

2. A person, including a court or administrative body, with legal authority to act in place of or on behalf of the individual or the individual's spouse.

3. Any person, including any court or administrative body, acting at the direction or upon the request of the individual or the individual's spouse.

"Income" shall be defined by 42 U.S.C. Section 1382a.

"Institutionalized individual" shall mean an individual who is an inpatient in a nursing facility, who is an inpatient in a medical institution and with respect to whom payment is made based on a level of care provided in a nursing facility or who is eligible for home- and community-based waiver services.

"Resources" shall be defined by 42 U.S.C. Section 1382b without regard (in the case of an institutionalized individual) to the exclusion of the home and land appertaining thereto.

This rule is intended to implement Iowa Code section 249A.4.

441—75.24(249A) Treatment of trusts established after August 10, 1993. For purposes of determining an individual's eligibility for, or the amount of, medical assistance benefits, trusts established after August 10, 1993, (except for trusts specified in 75.24(3)) shall be treated in accordance with 75.24(2).

75.24(1) Establishment of trust.

a. For the purposes of this rule, an individual shall be considered to have established a trust if assets of the individual were used to form all or part of the principal of the trust and if any of the following individuals established the trust other than by will: the individual, the individual's spouse, a person (including a court or administrative body, with legal authority to act in place of or on behalf of the individual or the individual's spouse), or a person (including a court or administrative body) acting at the direction or upon the request of the individual or the individual's spouse.

b. The term "assets," with respect to an individual, includes all income and resources of the individual and of the individual's spouse, including any income or resources which the individual or the individual's spouse is entitled to but does not receive because of action by the individual or the individual's spouse, by a person (including a court or administrative body, with legal authority to act in place of or on behalf of the individual's spouse), or by any person (including a court or administrative body) acting at the direction or upon the request of the individual or the individual's spouse.

c. In the case of a trust, the principal of which includes assets of an individual and assets of any other person or persons, the provisions of this rule shall apply to the portion of the trust attributable to the individual.

d. This rule shall apply without regard to:

- (1) The purposes for which a trust is established.
- (2) Whether the trustees have or exercise any discretion under the trust.
- (3) Any restrictions on when or whether distribution may be made for the trust.
- (4) Any restriction on the use of distributions from the trust.

e. The term "trust" includes any legal instrument or device that is similar to a trust, including a conservatorship.

75.24(2) Treatment of revocable and irrevocable trusts.

a. In the case of a revocable trust:

(1) The principal of the trust shall be considered an available resource.

(2) Payments from the trust to or for the benefit of the individual shall be considered income of the individual.

(3) Any other payments from the trust shall be considered assets disposed of by the individual, subject to the penalties described at rule 441—75.23(249A) and 441—Chapter 89.

b. In the case of an irrevocable trust:

(1) If there are any circumstances under which payment from the trust could be made to or for the benefit of the individual, the portion of the principal from which, or the income on the principal from which, payment to the individual could be made shall be considered an available resource to the individual and payments from that principal or income to or for the benefit of the individual shall be considered income to the individual. Payments for any other purpose shall be considered a transfer of assets by the individual subject to the penalties described at rule 441—75.23(249A) and 441—Chapter 89.

(2) Any portion of the trust from which, or any income on the principal from which, no payment could under any circumstances be made to the individual shall be considered, as of the date of establishment of the trust (or, if later, the date on which payment to the individual was foreclosed) to be assets disposed of by the individual subject to the penalties specified at 75.23(3) and 441—Chapter 89. The value of the trust shall be determined for this purpose by including the amount of any payments made from this portion of the trust after this date.

75.24(3) Exceptions. This rule shall not apply to any of the following trusts:

a. A trust containing the assets of an individual under the age of 65 who is disabled (as defined in Section 1614(a)(3) of the Social Security Act) and which is established for the benefit of the individual by a parent, grandparent, legal guardian of the individual, or a court if the state will receive all amounts remaining in the trust upon the death of the individual up to an amount equal to the total medical assistance paid on behalf of the individual.

b. A trust established for the benefit of an individual if the trust is composed only of pension, social security, and other income to the individual (and accumulated income of the trust), and the state will receive all amounts remaining in the trust upon the death of the individual up to the amount equal to the total medical assistance paid on behalf of the individual.

For disposition of trust amounts pursuant to Iowa Code sections 633.707 to 633.711, the average statewide charges and Medicaid rates for the period from July 1, 1998, to June 30, 1999, shall be as follows:

(1) The average statewide charge to a private pay resident of a nursing facility is \$2,397 per month.

(2) The average statewide charge to a private pay resident of a hospital-based skilled nursing facility is \$7,471 per month.

(3) The average statewide charge to a private pay resident of a non-hospital-based skilled nursing facility is \$3,671 per month.

(4) The average statewide Medicaid rate for a resident of an intermediate care facility for the mentally retarded is \$8,319 per month.

(5) The average statewide charge to a resident of a mental health institute is \$9,975 per month.

(6) The average statewide charge to a private pay resident of a psychiatric medical institution for children is \$4,135 per month.

(7) The average statewide charge to a home- and community-based waiver applicant or recipient shall be consistent with the level of care determination and correspond with the average charges and rates set forth in this paragraph.

c. A trust containing the assets of an individual who is disabled (as defined in 1614(a)(3) of the Social Security Act) that meets the following conditions:

(1) The trust is established and managed by a nonprofit association.

(2) A separate account is maintained for each beneficiary of the trust, but, for purposes of investment and management of funds, the trust pools these accounts.

(3) Accounts in the trust are established solely for the benefit of individuals who are disabled (as defined in 1614(a)(3) of the Social Security Act) by the parent, grandparent, or legal guardian of the individuals, by the individuals or by a court.

(4) To the extent that amounts remaining in the beneficiary's account upon death of the beneficiary are not retained by the trust, the trust pays to the state from the remaining amounts in the account an amount equal to the total amount of medical assistance paid on behalf of the beneficiary.

This rule is intended to implement Iowa Code section 249A.4.

441—75.25(249A) Definitions.

"Aged" shall mean a person 65 years of age or older.

"Applicant" shall mean a person who is requesting assistance, including recertification under the medically needy program, on the person's own behalf or on behalf of another person. This also includes parents living in the home with the children and the nonparental relative who is requesting assistance for the children.

"Blind" shall mean a person with central visual acuity of 20/200 or less in the better eye with use of corrective lens or visual field restriction to 20 degrees or less.

"Break in assistance" for medically needy shall mean the lapse of more than three months from the end of the medically needy certification period to the beginning of the next current certification period.

"Central office" shall mean the state administrative office of the department of human services.

"Certification period" for medically needy shall mean the period of time not to exceed six consecutive months in which a person is eligible without a spenddown obligation, or not to exceed two consecutive months in which a person is conditionally eligible for Medicaid as medically needy.

"Client" shall mean an applicant for or a recipient of Medicaid.

"CMAP-related medically needy" shall mean those individuals under the age of 21 who would be eligible for the child medical assistance program except for excess income or resources.

"Community spouse" shall mean a spouse of an institutionalized spouse for the purposes of rules 441—75.5(249A), 441—75.16(249A), and 441—76.10(249A).

"Conditionally eligible recipient" shall mean a medically needy person who has completed the application process and has been assigned a certification period and spenddown amount but who has not spent down for the certification period.

"Coverage group" shall mean a group of persons who meet certain common eligibility requirements.

"Department" shall mean the Iowa department of human services.

"Disabled" shall mean a person who is unable to engage in any substantial gainful activity by reason of any medically determinable physical or mental impairment which has lasted or is expected to last for a continuous period of not less than 12 months from the date of application.

"Eligible recipient" under the provisions of the medically needy program shall mean a medically needy person who has income at or less than the medically needy income level (MNIL) or who has reduced excess income through spenddown to the MNIL during the certification period.

"FMAP-related medically needy" shall mean those persons who would be eligible for the family medical assistance program except for excess income or resources.

“*Group health insurance*” shall mean any plan of, or contributed by an employer (including a self-insured plan) to provide health care (directly or otherwise) to the employer’s employees, former employees, or the families of the employees or former employees.

“*Health insurance*” shall mean protection which provides payment of benefits for covered sickness or injury.

“*Incurred medical expenses*” for medically needy shall mean (1) medical bills paid by a recipient, responsible relative or state or political subdivision program other than Medicaid during the retroactive certification period or certification period, or (2) unpaid medical expenses for which the recipient or responsible relative remains obligated.

“*Institutionalized person*” shall mean a person who is an inpatient in a nursing facility or a Medicare-certified skilled nursing facility, who is an inpatient in a medical institution and for whom payment is made based on a level of care provided in a nursing facility, or who is a person described in 75.1(18) for the purposes of rule 441—75.5(249A).

“*Institutionalized spouse*” shall mean a married person living in a medical institution, or nursing facility, or home- and community-based waiver setting who is likely to remain living in these circumstances for at least 30 consecutive days, and whose spouse is not in a medical institution or nursing facility for the purposes of rules 441—75.5(249A), 441—75.16(249A), and 441—76.10(249A).

“*Local office*” shall mean the county office of the department of human services or the mental health institute or hospital school.

“*Medically needy income level (MNIL)*” shall mean 133 1/3 percent of the schedule of basic needs based on family size. (See subrule 75.58(2).)

“*Necessary medical and remedial services*” for medically needy shall mean medical services recognized by law which are currently covered under the Iowa Medicaid program.

“*Noncovered Medicaid services*” for medically needy shall mean medical services that are not covered under Medicaid because the provider was not enrolled in Medicaid, the bill is for a responsible relative who is not in the Medicaid-eligible group or the bill is for services delivered before the start of a certification period.

“*Nursing facility services*” shall mean the level of care provided in a medical institution licensed for nursing services or skilled nursing services for the purposes of rule 441—75.23(249A).

“*Obligated medical expense*” for medically needy shall mean a medical expense for which the recipient or responsible relative continues to be legally liable.

“*Ongoing eligibility*” for medically needy shall mean that eligibility continues for an SSI-related medically needy person with a zero spenddown.

“*Pay and chase*” shall mean that the state pays the total amount allowed under the agency’s payment schedule and then seeks reimbursement from the liable third party. The pay and chase provision applies to Medicaid claims for prenatal care, for preventive pediatric services, and for all services provided to a person for whom there is court-ordered medical support.

“*Payee*” refers to an SSI payee as defined in Iowa Code subsections 633.33(7) and 633.3(20).

“*Recertification*” in the medically needy coverage group shall mean establishing a new certification period when the previous period has expired and there has not been a break in assistance.

“*Recipient*” shall mean a person who is receiving assistance including receiving assistance for another person.

“*Responsible relative*” for medically needy shall mean a spouse, parent, or stepparent living in the household of the eligible recipient.

“*Retroactive certification period*” for medically needy shall mean one, two, or three calendar months prior to the date of application. The retroactive certification period begins with the first month Medicaid-covered services were received and continues to the end of the month immediately prior to the month of application.

“*Retroactive period*” shall mean the three calendar months immediately preceding the month in which an application is filed.

“*Spenddown*” shall mean the process by which a medically needy person obligates excess income for allowable medical expenses to reduce income to the appropriate MNIL.

“*SSI-related*” shall mean those persons whose eligibility is derived from regulations governing the supplemental security income (SSI) program except that income shall be considered prospectively.

“*SSI-related medically needy*” shall mean those persons whose eligibility is derived from regulations governing the supplemental security income (SSI) program except for income or resources.

“*Supply*” shall mean the requested information is received by the department by the specified due date.

“*Transfer of assets*” shall mean transfer of resources or income for less than fair market value for the purposes of rule 441—75.23(249A). For example, a transfer of resources or income could include establishing a trust, contributing to a charity, removing a name from a resource or income, or reducing ownership interest in a resource or income.

“*Unborn child*” shall include an unborn child during the entire term of pregnancy.

“*X-PERT*” means an automated knowledge-based computer system that determines eligibility for Medicaid and other assistance programs.

441—75.26(249A) References to the family investment program. Rescinded IAB 10/8/97, effective 12/1/97.

441—75.27(249A) AIDS/HIV settlement payments. The following payments are exempt as income and resources when determining eligibility for or the amount of Medicaid benefits under any coverage group if the payments are kept in a separate, identifiable account:

75.27(1) Class settlement payments. Payments made from any fund established pursuant to a class settlement in the case of *Susan Walker v. Bayer Corporation, et al.*, 96-C-5024 (N.D. Ill.) are exempt.

75.27(2) Other settlement payments. Payments made pursuant to a release of all claims in a case that is entered into in lieu of the class settlement referred to in subrule 75.27(1) and that is signed by all affected parties in the cases on or before the later of December 31, 1997, or the date that is 270 days after the date on which the release is first sent to the person (or the legal representative of the person) to whom payment is to be made are exempt.

441—75.28 to 75.49 Reserved.

These rules are intended to implement Iowa Code sections 249A.3 and 249A.4.

DIVISION II
ELIGIBILITY FACTORS SPECIFIC TO COVERAGE GROUPS RELATED TO
THE FAMILY MEDICAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAM (FMAP)

441—75.50(249A) Definitions.

“*Applicant*” shall mean a person who is requesting assistance on the person’s own behalf or on behalf of another person, including recertification under the medically needy program. This also includes parents living in the home with the children and the nonparental relative who is requesting assistance for the children.

“*Assistance unit*” includes any person whose income is considered when determining eligibility.

“*Bona fide offer*” means an actual or genuine offer which includes a specific wage or a training opportunity at a specified place when used to determine whether the parent has refused an offer of training or employment.

“*Budget month*” means the calendar month from which the county office uses income or circumstances of the eligible group to calculate eligibility.

“*Central office*” shall mean the state administrative office of the department of human services.

“*Change in income*” means a permanent change in hours worked, rate of pay, or beginning or ending income.

“*Change in work expenses*” means a permanent change in the cost of dependent care or the beginning or ending of dependent care.

“*Client*” shall mean an applicant or recipient of Medicaid.

“*Department*” shall mean the Iowa department of human services.

“*Income in-kind*” is any gain or benefit which is not in the form of money payable directly to the eligible group including nonmonetary benefits, such as meals, clothing, and vendor payments. Vendor payments are money payments which are paid to a third party and not to the eligible group.

“*Initial two months*” means the first two consecutive months for which eligibility is granted.

“*Medical institution,*” when used in this division, shall mean a facility which is organized to provide medical care, including nursing and convalescent care, in accordance with accepted standards as authorized by state law and as evidenced by the facility’s license. A medical institution may be public or private. Medical institutions include the following:

1. Hospitals.
2. Extended care facilities (skilled nursing).
3. Intermediate care facilities.
4. Mental health institutions.
5. Hospital schools.

“*Nonrecurring lump sum unearned income*” means a payment in the nature of a windfall, for example, an inheritance, an insurance settlement for pain and suffering, an insurance death benefit, a gift, lottery winnings, or a retroactive payment of benefits such as social security, job insurance or workers’ compensation.

“*Parent*” means the natural or adoptive parent.

“*Prospective budgeting*” means the determination of eligibility and the amount of assistance for a calendar month based on the best estimate of income and circumstances which will exist in that calendar month.

“*Recipient*” means a person for whom Medicaid is received as well as parents living in the home with the eligible children and other specified relatives as defined in subrule 75.55(1) who are receiving Medicaid for the children. Unless otherwise specified, a person is not a recipient for any month in which the assistance issued for that person is subject to recoupment because the person was ineligible.

“*Report month*” for retrospective budgeting means the calendar month following the budget month. “*Report month*” for prospective budgeting means the calendar month in which a change occurs.

“*Retrospective budgeting*” means the calculation of eligibility for a month based on actual income and circumstances which existed in the budget month.

“*Schedule of needs*” means the total needs of a group as determined by the schedule of living costs, described at subrule 75.58(2).

“*Stepparent*” means a person who is the legal spouse of the child’s natural or adoptive parent by ceremonial or common-law marriage.

“*Suspension*” means a month in which an otherwise ineligible household continues to remain eligible for one month when eligibility is expected to exist the following month.

“*Unborn child*” shall include an unborn child during the entire term of the pregnancy.

“*Uniformed service*” means the Army, Navy, Air Force, Marine Corps, Coast Guard, National Oceanographic and Atmospheric Administration, or Public Health Service of the United States.

441—75.51(249A) Reinstatement of eligibility. Eligibility for the family medical assistance program (FMAP) and FMAP-related programs shall be reinstated without a new application when all necessary information is provided at least three working days before the effective date of cancellation and eligibility can be reestablished, except as provided in the transitional Medicaid program in accordance with subparagraph 75.1(31)“j”(2).

Assistance may be reinstated without a new application when all necessary information is provided after the third working day but before the effective date of cancellation and eligibility can be reestablished before the effective date of cancellation.

When all eligibility factors are met, assistance shall be reinstated when a completed Public Assistance Eligibility Report, Form PA-2140-0, or a Review/Recertification Eligibility Document, Form 470-2881, is received by the county office within ten days of the date a cancellation notice is sent to the recipient because the form was incomplete or not returned.

441—75.52(249A) Continuing eligibility.

75.52(1) Reviews. Eligibility factors shall be reviewed at least every six months for the family medical assistance program and family medical assistance-related programs. A semiannual review shall be conducted using information contained in and verification supplied with Form PA-2140-0, Public Assistance Eligibility Report. A face-to-face interview shall be conducted at least annually at the time of a review using information contained in and verification supplied with Form 470-2881, Review/Recertification Eligibility Document.

a. Any assistance unit with one or more of the following characteristics shall report monthly:

(1) The assistance unit contains any member with earned income unless the income is exempt under paragraph 75.57(7)“u,” or the only earned income is from exempt work study, annualized self-employment, or Job Corps unless the participant is aged 20 or older.

(2) The assistance unit contains any member with a recent work history. A recent work history means the person received earned income during either one of the two calendar months immediately preceding the budget month, unless the income was exempt under paragraph 75.57(7) "u," or the only earned income was from exempt work study, annualized self-employment, or Job Corps unless the participant is aged 20 or older.

(3) The assistance unit contains any member receiving nonexempt unearned income, the source or amount of which is expected to change more often than once annually, unless the income is from job insurance benefits or interest; or unless the assistance unit's adult members are 60 years old or older, or are receiving disability or blindness payments under Titles I, II, X, XIV, or XVI of the Social Security Act; or unless all adults, who would otherwise be members of the assistance unit, are receiving Supplemental Security Income (SSI) including state supplementary assistance (SSA).

(4) The assistance unit contains any member residing out of state on a temporary basis.

b. The assistance unit subject to monthly reporting shall complete a Public Assistance Eligibility Report (PAER), Form PA-2140-0, for each budget month, unless the assistance unit is required to complete Form 470-2881, Review/Recertification Eligibility Document (RRED) for that month. The PAER shall be signed by the recipient, the recipient's authorized representative or, when the recipient is incompetent or incapacitated, someone acting responsibly on the recipient's behalf. When both parents or a parent and a stepparent are in the home, both shall sign the form.

75.52(2) Additional reviews. A redetermination of specific eligibility factors shall be made when:

a. The recipient reports a change in circumstances, or

b. A change in the recipient's circumstances comes to the attention of a staff member.

75.52(3) Forms. Information for semiannual reviews shall be submitted on Form PA-2140-0, Public Assistance Eligibility Report (PAER). Information for the annual face-to-face determination interview shall be submitted on Form 470-2881, Review/Recertification Eligibility Document (RRED). When the client has completed Form PA-2207-0, Public Assistance Application, for another purpose, this form may be used as the review document for the semiannual or annual review.

75.52(4) Recipient responsibilities. Responsibilities of recipients (including individuals in suspension status). For the purposes of this subrule, recipients shall include persons who received assistance subject to recoupment because the persons were ineligible.

a. The recipient shall cooperate by giving complete and accurate information needed to establish eligibility.

b. The recipient shall complete Form PA-2140-0, Public Assistance Eligibility Report (PAER), or Form 470-2881, Review/Recertification Eligibility Document (RRED), when requested by the county office in accordance with these rules. Either form will be supplied as needed to the recipient by the department. The department shall pay the cost of postage to return the form. When the form is issued in the department's regular end-of-month mailing, the recipient shall return the completed form to the county office by the fifth calendar day of the report month. When the form is not issued in the department's regular end-of-month mailing, the recipient shall return the completed form to the county office by the seventh day after the date it is mailed by the department. The county office shall supply the recipient with a PAER or a RRED upon request. Failure to return a completed form shall result in cancellation of assistance. A completed form is a form with all items answered, signed, dated no earlier than the first day of the budget month and accompanied by verification as required in paragraphs 75.57(1) "f" and 75.57(2) "l."

c. The recipient, or an individual being added to the existing eligible group, shall timely report any change in the following circumstances:

(1) Income from all sources, including any change in care expenses and any change in full-time or part-time employment status as defined in subparagraph 75.57(2)“b”(2).

(2) Resources.

(3) Members of the household.

(4) School attendance.

(5) Becoming incapacitated or recovery from incapacity.

(6) Change of mailing or living address.

(7) Payment of child support.

(8) Receipt of a social security number.

(9) Payment for child support, alimony, or dependents as defined in paragraph 75.57(8)“b.”

d. A report shall be considered timely when made within ten days from:

(1) The receipt of resources, income, or increased or decreased income.

(2) The date care expenses increase or decrease or the date full-time or part-time employment status, as defined in subparagraph 75.57(2)“b”(2), changes.

(3) The date the address changes.

(4) The date the child is officially dropped from the school rolls.

(5) The date the person enters or leaves the household.

(6) The date medical or psychological evidence indicates a person becomes incapacitated or recovers from incapacity.

(7) The date the client increases or decreases child support payments.

(8) The receipt of a social security number.

(9) The date a stepparent described in paragraph 75.57(8)“b” or an underage parent described in paragraph 75.57(8)“c” increases or decreases payments for child support, alimony or dependents.

e. When a change is not timely reported, any excess Medicaid paid shall be subject to recovery.

75.52(5) Effective date. After assistance has been approved, eligibility for continuing assistance shall be effective as of the first of each month. Any change affecting eligibility reported during a month shall be effective the first day of the next calendar month, subject to timely notice requirements at rule 441—7.6(217) for any adverse actions.

a. Any change not reported prospectively in the budget month and reported on the Public Assistance Eligibility Report (PAER), Form PA-2140-0, or the Review/Recertification Eligibility Document (RRED), Form 470-2881, shall be effective for the corresponding benefit month. When the change creates ineligibility for more than one month, eligibility under the current coverage group shall be canceled and an automatic redetermination of eligibility shall be completed in accordance with rule 441—76.11(249A).

b. When the recipient timely reports, as defined in 441—subrule 76.2(5) or paragraph 75.52(4)“d,” a change in income or circumstances during the first initial month of eligibility, prospective eligibility for the second initial month shall be determined based on the change.

c. When an individual included in the eligible group becomes ineligible, that individual’s needs shall be removed prospectively effective the first of the next month unless the action must be delayed due to timely notice requirements at rule 441—7.6(217).

441—75.53(249A) Iowa residency policies specific to FMAP and FMAP-related coverage groups. Notwithstanding the provisions of rule 441—75.10(249A), the following rules shall apply when determining eligibility for persons under FMAP or FMAP-related coverage groups.

75.53(1) Definition of resident. A resident of Iowa is one:

- a. Who is living in Iowa voluntarily with the intention of making that person's home there and not for a temporary purpose. A child is a resident of Iowa when living there on other than a temporary basis. Residence may not depend upon the reason for which the individual entered the state, except insofar as it may bear upon whether the individual is there voluntarily or for a temporary purpose; or
- b. Who, at the time of application, is living in Iowa, is not receiving assistance from another state, and entered Iowa with a job commitment or seeking employment in Iowa, whether or not currently employed. Under this definition the child is a resident of the state in which the specified relative is a resident.

75.53(2) Retention of residence. Residence is retained until abandoned. Temporary absence from Iowa, with subsequent returns to Iowa, or intent to return when the purposes of the absence have been accomplished does not interrupt continuity of residence.

75.53(3) Suitability of home. The home shall be deemed suitable until the court has ruled it unsuitable and, as a result of such action, the child has been removed from the home.

75.53(4) Temporary absence from the home. The needs of an individual who is temporarily out of the home are included in the eligible group unless the person is in a jail or penal institution, including a work release center, in accordance with the provisions of rule 441—75.12(249A) or is excluded from the eligible group in accordance with the provisions of rule 441—75.59(249A). A temporary absence exists in the following circumstances.

- a. An individual is anticipated to be in the medical institution for less than a year, as verified by a physician's statement. Failure to return within one year from the date of entry into the medical institution will result in the individual's needs being removed from the eligible group.
- b. When an individual is out of the home to secure education or training, as defined for children in paragraph 75.54(1) "b" and for adults in 441—subrule 93.114(1), first sentence, as long as the specified relative retains supervision of the child.
- c. An individual is out of the home for reasons other than reasons in paragraphs "a" and "b" and intends to return to the home within three months. Failure to return within three months from the date the individual left the home will result in the individual's needs being removed from the eligible group.

441—75.54(249A) Eligibility factors specific to child.

75.54(1) Age. Unless otherwise specified at rule 441—75.1(249A), Medicaid shall be available to a needy child under the age of 18 years without regard to school attendance.

- a. A child is eligible for the entire month in which the child's eighteenth birthday occurs, unless the birthday falls on the first day of the month.
- b. Medicaid shall also be available to a needy child aged 18 years who is a full-time student in a secondary school, or in the equivalent level of vocational or technical training, and who is reasonably expected to complete the program before reaching the age of 19 if the following criteria are met.

(1) A child shall be considered attending school full-time when enrolled or accepted in a full-time (as certified by the school or institute attended) elementary, secondary or the equivalent level of vocational or technical school or training leading to a certificate or diploma. Correspondence school is not an allowable program of study.

(2) A child shall also be considered to be in regular attendance in months when the child is not attending because of an official school or training program vacation, illness, convalescence, or family emergency. A child meets the definition of regular school attendance until the child has been officially dropped from the school rolls.

(3) When a child's education is temporarily interrupted pending adjustment of an education or training program, exemption shall be continued for a reasonable period of time to complete the adjustment.

75.54(2) *Residing with a relative.* The child shall be living in the home of one of the relatives specified in subrule 75.55(1). When the mother intends to place her child for adoption shortly after birth, the child shall be considered as living with the mother until the time custody is actually relinquished.

a. Living with relatives implies primarily the existence of a relationship involving an accepted responsibility on the part of the relative for the child's welfare, including the sharing of a common household.

b. Home is the family setting maintained or in the process of being established as evidenced by the assumption and continuation of responsibility for the child by the relative.

75.54(3) *Deprivation of parental care and support.* Medicaid is available to a child of unmarried parents or married parents when all eligibility factors are met. For coverage groups which require that a child be deprived as a condition of eligibility, a child shall be considered as deprived of parental support or care when:

a. A parent is out of the home in which the child lives under the following conditions. When these conditions exist, the parent may be absent for any reason, and may have left only recently or some time previously; except that a parent whose absence is occasioned solely by reason of the performance of active duty in the uniformed services of the United States is not considered absent from the home. A parent who is a convicted offender but is permitted to live at home while serving a court-imposed sentence by performing unpaid public work or unpaid community service during the workday is considered absent from the home.

(1) The nature of the absence either interrupts or terminates the parent's functioning as a provider of maintenance, physical care, or guidance for the child; and

(2) The known or indefinite duration of the absence precludes relying on the parent to plan for the present support or care of the child.

b. A parent is incapacitated. A parent is considered incapacitated when a clearly identifiable physical or mental defect has a demonstrable effect upon earning capacity or the performance of the homemaking duties required to maintain a home for the child. The incapacity shall be expected to last for a period of at least 30 days from the date of application.

(1) The determination of incapacity shall be supported by medical or psychological evidence. The evidence may be submitted either by letter from the physician or on a Report on Incapacity, Form PA-2126-5.

(2) When an examination is required and other resources are not available to meet the expense of the examination, the physician shall be authorized to make the examination and submit the claim for payment on an Authorization for Examination and Claim for Payment, Form PA-5113-0.

(3) A finding of eligibility for social security benefits or supplemental security income benefits based on disability or blindness is acceptable proof of incapacity for family medical assistance program (FMAP) and FMAP-related program purposes.

(4) A parent who is considered incapacitated shall be referred to the department of education, division of vocational rehabilitation services, for evaluation and services. Acceptance of these services is optional.

c. The parents are considered unemployed. A child shall be eligible for assistance on the basis of being deprived of parental care or support by reason of both parents' being considered unemployed as described in subparagraphs (1) and (2) below.

When deprivation exists because of parental absence or incapacity, that deprivation factor supercedes and the case shall not be processed on the basis of the parents' unemployment.

(1) When both parents of a common child are in the home and neither parent is incapacitated as defined at paragraph 75.54(3) "b," eligibility for assistance shall be determined based on the unemployment of the parents, without regard to either parent's hours of employment. Unless the person is excluded in accordance with the provisions of rule 441—75.59(249A), for the purpose of determining eligibility, the eligible group shall include the common child, any parent, and any deprived sibling of the common child living in the home with the common child as described at subrule 75.58(1). Each parent in an unemployed parent case shall meet the following requirements:

1. Both parents shall be unemployed. Parents who are employed but whose earnings are insufficient to meet the needs of the family according to the schedule of needs as provided in subrule 75.58(2) shall be considered unemployed for the purpose of establishing eligibility under this subrule.

2. The parent who is an applicant and who is out of work due to refusal, without good cause, of a bona fide offer of employment or training for employment shall not be considered unemployed.

(2) After assistance is approved, when either parent is no longer considered unemployed because of failure to apply for or draw job insurance benefits in accordance with the provisions of rule 441—75.3(249A), ineligibility shall result for those persons whose eligibility is dependent on the unemployment of both parents.

d. When a child is deprived of support or care of a natural parent, the presence of an able-bodied stepparent in the home shall not disqualify a child from assistance, provided that other eligibility factors are met.

75.54(4) Assistance continued. For coverage groups which require that a child be deprived as a condition of eligibility, an adjustment period following the incapacitated parent's recovery or the absent parent's return home shall continue for only as long as is necessary to determine whether there is eligibility on the basis of parental unemployment. When deprivation on the basis of unemployment cannot be established, assistance shall be continued for a maximum of three months. When the three-month adjustment period expires, eligibility shall be reexamined in accordance with the automatic re-determination provisions of rule 441—76.11(249A).

441—75.55(249A) Eligibility factors specific to specified relatives.

75.55(1) Specified relationship.

a. A child may be considered as meeting the requirement of living with a specified relative if the child's home is with one of the following or with a spouse of the relative even though the marriage is terminated by death or divorce:

Father or adoptive father.

Mother or adoptive mother.

Grandfather or grandfather-in-law, meaning the subsequent husband of the child's natural grandmother, i.e., stepgrandfather or adoptive grandfather.

Grandmother or grandmother-in-law, meaning the subsequent wife of the child's natural grandfather, i.e., stepgrandmother or adoptive grandmother.

Great-grandfather or great-great-grandfather.

Great-grandmother or great-great-grandmother.

Stepfather, but not his parents.

Stepmother, but not her parents.

Brother, brother-of-half-blood, stepbrother, brother-in-law or adoptive brother.

Sister, sister-of-half-blood, stepsister, sister-in-law or adoptive sister.

Uncle or aunt, of whole or half blood.

Uncle-in-law or aunt-in-law.

Great uncle or great-great-uncle.

Great aunt or great-great-aunt.

First cousins, nephews, or nieces.

b. A relative of the putative father can qualify as a specified relative if the putative father has acknowledged paternity by the type of written evidence on which a prudent person would rely.

75.55(2) Liability of relatives. All appropriate steps shall be taken to secure support from legally liable persons on behalf of all persons in the eligible group, including the establishment of paternity as provided in rule 441—75.14(249A).

a. When necessary to establish eligibility, the county office shall make the initial contact with the absent parent at the time of application. Subsequent contacts shall be made by the child support recovery unit.

b. When contact with the family or other sources of information indicates that relatives other than parents and spouses of the eligible children are contributing toward the support of members of the eligible group, have contributed in the past, or are of such financial standing they might reasonably be expected to contribute, the county office shall contact these persons to verify current contributions or arrange for contributions on a voluntary basis.

441—75.56(249A) Resources.

75.56(1) Limitation. Unless otherwise specified, an applicant or recipient may have the following resources and be eligible for the family medical assistance program (FMAP) or FMAP-related programs. Any resource not specifically exempted shall be counted toward the applicable resource limit.

a. A homestead without regard to its value. A mobile home or similar shelter shall be considered as a homestead when it is occupied by the recipient. Temporary absence from the homestead with a defined purpose for the absence and with intent to return when the purpose of the absence has been accomplished shall not be considered to have altered the exempt status of the homestead. The net market value of any other real property shall be considered with personal property.

b. Household goods and personal effects without regard to their value. Personal effects are personal or intimate tangible belongings of an individual, especially those that are worn or carried on the person, which are maintained in one's home, and include clothing, books, grooming aids, jewelry, hobby equipment, and similar items.

c. Life insurance which has no cash surrender value. The owner of the life insurance policy is the individual paying the premium on the policy with the right to change the policy as the individual sees fit.

d. An equity not to exceed a value of \$3,000 in one motor vehicle for each adult and working teenage child whose resources must be considered as described in subrule 75.56(2). The disregard shall be allowed when the working teenager is temporarily absent from work. The equity value in excess of \$3,000 of any vehicle shall be counted toward the resource limit in paragraph 75.56(1) "e." When a motor vehicle(s) is modified with special equipment for the handicapped, the special equipment shall not increase the value of the motor vehicle(s).

Beginning July 1, 1994, and continuing in succeeding state fiscal years, the motor vehicle equity value to be disregarded shall be increased by the latest increase in the consumer price index for used vehicles during the previous state fiscal year.

e. A reserve of other property, real or personal, not to exceed \$2,000 for applicant assistance units and \$5,000 for recipient assistance units.

EXCEPTION: Applicant assistance units with at least one member who was a recipient in Iowa in the month prior to the month of application are subject to the \$5,000 limit.

Resources of the applicant or the recipient shall be determined in accordance with persons considered, as described at subrule 75.56(2).

f. Money which is counted as income in a month, during that same month; and that part of lump sum income defined at subparagraph 75.57(9) "c"(2) reserved for the current or future month's income.

g. Payments which are exempted for consideration as income and resources under subrule 75.57(6).

h. An equity not to exceed \$1,500 in one funeral contract or burial trust for each member of the eligible group. Any amount in excess of \$1,500 shall be counted toward resource limits unless it is established that the funeral contract or burial trust is irrevocable.

i. One burial plot for each member of the eligible group. A burial plot is defined as a conventional gravesite, crypt, mausoleum, urn, or other repository which is customarily and traditionally used for the remains of a deceased person.

- j.* Settlements for payment of medical expenses.
- k.* Life estates.
- l.* Earned income credit payments in the month of receipt and the following month, regardless of whether these payments are received with the regular paychecks or as a lump sum with the federal income tax refund.
- m.* The balance in an individual development account (IDA), including interest earned on the IDA.
- n.* An equity not to exceed \$10,000 for tools of the trade or capital assets of self-employed households.

When the value of any resource is exempted in part, that portion of the value which exceeds the exemption shall be considered in calculating whether the eligible group's property is within the reserve defined in paragraph "e."

75.56(2) Persons considered.

- a.* Resources of persons in the eligible group shall be considered in establishing property limits.
- b.* Resources of the parent who is living in the home with the eligible children but whose needs are excluded from the eligible group shall be considered in the same manner as if the parent were included in the eligible group.
- c.* Resources of the stepparent living in the home shall not be considered when determining eligibility of the eligible group, with one exception: The resources of a stepparent included in the eligible group shall be considered in the same manner as a parent.
- d.* The resources of supplemental security income (SSI) recipients shall not be counted in establishing property limitations. When property is owned by both the SSI beneficiary and a Medicaid recipient in another eligible group, each shall be considered as having a half interest in order to determine the value of the resource, unless the terms of the deed or purchase contract clearly establish ownership on a different proportional basis.
- e.* The resources of a nonparental specified relative who elects to be included in the eligible group shall be considered in the same manner as a parent.

75.56(3) Homestead defined. The homestead consists of the house, used as a home, and may contain one or more contiguous lots or tracts of land, including buildings and appurtenances. When within a city plat, it shall not exceed ½ acre in area. When outside a city plat it shall not contain, in the aggregate, more than 40 acres. When property used as a home exceeds these limitations, the equity value of the excess property shall be determined in accordance with subrule 75.56(5).

75.56(4) Liquidation. When proceeds from the sale of resources or conversion of a resource to cash, together with other nonexempted resources, exceed the property limitations, the recipient is ineligible to receive assistance until the amount in excess of the resource limitation has been expended unless immediately used to purchase a homestead, or reduce the mortgage on a homestead.

- a.* Property settlements. Property settlements which are part of a legal action in a dissolution of marriage or palimony suit are considered as resources upon receipt.
- b.* Mortgages and contracts for the sale of property. The resource value of a mortgage or contract is the gross price for which it can be sold or discounted on the open market, less any legal debts, claims, or liens against the mortgage or contract.

Mortgage or contract payments are exempt as income. The portion of any payment received representing principal is considered a resource upon receipt. The interest portion of the payment is considered a resource the month following the month of receipt.

75.56(5) *Net market value defined.* Net market value is the gross price for which property or an item can currently be sold on the open market, less any legal debts, claims, or liens against the property or item.

75.56(6) *Availability.*

a. A resource must be available in order for it to be counted toward resource limitations. A resource is considered available under the following circumstances:

(1) The applicant or recipient owns the property in part or in full and has control over it. That is, it can be occupied, rented, leased, sold, or otherwise used or disposed of at the individual's discretion.

(2) The applicant or recipient has a legal interest in a liquidated sum and has the legal ability to make the sum available for support and maintenance.

b. An applicant or recipient shall take all appropriate action to gain title and control of any resource the value of which would affect eligibility.

c. When property is owned by more than one person, unless otherwise established, it is assumed that all persons hold equal shares in the property.

75.56(7) *Damage judgments and insurance settlements.*

a. Payment resulting from damage to or destruction of an exempt resource shall be considered a resource to the applicant or recipient the month following the month the payment was received. When the applicant or recipient signs a legal binding commitment no later than the month after the month the payment was received, the funds shall be considered exempt for the duration of the commitment providing the terms of the commitment are met within eight months from the date of commitment.

b. Payment resulting from damage to or destruction of a nonexempt resource shall be considered a resource in the month following the month in which payment was received.

75.56(8) *Conservatorships.*

a. Conservatorships established prior to February 9, 1994. The department shall determine whether assets from a conservatorship, except one established solely for the payment of medical expenses, are available by examining the language of the order establishing the conservatorship.

Funds clearly conserved and available for care, support, or maintenance shall be considered toward resource or income limitations.

When the county office questions whether the funds in a conservatorship are available, the county office shall refer the conservatorship to central office. When assets in the conservatorship are not clearly available, central office staff may contact the conservator and request that the funds in the conservatorship be made available for current support and maintenance. When the conservator chooses not to make the funds available, the department may petition the court to have the funds released either partially or in their entirety or as periodic income payments. Funds in a conservatorship that are not clearly available shall be considered unavailable until the conservator or court actually makes the funds available. Payments received from the conservatorship for basic or special needs are considered income.

b. Conservatorships established on or after February 9, 1994. Conservatorships established on or after February 9, 1994, shall be treated according to the provisions of paragraphs 75.24(1)“e” and 75.24(2)“b.”

75.56(9) *Not considered a resource.* Inventories and supplies, exclusive of capital assets, that are required for self-employment shall not be considered a resource. Inventory is defined as all unsold items, whether raised or purchased, that are held for sale or use and shall include, but not be limited to, merchandise, grain held in storage and livestock raised for sale. Supplies are items necessary for the operation of the enterprise, such as lumber, paint, and seed. Capital assets are those assets which, if sold at a later date, could be used to claim capital gains or losses for federal income tax purposes. When self-employment is temporarily interrupted due to circumstances beyond the control of the household, such as illness, inventory or supplies retained by the household shall not be considered a resource.

441—75.57(249A) Income. When determining initial and ongoing eligibility for the family medical assistance program (FMAP) and FMAP-related Medicaid coverage groups, all unearned and earned income, unless specifically exempted, disregarded, deducted for work expenses, or diverted as defined in these rules, shall be considered in determining initial and continuing eligibility. Unless otherwise specified at rule 441—75.1(249A), the determination of initial eligibility is a three-step process. Initial eligibility shall be granted only when (1) the countable gross nonexempt unearned and earned income received by the eligible group and available to meet the current month's needs is no more than 185 percent of living costs as identified in the schedule of needs at subrule 75.58(2) for the eligible group (Test 1); (2) the countable net earned and unearned income is less than the schedule of living costs as identified in the schedule of needs at subrule 75.58(2) for the eligible group (Test 2); and (3) the countable net unearned and earned income, after applying allowable disregards, is less than the schedule of basic needs as identified at subrule 75.58(2) for the eligible group (Test 3). The determination of continuing eligibility is a two-step process. Continuing eligibility shall be granted only when (1) countable gross nonexempt income, as described for initial eligibility, does not exceed 185 percent of the living costs as identified in the schedule of needs at subrule 75.58(2) for the eligible group (Test 1); and (2) countable net unearned and earned income is less than the schedule of basic needs as identified in the schedule of needs at subrule 75.58(2) for the eligible group (Test 2). Child support assigned to the department in accordance with 441—subrule 41.22(7) shall be considered unearned income for the purpose of determining continuing eligibility, except as specified at paragraphs 75.57(1)“e,” 75.57(6)“u,” and 75.57(7)“o.” Expenses for care of children or disabled adults, deductions, and diversions shall be allowed when verification is provided. The county office shall return all verification to the applicant or recipient.

75.57(1) Unearned income. Unearned income is any income in cash that is not gained by labor or service. When taxes are withheld from unearned income, the amount considered will be the net income after the withholding of taxes (Federal Insurance Contribution Act, state and federal income taxes). Net unearned income, from investment and nonrecurring lump sum payments, shall be determined by deducting reasonable income-producing costs from the gross unearned income. Money left after this deduction shall be considered gross income available to meet the needs of the eligible group.

a. Social security income is the amount of the entitlement before withholding of a Medicare premium.

b. Financial assistance received for education or training. Rescinded IAB 2/11/98, effective 2/1/98.

c. Rescinded IAB 2/11/98, effective 2/1/98.

d. When the applicant or recipient sells property on contract, proceeds from the sale shall be considered exempt as income. The portion of any payment that represents principal is considered a resource upon receipt as defined in subrule 75.56(4). The interest portion of the payment is considered a resource the month following the month of receipt.

e. Support payments in cash shall be considered as unearned income in determining initial and continuing eligibility.

(1) Any nonexempt cash support payment, for a member of the eligible group, made while the application is pending shall be treated as unearned income.

(2) Support payments shall be considered as unearned income in the month in which the IV-A agency (income maintenance) is notified of the payment by the IV-D agency (child support recovery unit).

The amount of income to consider shall be the actual amount paid or the monthly entitlement, whichever is less.

(3) Support payment reported by child support recovery during the budget month shall be used to determine prospective and retrospective eligibility for the corresponding eligibility month.

(4) When the reported support payment, combined with other income, creates ineligibility under the current coverage group, an automatic redetermination of eligibility shall be conducted in accordance with the provisions of rule 441—76.11(249A). Persons receiving Medicaid under the family medical assistance program in accordance with subrule 75.1(14) may be entitled to continued coverage under the provisions of subrule 75.1(21). Eligibility may be reestablished for any month in which the countable support payment combined with other income meets the eligibility test.

f. The applicant or recipient shall cooperate in supplying verification of all unearned income. When the information is available, the county office shall verify job insurance benefits by using information supplied to the department by Iowa workforce development. When the county office uses this information as verification, job insurance benefits shall be considered received the second day after the date the check was mailed by Iowa workforce development. When the second day falls on a Sunday or federal legal holiday, the time shall be extended to the next mail delivery day. When the client notifies the county office that the amount of job insurance benefits used is incorrect, the client shall be allowed to verify the discrepancy. The client must report the discrepancy prior to the eligibility month or within ten days of the date on the Notice of Decision, Form PA-3102-0, applicable to the eligibility month, whichever is later.

75.57(2) Earned income. Earned income is defined as income in the form of a salary, wages, tips, bonuses, commission earned as an employee, income from Job Corps, or profit from self-employment. Earned income from commissions, wages, tips, bonuses, Job Corps, or salary means the total gross amount irrespective of the expenses of employment. With respect to self-employment, earned income means the profit determined by comparing gross income with the allowable costs of producing the income. Income shall be considered earned income when it is produced as a result of the performance of services by an individual.

a. Each person in the assistance unit whose gross nonexempt earned income, earned as an employee or net profit from self-employment, considered in determining eligibility is entitled to one 20 percent earned income deduction of nonexempt monthly gross earnings. The deduction is intended to include work-related expenses other than child care. These expenses shall include, but are not limited to, all of the following: taxes, transportation, meals, uniforms, and other work-related expenses.

b. Each person in the assistance unit is entitled to a deduction for care expenses subject to the following limitations.

Persons in the eligible group and excluded parents shall be allowed care expenses for a child or incapacitated adult in the eligible group.

Stepparents as described at paragraph 75.57(8)“*b*” and self-supporting parents on underage parent cases as described at paragraph 75.57(8)“*c*” shall be allowed child care expenses for the ineligible dependents of the stepparent or self-supporting parent.

(1) Child care or care for an incapacitated adult shall be considered a work expense in the amount paid for care of an individual, not to exceed \$175, or \$200 in the case of a child under the age of two, per month for a full-time employee and \$174, or \$199 in the case of a child under the age of two, for a part-time employee or the going rate in the community, whichever is less.

(2) Full-time employment shall be defined as employment of 129 or more hours per month. Part-time employment shall be defined as employment of fewer than 129 hours per month. The determination as to whether self-employment income is full-time or part-time shall be made on the basis of whether the average net monthly income from self-employment is at least equal to the state or federal minimum wage, whichever is higher, multiplied by 129 hours a month. “Net monthly income” means income in a month remaining after deduction of allowable business expenses as described at paragraphs 75.57(2)“*f*” through “*j*.”

(3) The deduction is allowable only when the care covers the actual hours of the individual’s employment plus a reasonable period of time for commuting; or the period of time when the individual who would normally care for the child or incapacitated adult is employed at such hours that the individual is required to sleep during the waking hours of the child or incapacitated adult, excluding any hours a child is in school.

(4) Any special needs of a physically or mentally handicapped child or adult shall be taken into consideration in determining the deduction allowed.

(5) The expense shall be verified by receipt or a statement from the provider of care and shall be allowed when paid to any person except a parent or legal guardian of the child or another member of the eligible group, or to any person whose needs are met by diversion of income from any person in the eligible group.

c. After deducting the allowable work expenses as defined at paragraphs 75.57(2)“a” and “b” and income diversions as defined at subrules 75.57(4) and 75.57(8), 50 percent of the total of the remaining monthly nonexempt earned income, earned as an employee or the net profit from self-employment, of each individual whose income must be considered is deducted in determining eligibility for the family medical assistance program (FMAP) and those FMAP-related coverage groups subject to the three-step process for determining initial eligibility as described at rule 441—75.57(249A). The 50 percent work incentive deduction is not time-limited. Initial eligibility under the first two steps of the three-step process is determined without the application of the 50 percent work incentive deduction as described at subparagraphs 75.57(9)“a”(2) and (3).

Individuals whose needs have been removed from the eligible group for refusing to cooperate in applying for or accepting benefits from other sources, in accordance with the provisions of rule 441—75.2(249A), 441—75.3(249A), or 441—75.21(249A), are eligible for the 50 percent work incentive deduction but the individual is not eligible for Medicaid.

d. Ineligibility for expenses and disregards.

(1) Except for persons described at paragraphs 75.57(8)“b” and “c,” a person whose earned income must be considered is not eligible for the 20 percent earned income deduction or the child or adult care expense described at paragraphs 75.57(2)“a” and “b” for one month if within 30 days preceding the month of application or the report month the individual terminated employment, reduced earned income, or refused to accept a bona fide offer of employment, as defined at rule 441—42.21(239), in which the individual was able to engage, unless the individual has identified problems with participation of a temporary or incidental nature as described at rule 441—93.133(249C) or barriers to participation as described at rule 441—93.134(249C). However, the individual is eligible for the 50 percent work incentive deduction as described at paragraph 75.57(2)“c,” if there are earnings to be considered.

(2) Except for persons described at paragraphs 75.57(8)“b” and “c,” a person whose earned income must be considered is not eligible for the 20 percent earned income deduction or the care expense described at paragraphs 75.57(2)“a” and “b” for any month in which the individual failed, without good cause, to timely report a change in earned income or to timely report earned income on Form PA-2140-0, Public Assistance Eligibility Report (PAER), or Form 470-2881, Review/Recertification Eligibility Document (RRED). However, the individual is eligible for the 50 percent work incentive deduction described at paragraph 75.57(2)“c.” Good cause for not timely returning a PAER or a RRED or timely reporting a change in earned income shall be limited to circumstances beyond the control of the individual, such as, but not limited to, a failure by the department to provide needed assistance when requested, to give needed information, to follow procedure resulting in a delay in the return of the PAER or the RRED, or when conditions require the forms to be mailed other than with the regular end-of-the-month mailing. Good cause shall also include, but not be limited to, circumstances when the individual was prevented from reporting by a physical or mental disability, death or serious illness of an immediate family member, or other unanticipated emergencies, or mail was not delivered due to a disruption of regular mail delivery. The applicant or recipient who returns the PAER or the RRED listing earned income by the sixteenth day of the report month shall be considered to have good cause for not timely returning the PAER or the RRED.

e. A person is considered self-employed when the person:

- (1) Is not required to report to the office regularly except for specific purposes such as sales training meetings, administrative meetings, or evaluation sessions.
- (2) Establishes the person's own working hours, territory, and methods of work.
- (3) Files quarterly reports of earnings, withholding payments, and FICA payments to the Internal Revenue Service.

f. The net profit from self-employment income in a non-home-based operation shall be determined by deducting only the following expenses that are directly related to the production of the income:

- (1) The cost of inventories and supplies purchased that are required for the business, such as items for sale or consumption and raw materials.
- (2) Wages, commissions, and mandated costs relating to the wages for employees of the self-employed.
- (3) The cost of shelter in the form of rent, the interest on mortgage or contract payments; taxes; and utilities.
- (4) The cost of machinery and equipment in the form of rent or the interest on mortgage or contract payments.
- (5) Insurance on the real or personal property involved.
- (6) The cost of any repairs needed.
- (7) The cost of any travel required.
- (8) Any other expense directly related to the production of income, except the purchase of capital equipment and payment on the principal of loans for capital assets and durable goods or any cost of depreciation.

g. When the client is renting out apartments in the client's home, the following shall be deducted from the gross rentals received to determine the profit:

- (1) Shelter expense in excess of that set forth on the chart of basic needs components at subrule 75.58(2) for the eligible group.
- (2) That portion of expense for utilities furnished to tenants which exceeds the amount set forth on the chart of basic needs components at subrule 75.58(2).
- (3) Ten percent of gross rentals to cover the cost of upkeep.

h. In determining profit from furnishing board, room, operating a family life home, or providing nursing care, the following amounts shall be deducted from the payments received:

- (1) \$41 plus an amount equivalent to the monthly maximum food stamp allotment in the food stamp program for a one-member household for a boarder and roomer or an individual in the home to receive nursing care, or \$41 for a roomer, or an amount equivalent to the monthly maximum food stamp allotment in the food stamp program for a one-member household for a boarder.
- (2) Ten percent of the total payment to cover the cost of upkeep for individuals receiving a room or nursing care.

i. Gross income from providing child care in the applicant's or recipient's own home shall include the total payments received for the service and any payment received due to the Child Nutrition Amendments of 1978 for the cost of providing meals to children. In determining profit from providing child care services in the applicant's or recipient's own home, 40 percent of the total gross income received shall be deducted to cover the costs of producing the income, unless the individual requests to have actual expenses in excess of the 40 percent considered. When the applicant or recipient requests to have expenses in excess of the 40 percent considered, profit shall be determined in the same manner as specified at paragraph 75.57(2) "j."

j. In determining profit for a self-employed enterprise in the home other than providing room and board, renting apartments or providing child care services, the following expenses shall be deducted from the income received:

- (1) The cost of inventories and supplies purchased that are required for the business, such as items for sale or consumption and raw materials.
- (2) Wages, commissions, and mandated costs relating to the wages for employees.
- (3) The cost of machinery and equipment in the form of rent; or the interest on mortgage or contract payment; and any insurance on such machinery equipment.
- (4) Ten percent of the total gross income to cover the costs of upkeep when the work is performed in the home.
- (5) Any other direct cost involved in the production of the income, except the purchase of capital equipment and payment on the principal of loans for capital equipment and payment on the principal of loans for capital assets and durable goods or any cost of depreciation.

k. Income in-kind received in payment for work shall be given the same consideration as cash. Except in unusual circumstances, the cash value of the income in-kind is the amount the client would pay in cash for the service or product if the work were not performed. Unusual circumstances include situations which are very unfair to the client or the department.

l. The applicant or recipient shall cooperate in supplying verification of all earned income. A self-employed individual shall keep any records necessary to establish eligibility.

75.57(3) Shared living arrangements. When an applicant or recipient shares living arrangements with another family or person, funds combined to meet mutual obligations for shelter and other basic needs are not income. Funds made available to the applicant or recipient, exclusively for the applicant's or recipient's needs, are considered income.

75.57(4) Diversion of income.

a. Nonexempt earned and unearned income of the parent shall be diverted to meet the unmet needs of the dependent, but ineligible children of the parent living in the family group. Income of the parent shall be diverted to meet the unmet needs of the ineligible children of the parent and a companion in the home only when the income and resources of the companion and the children are within family medical assistance program standards. The maximum income that shall be diverted to meet the needs of the dependent but ineligible children shall be the difference between the needs of the eligible group if the ineligible children were included and the needs of the eligible group with the ineligible children excluded, except as specified at paragraph 75.57(8)“*b.*”

b. Nonexempt earned and unearned income of the parent shall be diverted to permit payment of court-ordered support to children not living with the parent when the payment is actually being made.

75.57(5) Income of unmarried specified relatives under the age of 19.

a. Income of the unmarried specified relative under the age of 19 when that specified relative lives with a parent who receives coverage under family medical assistance-related programs or lives with a nonparental relative or in an independent living arrangement.

(1) The income of the unmarried, underage specified relative who is also an eligible child in the eligible group of the specified relative's parent shall be treated in the same manner as that of any other child. The income for the unmarried, underage specified relative who is not an eligible child in the eligible group of the specified relative's parent shall be treated in the same manner as though the specified relative had attained majority.

(2) The income of the unmarried, underage specified relative living with a nonparental relative or in an independent living arrangement shall be treated in the same manner as though the specified relative had attained majority.

b. Income of the unmarried specified relative under the age of 19 who lives in the same home as a self-supporting parent. The income of the unmarried specified relative under the age of 19 living in the same home as a self-supporting parent shall be treated in accordance with subparagraphs (1), (2), and (3) below.

(1) When the unmarried specified relative is under the age of 18 and not a parent of the dependent child, the income of the specified relative shall be exempt.

(2) When the unmarried specified relative is under the age of 18 and a parent of the dependent child, the income of the specified relative shall be treated in the same manner as though the specified relative had attained majority. The income of the specified relative's self-supporting parents shall be treated in accordance with paragraph 75.57(8) "c."

(3) When the unmarried specified relative is 18 years of age, the specified relative's income shall be treated in the same manner as though the specified relative had attained majority.

75.57(6) Exempt as income and resources. The following shall be exempt as income and resources:

a. Food reserves from home-produced garden products, orchards, domestic animals, and the like, when used by the household for its own consumption.

b. The value of the coupon allotment in the food stamp program.

c. The value of the United States Department of Agriculture donated foods (surplus commodities).

d. The value of supplemental food assistance received under the Child Nutrition Act and the special food service program for children under the National School Lunch Act.

e. Any benefits received under Title III-C, Nutrition Program for the Elderly, of the Older Americans Act.

f. Benefits paid to eligible households under the Low Income Home Energy Assistance Act of 1981.

g. Any payment received under Title II of the Uniform Relocation Assistance and Real Property Acquisition Policies Act of 1970 and the Federal-Aid Highway Act of 1968.

h. Any judgment funds that have been or will be distributed per capita or held in trust for members of any Indian tribe. When the payment, in all or part, is converted to another type of resource, that resource is also exempt.

i. Payments to volunteers participating in the Volunteers in Service to America (VISTA) program, except that this exemption will not be applied when the director of ACTION determines that the value of all VISTA payments, adjusted to reflect the number of hours the volunteers are serving, is equivalent to or greater than the minimum wage then in effect under the Fair Labor Standards Act of 1938, or the minimum wage under the laws of the state where the volunteers are serving, whichever is greater.

j. Payments for supporting services or reimbursement of out-of-pocket expenses received by volunteers in any of the programs established under Titles II and III of the Domestic Volunteer Services Act.

k. Tax-exempt portions of payments made pursuant to the Alaskan Native Claims Settlement Act.

l. Experimental housing allowance program payments made under annual contribution contracts entered into prior to January 1, 1975, under Section 23 of the U.S. Housing Act of 1936 as amended.

- m.* The income of a supplemental security income recipient.
- n.* Income of an ineligible child.
- o.* Unearned income in-kind.
- p.* Family support subsidy program payments.
- q.* Grants obtained and used under conditions that preclude their use for current living costs.
- r.* All earned and unearned educational funds of an undergraduate or graduate student or a person in training. Any extended social security or veterans benefits received by a parent or nonparental relative as defined at subrule 75.55(1), conditional to school attendance, shall be exempt. However, any additional amount received for the person's dependents who are in the eligible group shall be counted as nonexempt income.
- s.* Rescinded IAB 2/11/98, effective 2/1/98.
- t.* Any income restricted by law or regulation which is paid to a representative payee, living outside the home, other than a parent who is the applicant or recipient, unless the income is actually made available to the applicant or recipient by the representative payee.
- u.* The first \$50 received by the eligible group which represents a current monthly support obligation or a voluntary support payment, paid by a legally responsible individual, but in no case shall the total amount exempted exceed \$50 per month per eligible group.
- v.* Bona fide loans. Evidence of a bona fide loan may include any of the following:
 - (1) The loan is obtained from an institution or person engaged in the business of making loans.
 - (2) There is a written agreement to repay the money within a specified time.
 - (3) If the loan is obtained from a person not normally engaged in the business of making a loan, there is borrower's acknowledgment of obligation to repay (with or without interest), or the borrower expresses intent to repay the loan when funds become available in the future, or there is a timetable and plan for repayment.
- w.* Payments made from the Agent Orange Settlement Fund or any other fund established pursuant to the settlement in the In re Agent Orange product liability litigation, M.D.L. No. 381 (E.D.N.Y.).
- x.* The income of a person ineligible due to receipt of state-funded foster care, IV-E foster care, or subsidized adoption assistance.
- y.* Payments for major disaster and emergency assistance provided under the Disaster Relief Act of 1974 as amended by Public Law 100-707, the Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Amendments of 1988.
- z.* Payments made to certain United States citizens of Japanese ancestry and resident Japanese aliens under Section 105 of Public Law 100-383, and payments made to certain eligible Aleuts under Section 206 of Public Law 100-383, entitled "Wartime Relocation of Civilians."
- aa.* Payments received from the Radiation Exposure Compensation Act.
- ab.* Deposits into an individual development account (IDA) when determining eligibility. The amount of the deposit is exempt as income and shall not be used in the 185 percent eligibility test. The deposit shall be deducted from nonexempt earned and unearned income that the client receives in the same budget month in which the deposit is made. To allow a deduction, verification of the deposit shall be provided by the end of the report month or the extended filing date, whichever is later. The client shall be allowed a deduction only when the deposit is made from the client's money. The earned income deductions at paragraphs 75.57(2)"a," "b," and "c" shall be applied to nonexempt earnings from employment or net profit from self-employment that remains after deducting the amount deposited into the account. Allowable deductions shall be applied to any nonexempt unearned income that remains after deducting the amount of the deposit. If the client has both nonexempt earned and unearned income, the amount deposited into the IDA account shall first be deducted from the client's nonexempt unearned income. Deposits shall not be deducted from earned or unearned income that is exempt.

75.57(7) Exempt as income. The following are exempt as income.

- a. Reimbursements from a third party.
- b. Reimbursement from the employer for a job-related expense.
- c. The following nonrecurring lump sum payments:
 - (1) Income tax refund.
 - (2) Retroactive supplemental security income benefits.
 - (3) Settlements for the payment of medical expenses.
 - (4) Refunds of security deposits on rental property or utilities.
 - (5) That part of a lump sum received and expended for funeral and burial expenses.
 - (6) That part of a lump sum both received and expended for the repair or replacement of resources.
- d. Payments received by the family for providing foster care when the family is operating a licensed foster home.
- e. A small monetary nonrecurring gift, such as a Christmas, birthday or graduation gift, not to exceed \$30 per person per calendar quarter.

When a monetary gift from any one source is in excess of \$30, the total gift is countable as unearned income. When monetary gifts from several sources are each \$30 or less, and the total of all gifts exceeds \$30, only the amount in excess of \$30 is countable as unearned income.
- f. Earned income credit.
- g. Supplementation from county funds, providing:
 - (1) The assistance does not duplicate any of the basic needs as recognized by the chart of basic needs components in accordance with subrule 75.58(2), or
 - (2) The assistance, if a duplication of any of the basic needs, is made on an emergency basis, not as ongoing supplementation.
- h. Any payment received as a result of an urban renewal or low-cost housing project from any governmental agency.
- i. A retroactive corrective payment.
- j. The training allowance issued by the division of vocational rehabilitation, department of education.
- k. Payments from the PROMISE JOBS program.
- l. The training allowance issued by the department for the blind.
- m. Payments from passengers in a car pool.
- n. Support refunded by the child support recovery unit for the first month of termination of eligibility and the family does not receive the family investment program.
- o. Support refunded by the child support recovery unit or otherwise paid to or for the recipient for a month of suspension. The maximum exempt payment shall be the amount of the monthly support entitlement. The payment shall never exceed the amount of support collected for the month of suspension.
- p. Retrospective income received by an individual, whose needs are prospectively removed from the eligible group or who is no longer a member of the household, except nonrecurring lump sum income that causes a period of ineligibility and the income of a parent or stepparent who remains in the home.
- q. Income of a nonparental relative as defined at subrule 75.55(1) except when the relative is included in the eligible group.
- r. The retrospective income of individuals who are prospectively added to an eligible group for the initial two months of eligibility unless retrospective budgeting is required by subparagraph 75.57(9) "a"(5).

s. Compensation in lieu of wages received by a child under the Job Training Partnership Act of 1982.

t. Any amount for training expenses included in a payment issued under the Job Training Partnership Act of 1982.

u. Earnings of an applicant or recipient aged 19 or younger who is a full-time student as defined at subparagraphs 75.54(1)“b”(1) and (2). The exemption applies through the entire month of the person’s twentieth birthday.

EXCEPTION: When the twentieth birthday falls on the first day of the month, the exemption stops on the first day of that month.

v. Retrospective income attributed to an unmarried, underage parent in accordance with paragraph 75.57(8)“c” effective the first day of the month following the month in which the unmarried, underage parent turns age 18 or reaches majority through marriage. When the unmarried, underage parent turns 18 on the first day of a month, the retrospective income of the self-supporting parents becomes exempt as of the first day of that month.

w. Incentive payments received from participation in the adolescent pregnancy prevention programs.

x. Payments received from the comprehensive child development program, funded by the Administration for Children, Youth, and Families, provided the payments are considered complimentary assistance by federal regulation.

y. Incentive allowance payments received from the work force investment project, provided the payments are considered complimentary assistance by federal regulation.

z. Interest and dividend income.

aa. Terminated income of recipient households who are subject to retrospective budgeting beginning with the calendar month the source of the income is absent, provided the absence of the income is timely reported as described at 441—subrule 76.2(5) and subparagraph 75.52(4)“d”(1).

EXCEPTION: Income that terminated in one of the two initial months occurring at time of an initial application that was not used prospectively shall be considered retrospectively as required by subparagraph 75.57(9)“b”(1). This subrule shall not apply to nonrecurring lump sum income defined at subparagraph 75.57(9)“c”(2).

ab. Honorarium income. All moneys paid to an eligible household in connection with the welfare reform demonstration longitudinal study or focus groups shall be exempted.

ac. Income that an individual contributes to a trust as specified at paragraph 75.24(3)“b” shall not be considered for purposes of determining eligibility for the family medical assistance program (FMAP) or FMAP-related Medicaid coverage groups.

ad. Benefits paid to the eligible household under the family investment program (FIP).

ae. Moneys received through the pilot self-sufficiency grants program or through the pilot diversion program.

af. Earnings from new employment of any person whose income is considered when determining eligibility during the first four calendar months of the new employment. The date the new employment or self-employment begins shall be verified before approval of the exemption. This four-month period shall be referred to as the work transition period (WTP).

(1) The exempt period starts the first day of the month in which the client receives the first pay from the new employment and continues through the next three benefit months, regardless if the job ends during the four-month period.

(2) To qualify for this disregard, the person shall not have earned more than \$1,200 in the 12 calendar months prior to the month in which the new job begins, the income must be reported timely in accordance with rule 441—76.10(249A), and the new job must have started after the date the application is filed. For purposes of this policy, the \$1,200 earnings limit applies to the gross amount of income without any allowance for exemptions, disregards, work deductions, diversions, or the costs of doing business used in determining net profit from any income test in rule 441—75.57(249A).

(3) If another new job or self-employment enterprise starts while a WTP is in progress, the exemption shall also be applied to earnings from the new source that are received during the original 4-month period, provided that the earnings were less than \$1,200 in the 12-month period before the month the other new job or self-employment enterprise begins.

(4) An individual is allowed the 4-month exemption period only once in a 12-month period. An additional 4-month exemption shall not be granted until the month after the previous 12-month period has expired.

(5) If a person whose income is considered enters the household, the new job must start after the date the person enters the home or after the person is reported in the home, whichever is later, in order for that person to qualify for the exemption.

(6) When a person living in the home whose income is not considered subsequently becomes an assistance unit member whose income is considered, the new job must start after the date of the change that causes the person's income to be considered in order for that person to qualify for the exemption.

(7) A person who begins new employment or self-employment that is intermittent in nature may qualify for the WTP. "Intermittent" includes, but is not limited to, working for a temporary agency that places the person in different job assignments on an as-needed or on-call basis, or self-employment from providing child care for one or more families. However, a person is not considered as starting new employment or self-employment each time intermittent employment restarts or changes such as when the same temporary agency places the person in a new assignment or a child care provider acquires another child care client.

75.57(8) *Treatment of income in excluded parent cases, stepparent cases, and underage parent cases.*

a. Treatment of income in excluded parent cases. A parent who is living in the home with the eligible children but whose needs are excluded from the eligible group is eligible for the 20 percent earned income deduction, child care expenses for children in the eligible group, the 50 percent work incentive deduction described at paragraphs 75.57(2) "a," "b," and "c," and diversions described at subrule 75.57(4), and shall be permitted to retain that part of the parent's income to meet the parent's needs as determined by the difference between the needs of the eligible group with the parent included and the needs of the eligible group with the parent excluded except as described at subrule 75.57(10). All remaining nonexempt income of the parent shall be applied against the needs of the eligible group. Excluded parents are subject to the earned income sanctions at subparagraphs 75.57(2) "d" (1) and (2). The 20 percent earned income deduction and child care expenses described at paragraphs 75.57(2) "a" and "b" shall not be allowed for sanctioned earnings. However, the 50 percent work incentive deduction as at paragraph 75.57(2) "c" and diversions at subrule 75.57(4) shall be allowed.