occur every 12 months.

(c) General assistance medical care is not available for a person in a correctional facility unless the person is detained by law for less than one year in a county correctional or detention facility as a person accused or convicted of a crime, or admitted as an inpatient to a hospital on a criminal hold order, and the person is a recipient of general assistance medical care at the time the person is detained by law or admitted on a criminal hold order and as long as the person continues to meet other eligibility requirements of this subdivision.

(d) General assistance medical care is not available for applicants or recipients who do not cooperate with the county agency to meet the requirements of medical assistance.

(e) In determining the amount of assets of an individual, there shall be included any asset or interest in an asset, including an asset excluded under paragraph (a), that was given away, sold, or disposed of for less than fair market value within the 30 months preceding application for general assistance medical care or during the period of eligibility. Any transfer described in this paragraph shall be presumed to have been for the purpose of establishing eligibility for general assistance medical care, unless the individual furnishes convincing evidence to establish that the transaction was exclusively for another purpose. For purposes of this paragraph, the value of the asset or interest shall be the fair market value at the time it was given away, sold, or disposed of, less the amount of compensation received. For any uncompensated transfer, the number of months of ineligibility, including partial months, shall be calculated by dividing the uncompensated transfer amount by the average monthly per person payment made by the medical assistance program to skilled nursing facilities for the previ-

ous calendar year. The individual shall remain ineligible until this fixed period has expired. The period of ineligibility may exceed 30 months, and a reapplication for benefits after 30 months from the date of the transfer shall not result in eligibility unless and until the period of ineligibility has expired. The period of ineligibility begins in the month the transfer was reported to the county agency, or if the transfer was not reported, the month in which the county agency discovered the transfer, whichever comes first. For applicants, the period of ineligibility begins on the date of the first approved application.

(f)(1) Beginning October 1, 1993, an undocumented alien or a nonimmigrant is ineligible for general assistance medical care other than emergency services. For purposes of this subdivision, a nonimmigrant is an individual in one or more of the classes listed in United States Code, title 8, section 1101(a)(15), and an undocumented alien is an individual who resides in the United States without the approval or acquiescence of the Immigration and Naturalization Service.

(2) This subdivision does not apply to a child under age 18, to a Cuban or Haitian entrant as defined in Public Law Number 96-422, section 501(e)(1) or (2)(a), or to an alien who is aged, blind, or disabled as defined in United States Code, title 42, section 1382c(a)(1).

(3) For purposes of paragraph (f), "emergency services" has the meaning given in Code of Federal Regulations, title 42, section 440.255(b)(1).

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

Subd. 4. **General assistance medical care; services.** (a) For a person who is eligible under subdivision 3, paragraph (a), clause (3), general assistance medical care covers:

(1) inpatient hospital services;

(2) outpatient hospital services;

(3) services provided by Medicare certified rehabilitation agencies;

(4) prescription drugs and other products recommended through the process established in section 256B.0625, subdivision 13;

(5) equipment necessary to administer insulin and diagnostic supplies and equipment for diabetics to monitor blood sugar level;

(6) eyeglasses and eye examinations provided by a physician or optometrist;

(7) hearing aids;

(8) prosthetic devices;

(9) laboratory and X-ray services;

(10) physician's services;

(11) medical transportation;

(12) chiropractic services as covered under the medical assistance program;

(13) podiatric services;

(14) dental services;

(15) outpatient services provided by a mental health center or clinic that is under contract with the county board and is established under section 245.62;

(16) day treatment services for mental illness provided under contract with the county board;

(17) prescribed medications for persons who have been diagnosed as mentally ill as necessary to prevent more restrictive institutionalization;

(18) case management services for a person with serious and persistent mental illness who would be eligible for medical assistance except that the person resides in an institution for mental diseases;

(19) psychological services, medical supplies and equipment, and Medicare premiums, coinsurance and deductible payments;

(20) medical equipment not specifically listed in this paragraph when the use of

the equipment will prevent the need for costlier services that are reimbursable under this subdivision; and

(21) 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.

(b) For a recipient who is eligible under subdivision 3, paragraph (a), clause (1) or (2), general assistance medical care covers the services listed in paragraph (a) with the exception of special transportation services.

(c) In order to contain costs, the commissioner of human services shall select vendors of medical care who can provide the most economical care consistent with high medical standards and shall where possible contract with organizations on a prepaid capitation basis to provide these services. The commissioner shall consider proposals by counties and vendors for prepaid health plans, competitive bidding programs, block grants, or other vendor payment mechanisms designed to provide services in an economical manner or to control utilization, with safeguards to ensure that necessary services are provided. Before implementing prepaid programs in counties with a county operated or affiliated public teaching hospital or a hospital or clinic operated by the University of Minnesota, the commissioner shall consider the risks the prepaid program creates for the hospital and allow the county or hospital the opportunity to participate in the program in a manner that reflects the risk of adverse selection and the nature of the patients served by the hospital, provided the terms of participation in the program are competitive with the terms of other participants considering the nature of the population served. Payment for services provided pursuant to this subdivision shall be as provided to medical assistance vendors of these services under sections 256B.02, subdivision 8, and 256B.0625. For payments made during fiscal year 1990 and later years, the commissioner shall consult with an independent actuary in establishing prepayment rates, but shall retain final control over the rate methodology.

(d) The commissioner of human services may reduce payments provided under sections 256D.01 to 256D.21 and 261.23 in order to remain within the amount appropriated for general assistance medical care, within the following restrictions.

For the period July 1, 1985 to December 31, 1985, reductions below the cost per service unit allowable under section 256.966, are permitted only as follows: payments for inpatient and outpatient hospital care provided in response to a primary diagnosis of chemical dependency or mental illness may be reduced no more than 30 percent; payments for all other inpatient hospital care may be reduced no more than 20 percent. Reductions below the payments allowable under general assistance medical care for the remaining general assistance medical care services allowable under this subdivision may be reduced no more than ten percent.

For the period January 1, 1986 to December 31, 1986, reductions below the cost per service unit allowable under section 256.966 are permitted only as follows: payments for inpatient and outpatient hospital care provided in response to a primary diagnosis of chemical dependency or mental illness may be reduced no more than 20 percent; payments for all other inpatient hospital care may be reduced no more than 15 percent. Reductions below the payments allowable under general assistance medical care for the remaining general assistance medical care services allowable under this subdivision may be reduced no more than five percent.

For the period January 1, 1987 to June 30, 1987, reductions below the cost per service unit allowable under section 256.966 are permitted only as follows: payments for inpatient and outpatient hospital care provided in response to a primary diagnosis of chemical dependency or mental illness may be reduced no more than 15 percent; payments for all other inpatient hospital care may be reduced no more than ten percent. Reductions below the payments allowable under medical assistance for the remaining general assistance medical care services allowable under this subdivision may be reduced no more than five percent.

For the period July 1, 1987 to June 30, 1988, reductions below the cost per service unit allowable under section 256.966 are permitted only as follows: payments for inpatient and outpatient hospital care provided in response to a primary diagnosis of chemical dependency or mental illness may be reduced no more than 15 percent; payments for all other inpatient hospital care may be reduced no more than five percent. Reductions below the payments allowable under medical assistance for the remaining general assistance medical care services allowable under this subdivision may be reduced no more than five percent.

For the period July 1, 1988 to June 30, 1989, reductions below the cost per service unit allowable under section 256.966 are permitted only as follows: payments for inpatient and outpatient hospital care provided in response to a primary diagnosis of chemical dependency or mental illness may be reduced no more than 15 percent; payments for all other inpatient hospital care may not be reduced. Reductions below the payments allowable under medical assistance for the remaining general assistance medical care services allowable under this subdivision may be reduced no more than five percent.

There shall be no copayment required of any recipient of benefits for any services provided under this subdivision. A hospital receiving a reduced payment as a result of this section may apply the unpaid balance toward satisfaction of the hospital's bad debts.

(e) Any county may, from its own resources, provide medical payments for which state payments are not made.

(f) Chemical dependency services that are reimbursed under chapter 254B must not be reimbursed under general assistance medical care.

(g) The maximum payment for new vendors enrolled in the general assistance medical care program after the base year shall be determined from the average usual and customary charge of the same vendor type enrolled in the base year.

(h) The conditions of payment for services under this subdivision are the same as the conditions specified in rules adopted under chapter 256B governing the medical assistance program, unless otherwise provided by statute or rule.

[For text of subds 5 to 7, see M.S.1992]

Subd. 8. **Private insurance policies.** (a) Private accident and health care coverage for medical services is primary coverage and must be exhausted before general assistance medical care is paid. When a person who is otherwise eligible for general assistance medical care 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. General assistance medical care 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 general assistance medical care 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 general assistance medical care rate minus the third party payment amount.

A negative difference will not be implemented.

(b) When a parent or a person with an obligation of support has enrolled in a prepaid health care plan under section 518.171, subdivision 1, the commissioner of human services shall limit the recipient of general assistance medical care to the benefits payable under that prepaid health care plan to the extent that services available under general assistance medical care are also available under the prepaid health care plan.

(c) Upon furnishing general assistance medical care or general assistance to any person having private accident or health care coverage, or having a cause of action arising out of an occurrence that necessitated the payment of assistance, the state agency

shall be subrogated, to the extent of the cost of medical care, subsistence, or other payments furnished, to any rights the person may have under the terms of the coverage or under the cause of action.

This right of subrogation includes all portions of the cause of action, notwithstanding any settlement allocation or apportionment that purports to dispose of portions of the cause of action not subject to subrogation.

(d) To recover under this section, the attorney general or the appropriate county attorney, acting upon direction from the attorney general, may institute or join a civil action to enforce the subrogation rights established under this section.

(e) 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 costs related to an injury when the state agency has paid or become liable for the cost of care or payments related to the injury. Notice must be given as follows:

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

(ii) A person providing medical care services to a recipient of general assistance medical care 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.

(iii) 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 county agency is not sufficient to meet the requirements of paragraphs (b) and (c).

(f) Upon any judgment, award, or settlement of a cause of action, or any part of it, upon which the state agency has a subrogation right, including compensation for liquidated, unliquidated, or other damages, reasonable costs of collection, including attorney fees, must be deducted first. The full amount of general assistance or general assistance medical care paid to or on behalf of the person as a result of the injury must be deducted next and paid to the state agency. The rest must be paid to the public assistance recipient or other plaintiff. The plaintiff, however, must receive at least one-third of the net recovery after attorney fees and collection costs.

History: *1993 c 345 art 9 s 15; 1Sp1993 c 1 art 5 s 113,114; art 6 s 28; art 8 s 3*

NOTE: The amendments to subdivision 3 by Laws 1993, First Special Session chapter 1, article 8, section 3, are effective July 1, 1994, contingent upon federal recognition that group residential housing payments qualify as optional state supplement payments to the supplemental security income program under title XVI of the Social Security Act and confer categorical eligibility for medical assistance under the state plan for medical assistance. See Laws 1993, First Special Session chapter 1, article 8, section 30, subdivision 2.

256D.04 DUTIES OF THE COMMISSIONER.

In addition to any other duties imposed by law, the commissioner shall:

(1) Supervise according to section 256.01 the administration of general assistance and general assistance medical care by county agencies as provided in sections 256D.01 to 256D.21;

(2) Promulgate uniform rules consistent with law for carrying out and enforcing the provisions of sections 256D.01 to 256D.21, including section 256D.05, subdivision 3, and section 256.01, subdivision 2, paragraph (16), to the end that general assistance may be administered as uniformly as possible throughout the state; rules shall be furnished immediately to all county agencies and other interested persons; in promulgating rules, the provisions of sections 14.001 to 14.69, shall apply;

(3) Allocate money appropriated for general assistance and general assistance medical care to county agencies as provided in section 256D.03, subdivisions 2 and 3;

(4) Accept and supervise the disbursement of any funds that may be provided by the federal government or from other sources for use in this state for general assistance and general assistance medical care;

(5) Cooperate with other agencies including any agency of the United States or of another state in all matters concerning the powers and duties of the commissioner under sections 256D.01 to 256D.21;

(6) Cooperate to the fullest extent with other public agencies empowered by law to provide vocational training, rehabilitation, or similar services;

(7) Gather and study current information and report at least annually to the governor and legislature on the nature and need for general assistance and general assistance medical care, the amounts expended under the supervision of each county agency, and the activities of each county agency and publish such reports for the information of the public;

(8) Specify requirements for general assistance and general assistance medical care reports, including fiscal reports, according to section 256.01, subdivision 2, paragraph (17); and

(9) Ensure that every notice of eligibility for general assistance or work readiness includes a notice that women who are pregnant may be eligible for medical assistance benefits.

History: *1Sp1993 c 1 art 6 s 29*

256D.05 ELIGIBILITY FOR GENERAL ASSISTANCE.

[For text of subds 1 to 7, see M.S.1992]

Subd. 8. **Persons ineligible.** (a) Beginning October 1, 1993, an undocumented alien or a nonimmigrant is ineligible for work readiness and general assistance benefits. For purposes of this subdivision, a nonimmigrant is an individual in one or more of the classes listed in United States Code, title 8, section 1101(a)(15), and an undocumented alien is an individual who resides in the United States without the approval or acquiescence of the Immigration and Naturalization Service.

(b) This subdivision does not apply to a child under age 18, to a Cuban or Haitian entrant as defined in Public Law Number 96-422, section 501(e)(1) or (2)(a), or to an alien who is aged, blind, or disabled as defined in United States Code, title 42, section 1382c(a)(1).

History: *1Sp1993 c 1 art 6 s 30*

256D.051 WORK READINESS PROGRAM.

Subdivision 1. **Work registration.** (a) Except as provided in this subdivision, persons who are residents of the state and whose income and resources are less than the standard of assistance established by the commissioner, but who are not categorically eligible under section 256D.05, subdivision 1, are eligible for the work readiness program for a maximum period of six calendar months during any 12 consecutive calendar month period, subject to the provisions of paragraph (d), subdivision 3, and section 256D.052, subdivision 4. The person's eligibility period begins on the first day of the calendar month following the date of application for assistance or following the date all eligibility factors are met, whichever is later; however, the person may voluntarily continue to participate in work readiness services for up to three additional consecutive months immediately following the last month of benefits to complete the provisions of the person's employability development plan. After July 1, 1992, if orientation is available within three weeks after the date eligibility is determined, initial payment will not be made until the registrant attends orientation to the work readiness program. Prior to terminating work readiness assistance the county agency must provide advice on the person's eligibility for general assistance medical care and must assess the person's eligibility for general assistance under section 256D.05 to the extent possible, using information in the case file, and determine the person's eligibility for general assistance. A

determination that the person is not eligible for general assistance must be stated in the notice of termination of work readiness benefits.

(b) Persons, families, and married couples who are not state residents but who are otherwise eligible for work readiness assistance may receive emergency assistance to meet emergency needs.

(c) Except for family members who must participate in work readiness services under the provisions of section 256D.05, subdivision 1, clause (15), any person who would be defined for purposes of the food stamp program as being enrolled or participating at least half-time in an institution of higher education or a post-secondary program is ineligible for the work readiness program. Post-secondary education does not include the following programs: (1) high school equivalency; (2) adult basic education; (3) English as a second language; (4) literacy training; and (5) skill-specific technical training that has a course of study of less than three months, that is not paid for using work readiness funds, and that is specified in the work readiness employability development plan developed with the recipient prior to the recipient beginning the training course.

(d) Notwithstanding the provisions of sections 256.045 and 256D.10, during the pendency of an appeal, work readiness payments and services shall not continue to a person who appeals the termination of benefits due to exhaustion of the period of eligibility specified in paragraph (a) or (d).

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

Subd. 6. **Service costs.** The commissioner shall reimburse 92 percent of county agency expenditures for providing work readiness services including direct participation expenses and administrative costs, except as provided in section 256.017. State work readiness funds shall be used only to pay the county agency's and work readiness service provider's actual costs of providing participant support services, direct program services, and program administrative costs for persons who participate in work readiness services. Beginning July 1, 1991, the average annual reimbursable cost for providing work readiness services to a recipient for whom an individualized employability development plan is not completed must not exceed $60 for the work readiness services, and $223 for necessary recipient support services such as transportation or child care needed to participate in work readiness services. If an individualized employability development plan has been completed, the average annual reimbursable cost for providing work readiness services must not exceed $283, except that the total annual average reimbursable cost shall not exceed $804 for recipients who participate in a pilot project work experience program under Laws 1993, First Special Session chapter 1, article 6, section 55, for all services and costs necessary to implement the plan, including the costs of training, employment search assistance, placement, work experience, on-the-job training, other appropriate activities, the administrative and program costs incurred in providing these services, and necessary recipient support services such as tools, clothing, and transportation needed to participate in work readiness services. Beginning July 1, 1991, the state will reimburse counties, up to the limit 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. Payment to counties under this subdivision is subject to the provisions of section 256.017.

[For text of subds 6b to 17, see M.S.1992]

History: *1Sp1993 c 1 art 6 s 31,32; 1Sp1993 c 6 s 15*

256D.35 DEFINITIONS.

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

Subd. 3a. **Assistance unit.** "Assistance unit" means the individual applicant or recipient or an eligible applicant married couple or recipient married couple who live together.

[For text of subds 4a to 20, see M.S.1992]

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

256D.44 STANDARDS OF ASSISTANCE.

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

Subd. 2. **Standard of assistance for shelter.** The state standard of assistance for shelter provides for the recipient's shelter costs. The monthly state standard of assistance for shelter must be determined according to paragraphs (a) to (f).

(a) If an applicant or recipient does not reside with another person or persons, the state standard of assistance is the actual cost for shelter items or $124, whichever is less.

(b) If an applicant married couple or recipient married couple, who live together, does not reside with others, the state standard of assistance is the actual cost for shelter items or $186, whichever is less.

(c) If an applicant or recipient resides with another person or persons, the state standard of assistance is the actual cost for shelter items or $93, whichever is less.

(d) If an applicant married couple or recipient married couple, who live together, resides with others, the state standard of assistance is the actual cost for shelter items or $124, whichever is less.

(e) Actual shelter costs for applicants or recipients, who reside with others, are determined by dividing the total monthly shelter costs by the number of persons who share the residence.

(f) Married couples, living together and receiving MSA on January 1, 1994, and whose eligibility has not been terminated for a full calendar month, are exempt from the standards in paragraphs (b) and (d).

Subd. 3. **Standard of assistance for basic needs.** The state standard of assistance for basic needs provides for the applicant's or recipient's maintenance needs, other than actual shelter costs. Except as provided in subdivision 4, the monthly state standard of assistance for basic needs is as follows:

(a) If an applicant or recipient who does not reside with another person or persons, the state standard of assistance is $371.

(b) If an applicant married couple or recipient married couple who live together, does not reside with others, the state standard of assistance is $557.

(c) If an applicant or recipient resides with another person or persons, the state standard of assistance is $286.

(d) If an applicant married couple or recipient married couple who live together, resides with others, the state standard of assistance is $371.

(e) Married couples, living together and receiving MSA on January 1, 1994, and whose eligibility has not been terminated a full calendar month, are exempt from the standards in paragraphs (b) and (d).

[For text of subds 4 to 7, see M.S.1992]

History: *1Sp1993 c 1 art 8 s 5,6*