

441—166.4 (249A) Requirements for initiatives. Grants are available only for quality improvement initiatives that are outside the scope of normal operations for the nursing facility or other applicant. Grants cannot be used as replacement funding for goods or services that the applicant already offers.

166.4(1) The applicant must be able to identify:

- a.* Areas in need of improvement, including staff education or training needs not available through current corporate or facility contract employment; and
- b.* Efficient uses of the quality improvement initiative grant to improve the quality of life or quality of care of nursing facility residents.

166.4(2) Grants may be awarded for:

- a.* Short-term quality improvement initiatives (three years or less), and
- b.* Initiatives with a longer term that involve collaborative efforts of state government and various stakeholders.

166.4(3) The applicant shall not submit a request for or receive a grant for the same type of initiative previously awarded a grant.

166.4(4) Except for a one-time initiative, grant awards shall be restricted to initiatives that will be self-sustaining once implemented. Costs to maintain the initiative may be considered allowable costs on the nursing facility's financial and statistical report, subject to 441—subrule 81.10(1) and rule 441—81.6(249A).

166.4(5) Quality improvement initiative grants are not available for the following:

- a.* General operations or administrative salaries.
- b.* Capital improvements, construction projects or other activities that would increase square footage or result in an increase in the assessed value of any property.
- c.* Facility maintenance activities intended to meet the minimum standards for nursing facilities set forth in 481—Chapter 61.
- d.* Goods or services for which the applicant or others are already obligated to pay.
- e.* Vendor payments and payroll obligations for a facility's normal operations or for fulfillment of state or federal requirements.
- f.* Costs related to travel, bonuses or other direct employee benefits.
- g.* Costs that are not specifically outlined in the applicant's grant application or are already included in the facility's cost report.
- h.* Projects, programs, goods or services that are unrelated to improving the quality of life or quality of care of nursing facility residents.