

**481—231.5(91D) Companionship services for the aged or infirm.** “Companionship services” means those services that provide fellowship, care, and protection for persons who, because of advanced age or physical or mental infirmity, cannot care for their own needs. The services may include household work related to the care of the aged or infirm person such as meal preparation, bed making, washing of clothes, and other similar services. They may also include the performance of general household work, provided that such work is incidental (i.e., does not exceed 20 percent of the total weekly hours worked). The term “companionship services” does not include services relating to the care and protection of the aged or infirm that require and are performed by trained personnel, as a registered or practical nurse. While trained personnel do not qualify as companions, this fact does not remove them from the category of covered domestic service employees when employed in or about a private household.

SOURCE: 29 CFR 552.6.

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