

441—81.4(249A) Arrangements with residents.

81.4(1) Reserved.

81.4(2) *Financial participation by resident.* A resident's payment for care may include any voluntary payments made by family members toward cost of care of the resident. The resident's client participation and medical payments from a third party shall be paid toward the total cost of care for the month before any state payment is made. The state will pay the balance of the cost of care for the remainder of the month. The facility shall make arrangements directly with the resident for payment of client participation.

81.4(3) *Personal needs account.* When a facility manages the personal needs funds of a resident, it shall establish and maintain a system of accounting for expenditures from the resident's personal needs funds. (See subrule 81.13(5)“c.”) The funds shall be deposited in a bank within the state of Iowa insured by FDIC. Expense for bank service charges for this account is an allowable expense under rule 441—81.6(249A) if the service cannot be obtained free of charge. The department shall charge back to the facility any maintenance item included in the computation of the audit cost that is charged to the resident's personal needs when the charge constitutes double payment. Unverifiable expenditures charged to personal needs accounts may be charged back to the facility. The accounting system is subject to audit by representatives of the department and shall meet the following criteria:

a. Upon admittance, a ledger sheet shall be credited with the resident's total incidental money on hand. Thereafter, the ledger shall be kept current on a monthly basis. The facility may combine the accounting with the disbursement section showing the date, amount given the resident, and the resident's signature. A separate ledger shall be maintained for each resident.

b. When something is purchased for the resident and is not a direct cash disbursement, each expenditure item in the ledger shall be supported by a signed, dated receipt. The receipt shall indicate the article furnished for the resident's benefit.

c. Personal funds shall only be turned over to the resident, the resident's guardian, or other persons selected by the resident. With the consent of the resident, when the resident is able and willing to give consent the administrator may turn over personal funds to a close relative or friend of the resident to purchase a particular item. A signed, dated receipt shall be required to be deposited in the resident's files.

d. The ledger and receipts for each resident shall be made available for periodic audits by an accredited department representative. Audit certification shall be made by the department's representative at the bottom of the ledger sheet. Supporting receipts may then be destroyed.

e. Upon a patient's death, a receipt shall be obtained from the next of kin, the resident's guardian, or the representative handling the funeral before releasing the balance of the personal needs funds. In the event there is no next of kin or guardian available and there are no outstanding funeral expenses, any funds shall revert to the department. In the event that an estate is opened, the department shall turn the funds over to the estate.

81.4(4) *Safeguarding personal property.* The facility shall safeguard the resident's personal possessions. Safeguarding shall include, but is not limited to:

a. Providing a method of identification of the resident's suitcases, clothing, and other personal effects, and listing these on an appropriate form attached to the resident's record at the time of admission. These records shall be kept current. Any personal effects released to a relative of the resident shall be covered by a signed receipt.

b. Providing adequate storage facilities for the resident's personal effects.

c. Ensuring that all mail is delivered unopened to the resident to whom it is addressed, except in those cases where the resident is too confused, as documented in the person's permanent medical record, to receive it, in which case the mail is held unopened for the resident's conservator or relatives. Mail may be opened by the facility in cases where the resident or relatives or guardian have given permission in writing for mail to be opened and read to the resident.

This rule is intended to implement Iowa Code sections 249A.2, 249A.3(2)“a,” and 249A.4.