

441—93.11 (239B) Supportive payments. In order to facilitate successful participation, PROMISE JOBS may provide payment for the expenses listed in this rule. Participants shall submit Form 470-0510, Estimate of Cost, to initiate payments or change the amount of payment for expenses other than child care.

93.11(1) Eligibility. Participants are eligible for supportive payments needed for participation in activities in their FIA, subject to the limits in this chapter.

a. Applicants in a limited benefit plan who must complete significant contact with or action in regard to PROMISE JOBS for FIP eligibility to be considered, as described at 441—paragraphs 41.24(8)“*a*” and “*d*,” are eligible for expense payments for the 20 hours of activity. However, PROMISE JOBS services and supportive payments are only available when it appears the applicant will otherwise be eligible for FIP.

b. Applicants who have received 60 months of FIP are eligible for PROMISE JOBS services and payments under the circumstances described at 441—subrule 41.30(3).

93.11(2) Child care. Payments for child care shall be issued through the child care assistance program as described at 441—Chapter 170.

a. Payment shall be provided for child care if:

- (1) Care is needed for participation in any PROMISE JOBS activity other than orientation,
- (2) Payment is not specifically prohibited elsewhere in these rules, and
- (3) Payment is not available from another source.

b. Payment shall be issued to the child care provider after the service has been received, as described in 441—subrule 170.4(7).

93.11(3) Transportation. Participants may receive a transportation payment for each day that transportation is needed for participation in a PROMISE JOBS activity. Transportation payments shall be determined according to the circumstances of each participant. If necessary, payments shall cover transportation for the participant and child from the participant’s home to the child care provider and to the PROMISE JOBS site or activity.

a. Exclusions.

(1) A transportation payment is not available for orientation or for assessment activities that occur on the same day as orientation.

(2) A transportation payment is not available for employment. Participants who are employed shall be entitled to the work expense deduction described at 441—paragraph 41.27(2)“*a*” to cover transportation costs associated with employment.

b. Rate of payment. Payments shall not exceed the rate that the provider would charge a private individual.

(1) Public transportation. For those who use public transportation, the payment shall be based on the normally scheduled days of participation in the PROMISE JOBS activity for the period covered by the payment, using the rate schedules of the local transit authority to the greatest advantage, including use of weekly and monthly passes or other rate reduction opportunities.

(2) Private transportation. For participants who use a privately owned motor vehicle or who hire private transportation, the transportation payment shall be based on a formula which uses the normally scheduled days of participation in the PROMISE JOBS activity for the period covered by the payment multiplied by the participant’s anticipated daily round-trip miles and then multiplied by the mileage rate of 30 cents per mile.

c. Special transportation needs. Participants who require, due to a mental or physical disability, a mode of transportation other than a vehicle they operate themselves shall be eligible for payment of a supplemental transportation payment when documented actual transportation costs are greater than transportation payments provided under these rules and transportation is not available from another source.

(1) Medical evidence. To be eligible for a supplemental payment, the participant must provide medical evidence of the need for an alternate mode of transportation due to disability or incapacity. EXCEPTION: A finding of eligibility for social security benefits or supplemental security income benefits based on disability or blindness is acceptable proof of disability. The evidence must be from a qualified medical or mental health professional or the state rehabilitation agency. The evidence may be submitted either by letter from the qualified medical or mental health professional or on Form 470-0447, Report on Incapacity.

(2) Resources for examination. When an examination is required and other resources are not available to meet the expense of the examination, the PROMISE JOBS worker shall authorize the examination and submit a claim for payment on Form 470-0502, Authorization for Examination and Claim for Payment.

(3) Payment rates. Actual costs of transportation by a public or private agency shall be allowed. Costs of transportation provided by private automobile shall be allowed as described in subparagraph 93.11(3)“b”(2).

d. Issuance of payments. The transportation payment shall be issued before the first scheduled day of participation in an activity. For participants in the same activity for more than one month, transportation payments shall be issued before the first day of the month of scheduled participation except as described below.

(1) Transportation payments for assessment shall be issued in advance in weekly increments, with payments for the second or third week of assessment being issued as soon as it is determined that the participant will be required to participate in the second or third week of assessment.

(2) Payments for the third and subsequent months of an ongoing activity shall not be authorized before receipt of time and attendance verification, as described at subrule 93.10(2), for the month before the issuance month. EXAMPLE: A transportation payment for June, normally issued after May 15 to be available to the participant by June 1, will not be authorized until time and attendance verification for the month of April has been received in the PROMISE JOBS office.

(3) The amounts of payments for the third and subsequent months of an ongoing activity shall be adjusted by subtracting from normally scheduled days any number of days which represents a difference between the number of scheduled days of activity in the month before the issuance month and the number of actual days attended in that month. EXAMPLE: A transportation payment is issued in May based on 16 scheduled days of participation for June. The participant attends only 14 days of the activity. When preparing to issue the August transportation allowance, the worker subtracts two days from the normally scheduled August activities to calculate the payment. If ten days of participation are scheduled, the transportation payment issued in July for August is calculated using eight days.

(4) Because adjustment for actual attendance is not possible in the last two months of an ongoing activity, transportation payments for the last two months of an ongoing activity shall be subject to transportation overpayment provisions of paragraph 93.11(3)“e.”

EXCEPTION: A transportation overpayment does not occur for any month in which the participant leaves the PROMISE JOBS activity in order to enter employment.

e. Transportation overpayment. Payment for transportation shall be considered an overpayment subject to recovery in accordance with rule 441—93.12(239B) in the following instances:

(1) When the participant attends none of the scheduled days of participation in a PROMISE JOBS activity, the entire transportation payment shall be considered an overpayment. Recovery of the overpayment shall be initiated when it becomes clear that subsequent participation in the activity is not possible for reasons such as, but not limited to, family investment program ineligibility, establishment of a limited benefit plan, or exemption from PROMISE JOBS participation requirements.

(2) When the participant fails to attend 75 percent of the normally scheduled days of participation in either of the last two months of an ongoing PROMISE JOBS activity or in any transportation payment period of an activity which has not been used for payment adjustment as described at paragraph

93.11(3)“d,” an overpayment is considered to have occurred. The amount to recover shall be the difference between the amount for the actual number of days attended and the amount for 75 percent of normally scheduled days.

93.11(4) *Training and education expenses.* Participants shall use PROMISE JOBS payments that they receive to pay authorized expenses.

a. Classroom training. PROMISE JOBS payments for classroom training are limited as follows:

(1) Tuition payments for high school or high school equivalency completion, ABE, ESL, or short-term training programs of 29 weeks or less shall not exceed the rate charged by the Iowa community college located nearest the participant’s residence which offers a course or program comparable to the one in which the participant plans to enroll. If an Iowa community college does not offer a comparable program, the maximum tuition rate payment shall not exceed the Iowa resident rate charged by the out-of-state area school located nearest the participant’s residence.

(2) A standard payment for basic school supplies of \$10 per term or actual cost, whichever is higher, shall be allowed for those participants who request it. A claim for actual costs higher than \$10 must be verified by receipts.

(3) A per diem payment of \$10 for living costs during a practicum shall be allowed when the practicum is required by the curriculum of the training facility, would require a round-trip commuting time of three hours or more per day, and is not available closer to the participant’s home. If practicum earnings or other assistance is available to meet practicum living costs, no payment shall be made.

(4) Payments may be authorized to meet the costs of travel required for certification and testing, not to exceed the transportation payment as described at subrule 93.11(3) and the current state employee reimbursement rate for meals and lodging.

(5) Funds may not be used to purchase supplies to enable a participant to begin a private business.

(6) No payment shall be made for jewelry, pictures, rental of graduation gowns, elective courses that require expenditures for field trips or special equipment, such as photography or art supplies, or other items that are not required to complete training for a vocational goal.

b. Retroactive payments. Retroactive payments for transportation and allowable direct education costs shall be allowed only under the following conditions:

(1) If plan approval or removal from a waiting list occurs after the start of the term due to administrative delay or worker delay, payments shall be approved retroactive to the start of the term for which the plan is approved or removal from the waiting list is authorized. If the participant has already paid costs with private resources, the participant shall be reimbursed.

(2) If plan approval is delayed due to the fault of the participant, payment eligibility shall begin with the first day of the month during which the plan is approved or the month in which the participant is removed from a waiting list as described at paragraph 93.4(4)“d,” whichever is later. In this instance, there shall be no reimbursement for costs already paid by the participant.

c. Receipts. Participants shall furnish receipts for expenditures that they pay, except for transportation payments. Failure to provide receipts will preclude additional payments. Receipts may be requested for payments paid directly to the training provider if the PROMISE JOBS worker determines it is appropriate.

d. Payments directly to facility. PROMISE JOBS is authorized to provide payment for expenses allowable under these rules to the training facility for the educational expenses of tuition and fees and books and supplies which are provided by the facility and billed to the PROMISE JOBS participant. Payment may also be made to the participant in those situations where payment to the participant is determined to be appropriate by the PROMISE JOBS worker.

93.11(5) *Other expenses.*

a. Birth certificates. PROMISE JOBS funds shall be used to pay costs of obtaining a birth certificate when the birth certificate is needed in order for the participant to complete the workforce development registration process described in subrule 93.3(6).

b. Required clothing and equipment. A participant may receive up to a limit of \$100 per work-site assignment for clothing or equipment if required by the work experience site and not covered by the sponsor.

c. Workers' compensation. The department of human services shall provide workers' compensation coverage for all PROMISE JOBS work experience participants.

d. Workforce Investment Act. PROMISE JOBS funds may also be used to pay expenses for PROMISE JOBS participants enrolled in federal Workforce Investment Act (WIA) funded services or activities when those expenses are allowable under these rules.

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