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LEXIS NEXIS (R) IOWA ANNOTATED STATUTES

\*\*\* THIS DOCUMENT IS CURRENT THROUGH THE 2006 EDITION (2006 LEGISLATION) \*\*\*  
\*\*\* ANNOTATIONS CURRENT THROUGH JUNE 1, 2007 \*\*\*

TITLE VI. HUMAN SERVICES  
SUBTITLE 6. CHILDREN AND FAMILIES  
CHAPTER 249A. MEDICAL ASSISTANCE

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*Iowa Code § 249A.3 (2006)*

**Legislative Alert:** LEXSEE 2007 Ia. HF 909 -- See sections 41, 42, 43 and 124.

249A.3 Eligibility.

The extent of and the limitations upon eligibility for assistance under this chapter is prescribed by this section, subject to federal requirements, and by laws appropriating funds for assistance provided pursuant to this chapter.

1. Medical assistance shall be provided to, or on behalf of, any individual or family residing in the state of Iowa, including those residents who are temporarily absent from the state, who:

*a.* Is a recipient of federal supplemental security income or who would be eligible for federal supplemental security income if living in their own home.

*b.* Is an individual who is eligible for the family investment program or is an individual who would be eligible for unborn child payments under the family investment program, as authorized by Title IV-A of the federal Social Security Act, if the family investment program provided for unborn child payments during the entire pregnancy.

*c.* Was a recipient of one of the previous categorical assistance programs as of December 31, 1973, and would continue to meet the eligibility requirements for one of the previous categorical assistance programs as the requirements existed on that date.

*d.* Is a child up to one year of age who was born on or after October 1, 1984, to a woman receiving medical assistance on the date of the child's birth, who continues to be a member of the mother's household, and whose mother continues to receive medical assistance.

*e.* Is a pregnant woman whose pregnancy has been medically verified and who qualifies under either of the following:

(1) The woman would be eligible for cash assistance under the family investment program, if the child were born and living with the woman in the month of payment.

(2) The woman meets the income and resource requirements of the family investment program, provided the unborn child is considered a member of the household, and the woman's family is treated as though deprivation exists.

*f.* Is a child who is less than seven years of age and who meets the income and resource requirements of the family investment program.

*g.* (1) Is a child who is one through five years of age as prescribed by the federal Omnibus Budget Reconciliation Act of 1989, Pub. L. No. 101-239, § 6401, whose income is not more than one hundred thirty-three percent of the federal poverty level as defined by the most recently revised poverty income guidelines published by the United States department of health and human services.

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(2) Is a child who has attained six years of age but has not attained nineteen years of age, whose income is not more than one hundred thirty-three percent of the federal poverty level, as defined by the most recently revised poverty income guidelines published by the United States department of health and human services.

*h.* Is a woman who, while pregnant, meets eligibility requirements for assistance under the federal Social Security Act, section 1902(1), and continues to meet the requirements except for income. The woman is eligible to receive assistance until sixty days after the date pregnancy ends.

*i.* Is a pregnant woman who is determined to be presumptively eligible by a health care provider qualified under the federal Omnibus Budget Reconciliation Act of 1986, Pub. L. No. 99-509, § 9407. The woman is eligible for ambulatory prenatal care assistance until the last day of the month following the month of the presumptive eligibility determination. If the department receives the woman's medical assistance application by the last day of the month following the month of the presumptive eligibility determination, the woman is eligible for ambulatory prenatal care assistance until the department actually determines the woman's eligibility or ineligibility for medical assistance. The costs of services provided during the presumptive eligibility period shall be paid by the medical assistance program for those persons who are determined to be ineligible through the regular eligibility determination process.

*j.* Is a pregnant woman or infant less than one year of age whose income does not exceed the federally prescribed percentage of the poverty level in accordance with the federal Medicare Catastrophic Coverage Act of 1988, Pub. L. No. 100-360, § 302.

*k.* Is a pregnant woman or infant whose income is more than the limit prescribed under the federal Medicare Catastrophic Coverage Act of 1988, Pub. L. No. 100-360, § 302, but not more than two hundred percent of the federal poverty level as defined by the most recently revised poverty income guidelines published by the United States department of health and human services.

*l.* Is an infant whose income is not more than two hundred percent of the federal poverty level, as defined by the most recently revised income guidelines published by the United States department of health and human services.

*m.* Is a child for whom adoption assistance or foster care maintenance payments are paid under Title IV-E of the federal Social Security Act.

*n.* Is an individual or family who is ineligible for the family investment program because of requirements that do not apply under Title XIX of the federal Social Security Act.

*o.* Was a federal supplemental security income or a state supplementary assistance recipient, as defined by section 249.1, and a recipient of federal social security benefits at one time since August 1, 1977, and would be eligible for federal supplemental security income or state supplementary assistance but for the increases due to the cost of living in federal social security benefits since the last date of concurrent eligibility.

*p.* Is an individual whose spouse is deceased and who is ineligible for federal supplemental security income or state supplementary assistance, as defined by section 249.1, due to the elimination of the actuarial reduction formula for federal social security benefits under the federal Social Security Act and subsequent cost of living increases.

*q.* Is an individual who is at least sixty years of age and is ineligible for federal supplemental security income or state supplementary assistance, as defined by section 249.1, because of receipt of social security widow or widower benefits and is not eligible for federal Medicare, part A coverage.

*r.* Is an individual with a disability, and is at least eighteen years of age, who receives parental social security benefits under the federal Social Security Act and is not eligible for federal supplemental security income or state supplementary assistance, as defined by section 249.1, because of the receipt of the social security benefits.

*s.* Is an individual who is no longer eligible for the family investment program due to earned income. The department shall provide transitional medical assistance to the individual for the maximum period allowed for federal financial participation under federal law.

*t.* Is an individual who is no longer eligible for the family investment program due to the receipt of child or spousal support. The department shall provide transitional medical assistance to the individual for the maximum period allowed for federal financial participation under federal law.

2. Medical assistance may also, within the limits of available funds and in accordance with section 249A.4, subsection 1, be provided to, or on behalf of, other individuals and families who are not excluded under subsection 5 of this

section and whose incomes and resources are insufficient to meet the cost of necessary medical care and services in accordance with the following order of priorities:

*a.* As allowed under 42 U.S.C. § 1396a(a)(10)(A)(ii)(XIII), individuals with disabilities, who are less than sixty-five years of age, who are members of families whose income is less than two hundred fifty percent of the most recently revised official poverty guidelines published by the United States department of health and human services for the family, who have earned income and who are eligible for medical assistance or additional medical assistance under this section if earnings are disregarded. As allowed by 42 U.S.C. § 1396a(r)(2), unearned income shall also be disregarded in determining whether an individual is eligible for assistance under this paragraph. For the purposes of determining the amount of an individual's resources under this paragraph and as allowed by 42 U.S.C. § 1396a(r)(2), a maximum of ten thousand dollars of available resources shall be disregarded, and any additional resources held in a retirement account, in a medical savings account, or in any other account approved under rules adopted by the department shall also be disregarded. Individuals eligible for assistance under this paragraph, whose individual income exceeds one hundred fifty percent of the official poverty guidelines published by the United States department of health and human services for an individual, shall pay a premium. The amount of the premium shall be based on a sliding fee schedule adopted by rule of the department and shall be based on a percentage of the individual's income. The maximum premium payable by an individual whose income exceeds one hundred fifty percent of the official poverty guidelines shall be commensurate with the cost of state employees' group health insurance in this state.

*b.* As provided under the federal Breast and Cervical Cancer Prevention and Treatment Act of 2000, Pub. L. No. 106-354, women who meet all of the following criteria:

- (1) Are not described in 42 U.S.C. § 1396a(a)(10)(A)(i).
- (2) Have not attained age sixty-five.

(3) Have been screened for breast and cervical cancer under the United States centers for disease control and prevention breast and cervical cancer early detection program established under 42 U.S.C. § 300k et seq., in accordance with the requirements of 42 U.S.C. § 300n, and need treatment for breast or cervical cancer. A woman is considered screened for breast and cervical cancer under this subparagraph if the woman is screened by any provider or entity, and the state grantee of the United States centers for disease control and prevention funds under Title XV of the federal Public Health Services Act has elected to include screening activities by that provider or entity as screening activities pursuant to Title XV of the federal Public Health Services Act. This screening includes but is not limited to breast or cervical cancer screenings or related diagnostic services provided by family planning or community health centers and breast cancer screenings funded by the Susan G. Komen foundation which are provided to women who meet the eligibility requirements established by the state grantee of the United States centers for disease control and prevention funds under Title XV of the federal Public Health Services Act.

- (4) Are not otherwise covered under creditable coverage as defined in 42 U.S.C. § 300gg(c).

A woman who meets the criteria of this paragraph shall be presumptively eligible for medical assistance.

*c.* Individuals who are receiving care in a hospital or in a basic nursing home, intermediate nursing home, skilled nursing home or extended care facility, as defined by section 135C.1, and who meet all eligibility requirements for federal supplemental security income except that their income exceeds the allowable maximum therefor, but whose income is not in excess of the maximum established by subsection 4 for eligibility for medical assistance and is insufficient to meet the full cost of their care in the hospital or health care facility on the basis of standards established by the department.

*d.* Individuals under twenty-one years of age living in a licensed foster home, or in a private home pursuant to a subsidized adoption arrangement, for whom the department accepts financial responsibility in whole or in part and who are not eligible under subsection 1.

*e.* Individuals who are receiving care in an institution for mental diseases, and who are under twenty-one years of age and whose income and resources are such that they are eligible for the family investment program, or who are sixty-five years of age or older and who meet the conditions for eligibility in paragraph "a" of this subsection.

*f.* Individuals and families whose incomes and resources are such that they are eligible for federal supplemental security income or the family investment program, but who are not actually receiving such public assistance.

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*g.* Individuals who are receiving state supplementary assistance as defined by section 249.1 or other persons whose needs are considered in computing the recipient's assistance grant.

*h.* Individuals under twenty-one years of age who qualify on a financial basis for, but who are otherwise ineligible to receive assistance under the family investment program.

*i.* Individuals and families who would be eligible under subsection 1 or 2 of this section except for excess income or resources, or a reasonable category of those individuals and families.

*j.* Individuals who have attained the age of twenty-one but have not yet attained the age of sixty-five who qualify on a financial basis for, but who are otherwise ineligible to receive, federal supplemental security income or assistance under the family investment program.

*k.* As allowed under 42 U.S.C. § 1396a(a)(10)(A)(ii)(XVII), individuals under twenty-one years of age who were in foster care under the responsibility of the state on the individual's eighteenth birthday, and whose income is less than two hundred percent of the most recently revised official poverty guidelines published by the United States department of health and human services. Medical assistance may be provided for an individual described by this paragraph regardless of the individual's resources.

Notwithstanding the provisions of this subsection establishing priorities for individuals and families to receive medical assistance, the department may determine within the priorities listed in this subsection which persons shall receive medical assistance based on income levels established by the department, subject to the limitations provided in subsection 4.

3. Additional medical assistance may, within the limits of available funds and in accordance with section 249A.4, subsection 1, be provided to, or on behalf of, either:

- a.* Only those individuals and families described in subsection 1 of this section; or
- b.* Those individuals and families described in both subsections 1 and 2.

4. Discretionary medical assistance, within the limits of available funds and in accordance with section 249A.4, subsection 1, may be provided to or on behalf of those individuals and families described in subsection 2, paragraph "i" of this section.

5. Assistance shall not be granted under this chapter to:

- a.* An individual or family whose income, considered to be available to the individual or family, exceeds federally prescribed limitations.
- b.* An individual or family whose resources, considered to be available to the individual or family, exceed federally prescribed limitations.

5A. In determining eligibility for children under subsection 1, paragraphs "b", "f", "g", "j", "k", "n", and "s"; subsection 2, paragraphs "c", "e", "f", "h", and "i"; and subsection 5, paragraph "b", all resources of the family, other than monthly income, shall be disregarded.

5B. In determining eligibility for adults under subsection 1, paragraphs "b", "e", "h", "j", "k", "n", "s", and "t"; subsection 2, paragraphs "d", "e", "h", "i", and "j"; and subsection 5, paragraph "b", one motor vehicle per household shall be disregarded.

6. In determining the eligibility of an individual for medical assistance under this chapter, for resources transferred to the individual's spouse before October 1, 1989, or to a person other than the individual's spouse before July 1, 1989, the department shall include, as resources still available to the individual, those nonexempt resources or interests in resources, owned by the individual within the preceding twenty-four months, which the individual gave away or sold at less than fair market value for the purpose of establishing eligibility for medical assistance under this chapter.

*a.* A transaction described in this subsection is presumed to have been for the purpose of establishing eligibility for medical assistance under this chapter unless the individual furnishes convincing evidence to establish that the transaction was exclusively for some other purpose.

*b.* The value of a resource or an interest in a resource in determining eligibility under this subsection is the fair market value of the resource or interest at the time of the transaction less the amount of any compensation received.

c. If a transaction described in this subsection results in uncompensated value exceeding twelve thousand dollars, the department shall provide by rule for a period of ineligibility which exceeds twenty-four months and has a reasonable relationship to the uncompensated value above twelve thousand dollars.

7. In determining the eligibility of an individual for medical assistance under this chapter, the department shall consider resources transferred to the individual's spouse on or after October 1, 1989, or to a person other than the individual's spouse on or after July 1, 1989, and prior to August 11, 1993, as provided by the federal Medicare Catastrophic Coverage Act of 1988, Pub. L. No. 100-360, § 303(b), as amended by the federal Family Support Act of 1988, Pub. L. No. 100-485, § 608(d)(16)(B), (D), and the federal Omnibus Budget Reconciliation Act of 1989, Pub. L. No. 101-239, § 6411(e)(1).

8. Medicare cost sharing shall be provided in accordance with the provisions of Title XIX of the federal Social Security Act, section 1902(a)(10)(E), as codified in *42 U.S.C. § 1396a(a)(10)(E)*, to or on behalf of an individual who is a resident of the state or a resident who is temporarily absent from the state, and who is a member of any of the following eligibility categories:

a. A qualified Medicare beneficiary as defined under Title XIX of the federal Social Security Act, section 1905(p)(1), as codified in *42 U.S.C. § 1396d(p)(1)*.

b. A qualified disabled and working person as defined under Title XIX of the federal Social Security Act, section 1905(s), as codified in *42 U.S.C. § 1396d(s)*.

c. A specified low-income Medicare beneficiary as defined under Title XIX of the federal Social Security Act, section 1902(a)(10)(E)(iii), as codified in *42 U.S.C. § 1396a(a)(10)(E)(iii)*.

d. An additional specified low-income Medicare beneficiary as described under Title XIX of the federal Social Security Act, section 1902(a)(10)(E)(iv)(I), as codified in *42 U.S.C. § 1396a(a)(10)(E)(iv)(I)*.

e. An additional specified low-income Medicare beneficiary described under Title XIX of the federal Social Security Act, section 1902(a)(10)(E)(iv)(II), as codified in *42 U.S.C. § 1396a(a)(10)(E)(iv)(II)*.

9. Beginning October 1, 1990, in determining the eligibility of an institutionalized individual for assistance under this chapter, the department shall establish a minimum community spouse resource allowance amount of twenty-four thousand dollars to be retained for the benefit of the institutionalized individual's community spouse in accordance with the federal Social Security Act, section 1924(f) as codified in *42 U.S.C. § 1396r-5(f)*.

10. Group health plan cost sharing shall be provided as required by Title XIX of the federal Social Security Act, section 1906, as codified in *42 U.S.C. § 1396e*.

11. a. In determining the eligibility of an individual for medical assistance, the department shall consider transfers of assets made on or after August 11, 1993, as provided by the federal Social Security Act, section 1917(c), as codified in *42 U.S.C. § 1396p(c)*.

b. The department shall exercise the option provided in *42 U.S.C. § 1396p(c)* to provide a period of ineligibility for medical assistance due to a transfer of assets by a noninstitutionalized individual or the spouse of a noninstitutionalized individual. For noninstitutionalized individuals, the number of months of ineligibility shall be equal to the total, cumulative uncompensated value of all assets transferred by the individual or the individual's spouse on or after the look-back date specified in *42 U.S.C. § 1396p(c)(1)(B)(i)*, divided by the average monthly cost to a private patient for nursing facility services in Iowa at the time of application. The services for which noninstitutionalized individuals shall be made ineligible shall include any long-term care services for which medical assistance is otherwise available. Notwithstanding section 17A.4, the department may adopt rules providing a period of ineligibility for medical assistance due to a transfer of assets by a noninstitutionalized individual or the spouse of a noninstitutionalized individual without notice of opportunity for public comment, to be effective immediately upon filing under section 17A.5, subsection 2, paragraph "b", subparagraph (1).

c. A disclaimer of any property, interest, or right pursuant to section 633E.5 constitutes a transfer of assets for the purpose of determining eligibility for medical assistance in an amount equal to the value of the property, interest, or right disclaimed.

d. Unless a surviving spouse is precluded from making an election under the terms of a premarital agreement, the failure of a surviving spouse to take an elective share pursuant to chapter 633, division V, constitutes a transfer of assets

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for the purpose of determining eligibility for medical assistance to the extent that the value received by taking an elective share would have exceeded the value of the inheritance received under the will.

12. In determining the eligibility of an individual for medical assistance, the department shall consider income or assets relating to trusts or similar legal instruments or devices established on or before August 10, 1993, as available to the individual, in accordance with the federal Comprehensive Omnibus Budget Reconciliation Act of 1986, Pub. L. No. 99-272, § 9506(a), as amended by the federal Omnibus Budget Reconciliation Act of 1986, Pub. L. No. 99-509, § 9435(c).

13. In determining the eligibility of an individual for medical assistance, the department shall consider income or assets relating to trusts or similar legal instruments or devices established after August 10, 1993, as available to the individual, in accordance with 42 U.S.C. § 1396p(d) and sections 633C.2 and 633C.3.

**HISTORY:** C62, 66, § 249A.3, 249A.4; C71, 73, 75, 77, 79, 81, § 249A.3; 81 Acts, ch 7, § 15, ch 82, § 1

84 Acts, ch 1297, § 3--5; 85 Acts, ch 146, § 2; 89 Acts, ch 104, § 2--4; 89 Acts, ch 304, § 202; 90 Acts, ch 1258, § 6; 90 Acts, ch 1270, § 48; 91 Acts, ch 158, § 3, 4; 92 Acts, ch 1043, § 4; 92 Acts, 2nd Ex, ch 1001, § 420; 93 Acts, ch 97, § 37; 94 Acts, ch 1120, § 1, 8, 9, 16; 95 Acts, ch 68, § 1; 96 Acts, ch 1129, § 64; 97 Acts, ch 41, § 26--28; 98 Acts, ch 1218, § 77; 99 Acts, ch 94, § 1; 99 Acts, ch 203, § 50; 99 Acts, ch 208, § 50; 2000 Acts, ch 1060, § 1--3; 2000 Acts, ch 1221, § 6; 2000 Acts, ch 1228, § 41; 2001 Acts, ch 184, § 9; 2003 Acts, ch 62, § 2; 2004 Acts, ch 1015, § 1; 2005 Acts, ch 38, § 1, 55; 2006 Acts, ch 1104, § 1; 2006 Acts, ch 1159, § 4, 8

**NOTES:**

Section Notes:

Spousal support debt for medical assistance to institutionalized spouse; community spouse resource allowance; chapter 249B

Subsection 2, NEW paragraph k

NEW subsection 5B

Subsection 11, paragraph d amended

LexisNexis (R) Notes:

**CASE NOTES**

1. Court erred in finding that a trust was terminated by the government's denial of Medicaid benefits to a patient and that, therefore, the patient was entitled to benefits. *Bidler v. Iowa Dep't of Human Servs.*, 2002 Iowa App. LEXIS 264 (Iowa Ct. App. Mar. 13 2002).

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\*\*\* THIS DOCUMENT IS CURRENT THROUGH THE JULY 18, 2007 SUPPLEMENT \*\*\*

HUMAN SERVICES DEPARTMENT[441]  
TITLE VIII: MEDICAL ASSISTANCE  
CHAPTER 75: CONDITIONS OF ELIGIBILITY  
DIVISION II: ELIGIBILITY FACTORS SPECIFIC TO COVERAGE GROUPS RELATED TO THE FAMILY  
MEDICAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAM (FMAP)

441 IAC 75.56(249A) (2007)

441 -- 75.56(249A) Resources.

75.56(1) Limitation. Unless otherwise specified, an applicant or recipient may have the following resources and be eligible for the family medical assistance program (FMAP) or FMAP-related programs. Any resource not specifically exempted shall be counted toward the applicable resource limit when determining eligibility for adults. All resources shall be disregarded when determining eligibility for children.

a. A homestead without regard to its value. A mobile home or similar shelter shall be considered as a homestead when it is occupied by the recipient. Temporary absence from the homestead with a defined purpose for the absence and with intent to return when the purpose of the absence has been accomplished shall not be considered to have altered the exempt status of the homestead. Except as described at paragraph 75.56(1) "n" or "o," the net market value of any other real property shall be considered with personal property.

b. Household goods and personal effects without regard to their value. Personal effects are personal or intimate tangible belongings of an individual, especially those that are worn or carried on the person, which are maintained in one's home, and include clothing, books, grooming aids, jewelry, hobby equipment, and similar items.

c. Life insurance which has no cash surrender value. The owner of the life insurance policy is the individual paying the premium on the policy with the right to change the policy as the individual sees fit.

d. One motor vehicle per household. If the household includes more than one adult or working teenaged child whose resources must be considered as described in subrule 75.56(2), an equity not to exceed a value of \$ 3,000 in one additional motor vehicle shall be disregarded for each additional adult or working teenaged child.

(1) The disregard for an additional motor vehicle shall be allowed when a working teenager is temporarily absent from work.

(2) The equity value of any additional motor vehicle in excess of \$ 3,000 shall be counted toward the resource limit in paragraph 75.56(1) "e." When a motor vehicle is modified with special equipment for the handicapped, the special equipment shall not increase the value of the motor vehicle.

(3) Beginning July 1, 1994, and continuing in succeeding state fiscal years, the motor vehicle equity value to be disregarded shall be increased by the latest increase in the consumer price index for used vehicles during the previous state fiscal year.

e. A reserve of other property, real or personal; not to exceed \$ 2,000 for applicant assistance units and \$ 5,000 for recipient assistance units.

EXCEPTION: Applicant assistance units with at least one member who was a recipient in Iowa in the month prior to the month of application are subject to the \$ 5,000 limit.

Resources of the applicant or the recipient shall be determined in accordance with persons considered, as described at subrule 75.56(2).

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f. Money which is counted as income in a month, during that same month; and that part of lump sum income defined at subparagraph 75.57(9) "c" (2) reserved for the current or future month's income.

g. Payments which are exempted for consideration as income and resources under subrule 75.57(6).

h. An equity not to exceed \$ 1,500 in one funeral contract or burial trust for each member of the eligible group. Any amount in excess of \$ 1,500 shall be counted toward resource limits unless it is established that the funeral contract or burial trust is irrevocable.

i. One burial plot for each member of the eligible group. A burial plot is defined as a conventional gravesite, crypt, mausoleum, urn, or other repository which is customarily and traditionally used for the remains of a deceased person.

j. Settlements for payment of medical expenses.

k. Life estates.

l. Earned income credit payments in the month of receipt and the following month, regardless of whether these payments are received with the regular paychecks or as a lump sum with the federal income tax refund.

m. The balance in an individual development account (IDA), including interest earned on the IDA.

n. An equity not to exceed \$ 10,000 for tools of the trade or capital assets of self-employed households.

When the value of any resource is exempted in part, that portion of the value which exceeds the exemption shall be considered in calculating whether the eligible group's property is within the reserve defined in paragraph "e."

o. Nonhomestead property that produces income consistent with the property's fair market value.

#### 75.56(2) Persons considered.

a. Resources of persons in the eligible group shall be considered in establishing property limits.

b. Resources of the parent who is living in the home with the eligible children but who is not eligible for Medicaid shall be considered in the same manner as if the parent were eligible for Medicaid.

c. Resources of the stepparent living in the home shall not be considered when determining eligibility of the eligible group, with one exception: The resources of a stepparent included in the eligible group shall be considered in the same manner as a parent.

d. The resources of supplemental security income (SSI) recipients shall not be counted in establishing property limitations. When property is owned by both the SSI beneficiary and a Medicaid recipient in another eligible group, each shall be considered as having a half interest in order to determine the value of the resource, unless the terms of the deed or purchase contract clearly establish ownership on a different proportional basis.

e. The resources of a nonparental specified relative who elects to be included in the eligible group shall be considered in the same manner as a parent.

75.56(3) Homestead defined. The homestead consists of the house, used as a home, and may contain one or more contiguous lots or tracts of land, including buildings and appurtenances. When within a city plat, it shall not exceed 1/2 acre in area. When outside a city plat it shall not contain, in the aggregate, more than 40 acres. When property used as a home exceeds these limitations, the equity value of the excess property shall be determined in accordance with subrule 75.56(5).

75.56(4) Liquidation. When proceeds from the sale of resources or conversion of a resource to cash, together with other nonexempted resources, exceed the property limitations, the recipient is ineligible to receive assistance until the amount in excess of the resource limitation has been expended unless immediately used to purchase a homestead, or reduce the mortgage on a homestead.

a. Property settlements. Property settlements which are part of a legal action in a dissolution of marriage or palimony suit are considered as resources upon receipt.

b. Property sold under installment contract. Property sold under an installment contract or held as security in exchange for a price consistent with its fair market value is exempt as a resource. If the price is not consistent with the contract's fair market value, the resource value of the installment contract is the gross price for which it can be sold or discounted on the open market, less any legal debts, claims, or liens against the installment contract.

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Payments from property sold under an installment contract are exempt as income as specified in paragraphs 75.57(1)"d" and 75.57(7)"ag." The portion of any payment received representing principal is considered a resource upon receipt. The interest portion of the payment is considered a resource the month following the month of receipt.

75.56(5) Net market value defined. Net market value is the gross price for which property or an item can currently be sold on the open market, less any legal debts, claims, or liens against the property or item.

## 75.56(6) Availability.

a. A resource must be available in order for it to be counted toward resource limitations. A resource is considered available under the following circumstances:

(1) The applicant or recipient owns the property in part or in full and has control over it. That is, it can be occupied, rented, leased, sold, or otherwise used or disposed of at the individual's discretion.

(2) The applicant or recipient has a legal interest in a liquidated sum and has the legal ability to make the sum available for support and maintenance.

b. Rescinded IAB 6/30/99, effective 9/1/99.

c. When property is owned by more than one person, unless otherwise established, it is assumed that all persons hold equal shares in the property.

d. When the applicant or recipient owns nonhomestead property, the property shall be considered exempt for so long as the property is publicly advertised for sale at an asking price that is consistent with its fair market value.

## 75.56(7) Damage judgments and insurance settlements.

a. Payment resulting from damage to or destruction of an exempt resource shall be considered a resource to the applicant or recipient the month following the month the payment was received. When the applicant or recipient signs a legal binding commitment no later than the month after the month the payment was received, the funds shall be considered exempt for the duration of the commitment providing the terms of the commitment are met within eight months from the date of commitment.

b. Payment resulting from damage to or destruction of a nonexempt resource shall be considered a resource in the month following the month in which payment was received.

## 75.56(8) Conservatorships.

a. Conservatorships established prior to February 9, 1994. The department shall determine whether assets from a conservatorship, except one established solely for the payment of medical expenses, are available by examining the language of the order establishing the conservatorship.

Funds clearly conserved and available for care, support, or maintenance shall be considered toward resource or income limitations.

When the county office questions whether the funds in a conservatorship are available, the county office shall refer the conservatorship to central office. When assets in the conservatorship are not clearly available, central office staff may contact the conservator and request that the funds in the conservatorship be made available for current support and maintenance. When the conservator chooses not to make the funds available, the department may petition the court to have the funds released either partially or in their entirety or as periodic income payments. Funds in a conservatorship that are not clearly available shall be considered unavailable until the conservator or court actually makes the funds available. Payments received from the conservatorship for basic or special needs are considered income.

b. Conservatorships established on or after February 9, 1994. Conservatorships established on or after February 9, 1994, shall be treated according to the provisions of paragraphs 75.24(1)"e" and 75.24(2)"b."

75.56(9) Not considered a resource. Inventories and supplies, exclusive of capital assets, that are required for self-employment shall not be considered a resource. Inventory is defined as all unsold items, whether raised or purchased, that are held for sale or use and shall include, but not be limited to, merchandise, grain held in storage and livestock raised for sale. Supplies are items necessary for the operation of the enterprise, such as lumber, paint, and seed. Capital assets are those assets which, if sold at a later date, could be used to claim capital gains or losses for federal income tax

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purposes. When self-employment is temporarily interrupted due to circumstances beyond the control of the household, such as illness, inventory or supplies retained by the household shall not be considered a resource.