



Iowa Department of Human Services

Terry E. Branstad
Governor

Kim Reynolds
Lt. Governor

Charles M. Palmer
Director

December 4, 2015

GENERAL LETTER NO. 8-J-96

ISSUED BY: Bureau of Financial, Health and Work Supports
Division of Adult, Children and Family Services

SUBJECT: Employees' Manual, Title 8, Chapter J, *MEDICALLY NEEDY*, page 86a,
revised.

Summary

Chapter 8-J is revised to reflect the change in the amount of the medical expense deduction for residential care facility (RCF) personal care services from \$711.36 per month to \$744.50. The daily rate is changed from \$23.40 to \$24.49.

Effective Date

December 1, 2015

Material Superseded

This material replaces Employees' Manual, Title 8, Chapter J, page 86a, dated July 3, 2015.

Additional Information

Refer questions about this general letter to your area income maintenance administrator.

Personal Care Services in a Residential Care Facility

Legal reference: 441 IAC 75.1(35)“g”(2) 2

In addition to food and shelter, residents of residential care facilities may also receive personal care services from the facility. Any resident of a licensed residential care facility qualifies for this medical expense deduction. Verify the client’s residence with the facility.

“Personal care services” include assistance with activities of daily living, such as preparation of a special diet, personal hygiene and bathing, dressing, ambulation, toilet use, transferring, eating, and managing medication. For purposes of the Medically Needy coverage group, these personal care services do meet the definition of a necessary medical and remedial service.

The medical expenses deduction for personal care services is based on the average per day health care costs for a member in a residential care facility, which currently is \$24.49, or \$744.50 per month.

Allow \$744.50 per month for the cost of medically necessary personal care services provided in a licensed residential care facility as a medical expense deduction from spenddown. If a client is in the residential care facility for only part of the month, prorate expenses for the medical expense deduction, allowing \$24.49 per day.

Do not allow any facility charges for maintenance to meet spenddown, because a residential care facility is not classified as a medical institution.

Acupuncture Services

Legal reference: 441 IAC 75.1(3)“g”(2)4

Allow acupuncture services that are necessary medical and remedial service for spenddown. Medicaid does not cover acupuncture services.