

441—54.3(249) Payment for residential care facilities. Payments for privately operated residential care facilities will be made at the maximum per diem rate in 441—subrule 52.1(3). Non-privately operated facilities wishing to participate in the program shall submit a Financial and Statistical Report, Form 470-0030, to the department. The reports shall be based on the following rules.

54.3(1) Failure to maintain records. Failure to adequately maintain fiscal records, including census records, medical charts, ledgers, journals, tax returns, canceled checks, source documents, invoices, and audit reports by or for a facility may result in the penalties specified in subrule 54.8(1).

54.3(2) Accounting procedures. Financial information shall be based on that appearing in the audited financial statement. Adjustments to convert to the accrual basis of accounting shall be made when the records are maintained on other accounting basis.

54.3(3) Submission of reports. The report shall be received by the Iowa Medicaid enterprise provider cost audit and rate setting unit no later than three months after the close of the facility's established fiscal year. If the residential care facility is associated with a nursing facility, the cost report shall be due no later than five months after the close of the provider's reporting year.

a. The financial and statistical report shall be submitted in an electronic format approved by the department.

b. The submission shall include a working trial balance that corresponds to all financial data contained on the cost report. The working trial balance must provide sufficient detail to enable the Iowa Medicaid enterprise provider cost audit and rate setting unit to reconcile accounts reported on the general ledger to those on the financial and statistical report. For reporting costs that are not directly assigned to the residential care facility in the working trial balance, an allocation method must be identified for each line, including the statistics used in the calculation. Reports submitted without a working trial balance shall be considered incomplete, and the facility shall be subject to the rate reductions set forth in paragraph 54.3(3) "d."

c. If the financial statements have been compiled, reviewed or audited by an outside firm, a copy of the compilation, review or audit, including notes, for the reporting period shall be included with the submission of the financial and statistical report.

d. Failure to timely submit the complete report shall reduce payment to 75 percent of the current rate.

(1) The reduced rate shall be effective the first day of the fourth month following the facility's fiscal year end and shall remain in effect until the first day of the month after the delinquent report is received by the Iowa Medicaid enterprise provider cost audit and rate setting unit.

(2) The reduced rate shall be paid for no longer than three months, after which time no further payments shall be made until the first day of the month after the delinquent report is received by the Iowa Medicaid enterprise provider cost audit and rate setting unit.

e. Amended reports. The department, in its sole discretion, may reopen a review of a financial and statistical report at any time. No other entity or person has the right to request that the department or its contractor reopen a review of a financial and statistical report, or submit an amended financial and statistical report for review by the department, after the facility is notified of its per diem payment rate following a review of a financial and statistical report.

f. When a residential care facility continues to include in the total costs an item or items which had in a prior period been removed through an adjustment made by the department or its contractor, the contractor shall recommend to the department that the per diem be reduced to 75 percent of the current payment rate for the entire quarter beginning the first day of the fourth month after the facility's fiscal year end. If the adjustment has been contested and is still in the appeals process, the facility may include the cost, but must include sufficient detail so the Iowa Medicaid enterprise provider cost audit and rate setting unit can determine if a similar adjustment is needed in the current period. The department may, after considering the seriousness of the offense, make the reduction.

g. Nothing in this subrule relieves a facility of its obligation to immediately inform the department that the facility has retained Medicaid funds to which the facility is not entitled as a result of any cost report process. A facility shall notify the Iowa Medicaid enterprise when the facility determines that funds have been incorrectly paid or when an overpayment has been detected.

54.3(4) *Payment at new rate.* When a new rate is established, payment at the new rate shall be effective with services rendered as of the first day of the month in which the report was received by the department of human services. Adjustments shall be included in the payment the third month after the receipt of the report.

54.3(5) *Accrual basis.* Facilities not using the accrual basis of accounting shall adjust recorded amounts to the accrual basis. Records of cash receipts and disbursements shall be adjusted to reflect accruals of income and expense.

54.3(6) *Census of public assistance recipients.* Census figures of public assistance recipients shall be obtained on the last day of the month ending the reporting period.

54.3(7) *Patient days.* In determining in-patient days, a patient day is that period of service rendered a patient between the census taking hours on two successive days, the day of discharge being counted only when the patient was admitted that same day.

54.3(8) *Opinion of accountant.* The department may require that an opinion of a certified public accountant or public accountant accompany the report when adjustments made to prior reports indicate disregard of the certification and reporting instructions.

54.3(9) *Calculating patient days.* When calculating patient days, facilities shall use an accumulation method.

a. Census information shall be based on a patient status at midnight each day. A patient whose status changes from one class to another shall be shown as discharged from the previous status and admitted to the new status on the same day.

b. When a recipient is on a reserved bed status and the department of human services is paying on a per diem basis for the holding of a bed, or any day a bed is reserved for a public assistance or nonpublic assistance resident and a per diem rate for the bed is charged to any party, reserved days shall be included in the total census figures for in-resident days.

54.3(10) *Revenues.* Revenues shall be reported as recorded in the general books and records. Expense recoveries credited to expense accounts shall not be reclassified in order to be reflected as revenues.

a. Routine daily services shall represent the established charge for daily care. Routine daily services are those services which include room, board, and such services as supervision, feeding, and similar services.

b. Revenue not related to resident care shall be applied in reduction of the related expense.

c. Investment income adjustment is necessary only when interest expense is incurred, and only to the extent of the interest expense.

d. Accounts receivable charged off or provision for uncollectible accounts shall be reported as a deduction from gross revenue.

54.3(11) *Limitation of expenses.* Certain expenses that are not normally incurred in providing resident care shall be eliminated or limited according to the following rules.

a. Federal and state income taxes are considered in computing the fee for services for proprietary institutions.

b. Fees paid directors and nonworking officer's salaries are not allowed as reimbursable costs.

c. Bad debts are not an allowable expense.

d. Charity allowances and courtesy allowances are not an allowable expense.

e. Personal travel and entertainment are not allowable as reimbursable costs. Certain expenses such as rental or depreciation of a vehicle and expenses of travel which include both business and personal costs shall be prorated. Amounts which appear to be excessive may be limited after consideration of the specific circumstances. Records shall be maintained to substantiate the indicated charges.

(1) Commuter travel by the owner(s), owner-administrator(s), administrator, nursing director or any other employee is not an allowable cost (from private residence to facility and return to residence).

(2) The expense of one car or one van or both designated for use in transporting patients shall be an allowable cost. All expenses shall be documented by a sales slip, invoice or other document setting forth the designated vehicle as well as the charges incurred for the expenses to be allowable.

(3) Each facility which supplies transportation services as defined in Iowa Code section 324A.1, subsection 1, shall provide current documentation of compliance with or exemption from public transit coordination requirements as found in Iowa Code chapter 324A and 761—Chapter 910 of the department of transportation rules at the time of annual contract renewal. Failure to cooperate in obtaining or in providing the required documentation of compliance or exemption after receipt from the Iowa department of transportation, public transit division, shall result in disallowance of vehicle costs and other costs associated with transporting residents.

(4) Expenses related to association business meetings, limited to individual members of the association who are members of a national affiliate, and expenses associated with workshops, symposiums, and meetings which provide administrators or department heads with hourly credits required to comply with continuing education requirements for licensing, are allowable expenses.

(5) Travel of an emergency nature required for supplies, repairs of machinery or equipment, or building is an allowable expense.

(6) Travel for which a patient must pay is not an allowable expense.

(7) Allowable expenses in subparagraphs (2) to (5) above are limited to 6 percent of total administrative expense.

f. Entertainment provided by the facility for participation of all residents who are physically and mentally able to participate is an allowable expense except entertainment for which the patient is required to pay is not an allowable expense.

g. Loan acquisition fees and standby fees are not considered part of the current expense of patient care, but should be amortized over the life of the related loan.

h. A reasonable allowance of compensation for services of owners is an allowable cost, provided the services are actually performed in a necessary function. Adequate time records shall be maintained. Adjustments may be necessary to provide compensation as an expense for nonsalaried working proprietors and partners. Members of religious orders serving under an agreement with their administrative office are allowed salaries paid persons performing comparable services. When maintenance is provided these persons by the facility, consideration shall be given to the value of these benefits and this amount shall be deducted from the amount otherwise allowed for a person not receiving maintenance.

(1) Compensation means the total benefit received by the owner or immediate relative for services rendered. Compensation includes all remuneration, paid currently or accrued, for managerial, administrative, professional and other services rendered during the period. Compensation shall include all items that should be reflected on IRS Form W-2, Wage and Tax Statement, including, but not limited to, salaries, wages, and fringe benefits; the cost of assets and services received; and deferred compensation. Fringe benefits shall include, but are not limited to, costs of leave, employee insurance, pensions and unemployment plans. If the facility's fiscal year end does not correlate to the period of the W-2, a reconciliation between the latest issued W-2 and current compensation shall be required to be disclosed to the Iowa Medicaid enterprise provider cost audit and rate setting unit. Employer portions of payroll taxes associated with amounts of compensation that exceed the maximum allowed compensation shall be considered unallowable for reimbursement. All compensation paid to related parties, including payroll taxes, shall be required to be reported to the Iowa Medicaid enterprise provider cost audit and rate setting unit with the submission of the financial and statistical report. If it is determined that there have been undisclosed related-party salaries, the cost report shall be determined to have been submitted incomplete and the facility shall be subject to the penalties set forth in paragraph 54.3(3) "d."

(2) Reasonableness requires that the compensation allowance be such an amount as would ordinarily be paid for comparable services by comparable facilities, and depends upon the facts and circumstances of each case.

(3) Necessary requires that the function be such that had the owner not rendered the services, the facility would have had to employ another person to perform the service, and be pertinent to the operation and sound conduct of the facility.

(4) The maximum allowed compensation for the administrator is \$1,250 per month plus \$13 per month per bed licensed capacity for each bed over 60 not to exceed \$1,775 per month.

(5) The maximum allowed compensation for employees as set forth in subparagraph 54.3(11) "h"(4) shall be adjusted by the percentage of the average work week that the employee devoted to business activity at the residential care facility for the fiscal year of the financial and statistical report. The time devoted to the business shall be disclosed on the financial and statistical report and shall correspond to any amounts reported to the Medicare fiscal intermediary. If an owner's or immediate relative's time is allocated to the facility from another entity (e.g., home office), the compensation limit shall be adjusted by the percentage of total costs of the entity allocated to the facility. In no case shall the amount of salary for one employee allocated to multiple facilities be more than the maximum allowed compensation for that employee had the salary been allocated to only one facility.

i. Management fees shall be computed on the same basis as the administrator's salary but shall have the amount paid the resident administrator deducted. When the parent company can separately identify accounting costs, such costs are allowed.

j. Depreciation based upon tax cost using only the straight-line method of computation, recognizing the estimated normal life of the asset, may be included as a resident cost. When accelerated methods of computation have been elected for income tax purposes, an adjustment shall be made. For change of ownership, refer to 54.3(12) "b" and "c."

k. Necessary and proper interest on both current and capital indebtedness is an allowable cost.

(1) Interest is the cost incurred for the use of borrowed funds. Interest on current indebtedness is the cost incurred for funds borrowed for a relatively short term. Interest on capital indebtedness is the cost incurred for funds borrowed for capital purposes.

(2) "Necessary" requires that the interest be incurred on a loan made to satisfy a financial need of the provider, be incurred on a loan made for a purpose reasonably related to resident care.

(3) "Proper" requires that interest be incurred at a rate not in excess of what a prudent borrower would have had to pay in the money market on the date the loan was made, and be paid to a lender not related through control or ownership to the borrowing organization.

(4) Interest on loans is allowable as cost at a rate not in excess of the amount an investor could receive on funds invested in the locality on the date the loan was made.

(5) Interest is an allowable cost when the general fund of a provider borrows from a donor-restricted fund, a funded depreciation account of the provider, or the provider's qualified pension fund, and pays interest to such fund, or when a provider operated by members of a religious order borrows from the order.

(6) When funded depreciation is used for purposes other than improvement, replacement or expansion of facilities or equipment related to resident care, allowable interest expense is reduced to adjust for offsets not made in prior years for earnings on funded depreciation. A similar treatment will be accorded deposits in the provider's qualified pension fund where the deposits are used for other than the purpose for which the fund was established.

l. Costs applicable to supplies furnished by a related party or organization are a reimbursable cost when included at the cost to the related party or organization. The cost shall not exceed the price of comparable supplies that could be purchased elsewhere.

(1) Related means that the facility, to a significant extent, is associated with or has control of or is controlled by the organization furnishing the services, facilities, or supplies.

(2) Common ownership exists when an individual or individuals possess significant ownership or equity in the facility and the institution or organization serving the provider.

(3) Control exists where an individual or an organization has power, directly or indirectly, to significantly influence or direct the actions or policies of an organization or institution.

(4) When the facility demonstrates by convincing evidence that the supplying organization is a bona fide separate organization; that a substantial part of its business activity of the type carried on with the facility is transacted with others and there is an open competitive market for the type of services, facilities, or supplies furnished by the organization; that the services, facilities, or supplies are those which commonly are obtained by similar institutions from other organizations and are not a basic element of resident care ordinarily furnished directly to residents by such institutions; and that the charge to the facility is in line with the charge for these services, facilities, or supplies in the open market and no more

than the charge made under comparable circumstances to others by the organization for these services, facilities, or supplies, the charges by the supplier shall be allowable costs.

m. When the operator of a participating facility rents from a nonrelated party, the amount of rent or lease expense allowable on the cost report shall be based on either of the following methods at the discretion of the operator:

(1) Actual rent expense or portion thereof so that total property cost does not exceed the median property cost of all participating facilities as adjusted annually based on cost reports on file with the department as of June 30 each year.

(2) The cost of the facility amortized over its expected useful life plus other owner's expenses and a reasonable rate of return, not to exceed actual rent payments.

When the operator of a participating facility rents or leases the building from a related party, the amount of rent or lease expense allowable on the cost report shall be no more than the amortized cost of the facility plus other owner's expenses.

Whenever owner's costs are used as the basis for allowable rental costs, the owner must be willing to provide documentation of these costs.

n. Reasonable legal, accounting, consulting and other professional fees, including association dues, are allowable costs if the fees are directly related to patient care. Legal, accounting, consulting and other professional fees, including association dues, described by the following are not considered to be patient-related and therefore are not allowable expenses:

(1) Any fees or portion of fees used or designated for lobbying.

(2) Nonrefundable and unused retainers.

(3) Fees paid by the facility for the benefit of employees.

(4) Legal fees, expenses related to expert witnesses, accounting fees and other consulting fees incurred in an administrative or judicial proceeding. **EXCEPTION:** Facilities may report the reasonable costs incurred in an administrative or judicial proceeding if all of the following conditions are met. Recognition of any costs will be in the fiscal period when a final determination in the administrative or judicial proceeding is made.

1. The costs have actually been incurred and paid,

2. The costs are reasonable expenditures for the services obtained,

3. The facility has made a good-faith effort to settle the disputed issue before the completion of the administrative or judicial proceeding, and

4. The facility prevails on the disputed issue.

o. Penalties or fines imposed by federal or state agencies are not allowable expenses.

p. Penalties, fines or fees imposed for insufficient funds or delinquent payments are not allowable expenses.

54.3(12) Termination or change of owner.

a. A participating facility contemplating termination of participation or negotiating a change of ownership shall provide the department of human services with at least 60 days prior notice. A transfer of ownership or operation terminates the participation agreement. A new owner or operator shall establish that the facility meets the conditions for participation and enter into a new agreement. The person responsible for transfer of ownership or for termination is responsible for submission of a final financial and statistical report through the date of the transfer. No payment to the new owner shall be made until formal notification is received. The following situations are defined as transfer of ownership:

(1) In the case of a partnership which is a party to an agreement to participate in the residential care program, the removal, addition, or substitution of an individual for a partner in the association, in the absence of an express statement to the contrary, dissolves the old partnership and creates a new partnership which is not a party to the previously executed agreement and a transfer of ownership has occurred.

(2) When a participating nursing home is a sole proprietorship, a transfer of title and property to another party constitutes a change of ownership.

(3) When the facility is a corporation, neither a transfer of corporate stock nor a merger of one or more corporations with the participating corporation surviving is a transfer of ownership. A

consolidation of two or more corporations resulting in the creation of a new corporate entity constitutes a change of ownership.

(4) When a participating facility is leased, in whole or in part, a transfer of ownership is considered to have taken place.

b. Upon change of ownership, the new owner or operator shall furnish the department with an appraisal made by a department-approved appraiser. The appraisal shall be based on market values.

c. The new owner or operator shall either continue the previous owner's depreciation schedule or set up a new depreciation schedule using the amount obtained by deducting the depreciation expense incurred since July 1, 1980, from the value of depreciable real property. The value will be the sale price or appraisal value, whichever is less.

54.3(13) *Payment to new home.* A new home for which cost has not been established shall receive the prevailing maximum allowable cost ceiling. At the end of three months' operation a financial and statistical report shall be submitted. Subsequent reports shall be submitted from the first day to the last day of the fiscal year.

54.3(14) *Payment to the new owner.* An existing facility with a new owner shall continue with the previous owner's per diem rate until a new financial and statistical report has been submitted and a new rate established. The facility shall submit a report for the period from beginning of actual operation to the end of the fiscal year.

54.3(15) *Basis for reimbursement and upper limits.* The cost-related per diem rate is calculated by computing the per diem allowable costs from the financial and statistical report, adding an inflation factor on an annual basis to all costs except interest to adjust for inflation, and adding an incentive factor of 52 cents for nonprofit facilities and 70 cents for proprietary facilities. The inflation factor shall not exceed the amount by which the Consumer Price Index for all urban consumers increased during the preceding calendar year ending December 31.

A facility's actual allowable costs when combined with the inflation and incentive factors must not exceed the upper limit established in 441—subrule 52.1(3).

This rule is intended to implement Iowa Code section 249.12 and 1992 Iowa Acts, chapter 1241, section 33, subsection 3.

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