CERTIFICATE

STATE OF WISCONSIN

SS

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND SOCIAL SERVICES)

I, Gerald Whitburn, Secretary of the Department of Health and Social Services and custodian of the official records of the Department, do hereby certify that the annexed rules relating to the Relief of Needy Indian Persons (RNIP) program were duly approved and adopted by this Department on September 25, 1992.

I further certify that this copy has been compared by me with the original on file in the Department and that this copy is a true copy of the original, and of the whole of the original.

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and affixed the official seal of the Department at the State Office Building, 1 W. Wilson Street, in the city of Madison, this 25th day of September, 1992.

SEAL:

Growd States

Gerald Whitburn, Secretary
Department of Health and Social Services

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Part offertix 12-01-92

ORDER OF THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND SOCIAL SERVICES AMENDING A RULE

To amend HSS 211.06(1), relating to Relief of Needy Indian Persons (RNIP).

Analysis Prepared by the Department of Health and Social Services

The Department's Relief of Needy Indian Persons (RNIP) program assists some 1,600 low-income American Indians who live on tax-free (reservation) land in Wisconsin. Assistance consists of monthly money payments along with medical benefits and the payment of funeral and cemetery expenses. Recipients are individuals who do not qualify for Aid to Families with Dependent Children (AFDC), because they do not have dependent children, for Supplemental Security Income (SSI) because they are not over the age of 65, blind or disabled, or for general relief (GR) provided by counties because their eligibility for RNIP supersedes their eligibility for GR. Recipients are required to participate in a work experience component as a condition of their eligibility for RNIP.

This order amends ch. HSS 211, rules for administration of the RNIP program by elected tribal governing bodies, American Indian organizations and county social service agencies, on the basis of the experience of local agencies that administer RNIP and as suggested by the tribal agencies and agreed to by the Department.

The amendment of s.HSS 211.06(1) permits an RNIP recipient to fulfill the work experience participation requirement of the program by working at a job or being in training for either a minimum of 15 hours a week or 60 hours a month. The 60 hours option is new. It will give RNIP program administrators flexibility in assigning work experience so that they can take advantage of the limited employment training opportunities in the tribal communities and surrounding areas.

The Department's authority to amend this rule is found in ss.49.046(4)(a), 49.047(4), and 49.048(9), Stats. The rule interprets ss.49.046, 49.047, and 49.048, Stats.

SECTION 1. HSS 211.06(1) is amended to read:

HSS 211.06(1) WORK EXPERIENCE REQUIREMENT. (1) GENERAL. The agency shall operate a work experience component of the RNIP program, as required by s.49.047, Stats., unless the requirement is waived under s.HSS 211.02(2)(a). The work experience component may include grant diversion under sub. (10). Work experience shall consist of a minimum of 15 hours a week or 60 hours a month on the job or in training which may lead to gainful employment.

The rule contained in this order shall take effect on the first day of the month following publication in the Wisconsin Administrative Register as provided in s.227.22(2), Stats.

Wisconsin Department of Health and Social Services

Date: September 25, 1992

By: Proce Vlutter

Gerald Whitburn Secretary

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