

vision is sufficient to qualify him for aid; provided that when a re-examination is made to determine continued eligibility such aid may be continued until the division of public assistance notifies the county agency with respect to any case that such eligibility no longer continues.

**History:** 1-2-56; am. (1) and (2), Register, March, 1963, No. 87, eff. 4-1-63; am. Register, April, 1967, No. 136, eff. 5-1-67.

**PW-PA 20.10 Payment of aid to the disabled.** All payments of aid to the disabled shall be made under the following conditions:

(1) **APPROVAL OF CERTIFICATE OF DISABILITY.** Before aid may be granted the report of the examining physician must be submitted by the county agency to the state department of public welfare for review by the department and its physician consultant and the county agency notified of approval by the division of public assistance. Aid to totally and permanently disabled persons shall not be granted until such division has notified the county agency of such approval; provided that when a reexamination is made to determine continued eligibility such aid may be continued until the division of public assistance notifies the county agency with respect to any case that such eligibility no longer continues.

(2) **LIMITATIONS.** (b) Aid under this program is limited to persons the cost of whose care cannot be provided by parents or other legally responsible persons consistent with standards of public assistance applied in the social security aids.

**History:** 1-2-56; r. (2) (a), Register, June, 1967, No. 138, eff. 7-1-67.

**PW-PA 20.11 Payment of aids.** All payments to recipients of old age assistance, aid to dependent children (including payments on behalf of children in foster homes pursuant to section 49.19 (10), Wis. Stats.), aid to the blind, and aid to totally and permanently disabled persons, shall be made under the following provisions:

(1) **CASH.** Payment shall be made by county check payable to the beneficiary or to a person judicially appointed as the legal representative of such beneficiary by the courts under chapter 319, Wis. Stats., and shall not be subject to discount but redeemable in cash in the amount of its full face value upon demand; provided that in the case of aid to totally and permanently disabled persons such county check, payable to the beneficiary, may be delivered to the attorney-in-fact who has been authorized to receive it by the voluntarily executed power of attorney of such beneficiary; and provided further that nothing in this rule shall be deemed to supersede any provision of section PW-PA 20.06 governing relatives' eligibility for aid to dependent children.

(2) **RESTRICTION ON USE OF ASSISTANCE NOT PERMITTED.** Payment must consist of an unconditional transfer and delivery of said check to the recipient for expenditures by him in his discretion and shall not be made in lieu of wages or with respect to work done.

(3) **DATE.** Payment of assistance shall be made in the month for which the grant of aid is designated, either in the full amount of the monthly allowance or in two or more installments. When a single payment is made for the full amount of the monthly allowance, it shall be made not later than the fifth day of the month. When the monthly allowance is paid in installments, each installment shall be for equal periods based on a thirty-day month. Payment of the first

installment shall be made no later than the fifth day of the month and each subsequent installment no later than the fifth day of each installment period. Payment of an initial allowance may be made subsequent to the fifth day of the month and shall be made within the month. Additional payments made to meet increased budgetary needs may be made subsequent to the fifth day of the month but not later than the end of the second succeeding month following the month for which the increased payment is made. [EXCEPTION] Payment on behalf of a child in a foster home pursuant to section 49.19 (10), Wis. Stats., shall be made in arrears and not later than the tenth day of the month following the month for which the payment is made.

(4) **COVERAGE.** Initial payment may include the needs to the first of the month in which aid is applied for and eligibility is shown to have existed as of the first of such month; provided, however, that this provision shall not preclude continuing payments when an eligible recipient moves from one county to another nor adjustments when grants of aid are reinstated after suspension, nor adjustments upon order of the state department of health and social services, division of family services, made in accordance with section 49.50 (8), Wis. Stats., nor in any case or similar cases in which a court decision changes the regulation upon which the case was denied, discontinued or the budget of the recipient was improperly computed, resulting in an improper reduction in the amount of aid.

(5) **ENDORSEMENT.** Pursuant to federal regulation, checks must be endorsed by the payee with his signature; provided that persons unable to write shall endorse their assistance checks either by mark or by finger print in the presence of two witnesses who shall append their signatures and addresses; provided that in the case of aid to totally and permanently disabled persons an attorney-in-fact voluntarily appointed by the beneficiary may cash checks payable to the beneficiary when he is authorized to do so by power of attorney.

**History:** 1-2-56; am. (1), Register, February, 1959, No. 38, eff. 38. 3-1-59; am. Register, March, 1962, No. 75, eff. 4-1-62; am. (4), Register, June, 1970, No. 174, eff. 7-1-70.

**PW-PA 20.12 History:** 1-2-56; am. Register, December, 1957, No. 24, eff. 1-1-58; am. Register, December, 1961, No. 72, eff. 1-1-62; am. (7) (b), Register, October, 1964, No. 106, eff. 11-1-64; r. Register, January, 1967, No. 133, eff. 2-1-67.

**PW-PA 20.13 State relief for Indians.** (1) **PURPOSE.** The purpose of this rule is to define the terms "Indian", "tax-free land", and "relief" as used in section 49.046. Wis. Stats., and to provide regulations and administrative interpretations to implement such section.

(2) **DEFINITIONS.** (a) The term "Indian" shall include a person whose proportion of Indian blood is one-fourth or more.

(b) "Tax-free land" is defined as land which is subject to neither assessment nor levy of a real property tax either as a general tax or as a payment in lieu of taxes.

(c) "Relief" as used in section 49.046, Wis. Stats., means relief as defined in section 49.01 (1), Wis. Stats.

(d) "Department" shall mean the state department of public welfare.

(3) **ADMINISTRATION.** (a) *Agency to administer relief.* The department shall whenever possible appoint the county agency administrator.

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dissatisfied claimant or his representative may present his case with the help of witnesses to show why action or inaction in his case should be corrected by the state agency; it is not an adversary proceeding, but rather a continuation of the administrative process in which the claimant invokes the responsibility of the state agency through a quasi-judicial hearing in the particular case.

(c) A request for a hearing is defined as any clear expression on the part of the claimant to the effect that he wishes to go beyond the usual procedure for adjusting complaints with the county agency, and that he wants an opportunity to present his case to the division of family services. The specific wording of such a request is immaterial.

(d) The date of the request for hearing is defined as the date on which the request is received.

(3) PURPOSES. The major purposes of hearings are:

(a) To provide an opportunity for a dissatisfied claimant to assert his claim to public assistance, medical assistance, food stamps or services related to any of such programs and secure, in an administrative proceeding, equity of treatment in his case in relation to the assistance law and program.

(b) To enable the county and claimants, jointly, to ascertain the factual basis on which, through proper application of the assistance law and agency policy, a just decision may be reached.

(c) To contribute to uniformity in the application of the assistance law and policy by assuring that every claimant is fully informed of his rights, that hearings on any grievance are readily available, and that instances of inequitable treatment are speedily remedied by prompt execution of hearing decisions.

(d) To safeguard claimants from mistaken, negligent, unreasonable or arbitrary action. The hearing process is not a substitute for proper and efficient administration and is not designed to produce any result that could not have been produced through regular administrative processes.

(e) To reveal aspects of county agency policy that constitute a misconstruction of law, state rules or policy.

(f) To provide a method whereby evidence may be obtained for referral to proper state policy-making authority, which evidence may show the need for modification of a state policy or policies.

(4) REQUIREMENTS. (a) Every claimant at the time of his application, and when other administrative decisions are made shall be informed in writing of his right to a fair hearing if his application is not acted upon with reasonable promptness, or if he is not satisfied with the action taken, and the method by which he may obtain a hearing.

(b) Every claimant may obtain a hearing before the division of family services in relation to an application not acted upon with reasonable promptness or if he is dissatisfied with the action taken.

(c) The request for a hearing must be timely. No review will be provided in any case where the decision or inaction to be reviewed arose more than 60 days prior to the request for a hearing.

(5) REQUEST FOR HEARING. A complaint may be initiated orally in person, by letter or by form and if not adjusted by the county

agency to the satisfaction of the claimant a request for hearing will be completed and a hearing will be scheduled. Requests for hearing shall usually be on the simple form supplied by the state agency, but no written request shall be rejected for lack of formality. An oral request for a hearing made in person will be accepted, but shall be reduced to writing and signed by the claimant before the hearing will be scheduled. No request shall be dismissed without hearing unless the claimant shall remove from the jurisdiction, die, withdraw his request in writing, or abandon the proceedings. The proceedings may be considered abandoned if neither the claimant nor his representative appears at the time and place set for hearing, and if, within a reasonable time after the mailing of an inquiry as to whether he wishes any further action taken on his request for a hearing, no reply is received by the state agency.

(6) FAIR HEARING. (a) Hearings shall be held at a time convenient to the claimant and agency staff easily accessible to the claimant and, whenever possible, on the premises of the county department of social services, subject to the judgment of the hearing officer. Adequate preliminary notice shall be given to the claimant and his representative, if any, including information about the procedure at the hearing.

(b) The hearing shall be conducted by a hearing officer, duly appointed and qualified under the state civil service laws, who has not taken any part in the particular action under consideration.

(c) The claimant shall have the opportunity to examine all documents and records used at the hearing; have the option to present his case, or be represented; have the opportunity to bring witnesses, to establish all pertinent facts and circumstances, to advance any arguments without undue interference, and to question or refute any testimony or evidence.

(d) The claimant may question interpretation of the law, and the reasonableness and equity of policies practiced under the law, if he is aggrieved by their application to his situation.

(e) The hearing is subject to the requirements of due process, but is an informal administrative procedure.

(7) DECISIONS. (a) The transcript of testimony and the exhibits, papers and requests filed in the proceeding constitute the exclusive record for decision and are available to the claimant at any reasonable time after the decision upon request.

(b) The decision on the hearing shall be in writing in the name of the division of family services by the secretary of the department or his designee.

(c) The decision shall set forth the issue or issues, citation of law or precedents, the reasoning that led to the decision, the principal and relevant facts elicited at the hearing, and the action taken. These factors shall be grouped under appropriate headings such as preliminary recitals, findings of fact, conclusions of law and order. A certified copy of the decision shall be mailed to the claimant (and his attorney if any) and the county agency charged with the administration of the services, aid or assistance involved.

(d) If the decision is mandatory upon the county treasurer, a certified copy of the decision shall be mailed to him and to the county clerk. It shall be the duty of the state agency to ascertain from sub-

sequent payrolls and otherwise that there has been compliance with the order.

(8) **ALLOCATION OF RESPONSIBILITY.** The functions relating to fair hearings are allocated to the division of family services. All final decisions, except cases wherein the request for review has been abandoned, shall be based upon hearings conducted by the hearing officer duly appointed pursuant to state civil service laws and responsible to the division, provided that if emergency needs so require the division administrator or any other employee duly designated by him may serve as a hearing officer. Such decisions shall be binding upon the state and county agencies involved and shall be enforced by appropriate legal and fiscal sanctions.

**History:** 1-2-56; am. (1), Register, April, 1967, No. 136, eff. 5-1-67; r. and recr., Register, July, 1969, No. 163, eff. 8-1-69.

**PW-PA 20.19 Relief claims proceedings.** (1) **PRACTICE.** Proceedings under this rule shall be considered administrative in character. The rules of practice at hearings will conform generally to the rules of practice before courts of equity. The aim is to secure the facts in as direct and simple a manner as possible.

(2) **PLEADINGS.** (a) Complaints and answers need not be verified.

(b) The proceedings shall be deemed to be at issue when an answer or demurrer is filed or when the time for answering or otherwise pleading to the complaint has expired.

(c) The answers to the complaints shall specifically and particularly set forth in writing a statement of the reasons upon which defendant relies to defeat the proceeding. For this purpose, evidentiary facts may be pleaded. A general denial shall be deemed to be no pleading. Failure to deny an allegation of the complaint shall be deemed to be an admission thereof.

(d) Amendment may be made to any pleading upon application and cause shown. The department may, on its own motion, modify or change its order and findings at any time within 20 days from the date thereof, if it shall discover a mistake therein.

(e) Except upon order of a court, proceedings in which an order has been rendered shall be reopened for reception of further evidence or for further consideration only upon written consent of all parties to the proceedings or in accordance with section 270.50, Wis. Stats. Motions under section 270.50, Wis. Stats., shall not be received after 20 days of the date of the order.

(3) **PROOF OF CLAIM.** (a) The dates when and the amount of relief claimed to have been given to the recipient may be established prima facie by affidavit of the relief official who ordered the relief given or by affidavit of the clerk of the county or municipality which paid for and granted the relief. Such affidavit shall show the expenditures by months, listing separately for each month the total monthly expenditures for food, clothing, fuel, utilities, housing, medicine, medical and surgical treatment, hospital care, hospitalization, nursing, transportation, water, household equipment, other commodities or services, cash, or funeral expenses.

(b) If relief is given only intermittently, the particular dates of the intermittent relief grants shall be stated. In order to show the date of the first and last grant of aid in a continuous series where

relief is given continuously over several months, the charge for the month shall run from the date of the first order to the end of the month and the charge for the last month in the series shall run from the first of the last month to the date of the last order in that month.

(c) The opposing party shall have the right to call adversely as a witness the person who made such affidavit or any other person who would otherwise have knowledge of the facts therein stated.

(4) MOTIONS. (a) Motions not made on the record at the time of hearing shall be filed with the department in writing.

(b) Request for recovery by default will be received upon failure to answer or plead to the complaint within the statutory period. Such request shall be accompanied by affidavit showing the fact that and the date when verified claims were filed upon the clerk of the defendant or defendants, together with copies of such claims incorporated by reference in the affidavit.

(c) When a hearing has been set and a party notified fails to appear, the parties present may offer such proofs or motions as they desire, and the department shall thereafter notify the absent party that unless he file an affidavit showing reasonable excuse for absence and of merit the department will render its decision upon the record made. If the department is satisfied with such affidavit it may in its discretion set the case for further hearing on such conditions as may be just.

(d) Motion for summary judgment upon the pleadings may be submitted by either party pursuant to section 270.635, Wis. Stats., and in event of such motion, the parties shall submit affidavits setting forth the evidentiary facts, including documents or copies thereof for the purpose of determining whether there is a triable issue.

(5) SERVICE OF PAPERS. The fact of mailing and the date when a non-resident affidavit was mailed may be proved by affidavit of the clerk or deputy clerk who sent such notice. Such affidavit shall show compliance with the mailing statute in force at the time the notice was mailed. See section 49.11 (7) (d), Wis. Stats., which requires the mailing of notices by registered or certified mail with return receipt requested.

(6) CONDITIONS PRECEDENT. No proceeding shall be maintained unless a verified claim for the amount of money due has been duly presented to and disallowed by the county or municipality sought to be charged.

(7) RESUMES AND TRANSCRIPTS. (a) The department may at any time prior to decision require or permit the parties to file briefs on either fact or law.

(b) Transcripts of testimony taken or proceedings had before the department will be furnished to parties upon request and payment of the sum of 10 cents per folio and 5 cents per folio for each additional copy thereof. After an appeal has been taken, transcripts will be furnished upon payment of the sum of 5 cents per folio.

(8) WITNESS FEES. (a) Witnesses may be paid as provided by section 49.11 (7) (a), Wis. Stats., for attendance at hearings.

(b) Where more than one witness travels in the same car, only one mileage fee shall be allowed, except that all witnesses may receive sufficient mileage fees to cover necessary meals.

(c) Where witnesses travel by public conveyance, actual cost of conveyance plus necessary and reasonable bills for meals and hotels may be allowed.

(d) Interpreters' fees shall be the same as witness fees.

(e) In no case shall any of the above allowances be in excess of the regular mileage allowance. Witness fees shall be proved by submission of receipt of the witness.

**History:** 1-2-56; am. Register, October, 1962, No. 82, eff. 11-1-62.

**PW-PA 20.20 Reimbursement of county administrative costs.** For the purpose of promulgating more uniform and standard administrative procedures in county agencies, reimbursement from state and federal funds will be made toward county administrative costs incurred for payments to employees for expenses incurred in performing their duties on the following basis:

(1) The reimbursable portion of the traveling expenses of such employees shall be subject to the same limitations and requirements as are imposed on state employees when such employees incur expenses for similar purposes.

(2) As a limitation on state reimbursement, the provisions of section 20.941, Wis. Stats., relating to the allowance for the use of a personal automobile shall apply to county employees, any part of whose salary or expenses is paid directly or indirectly, by the state.

**History:** 1-2-56; am. (2), Register, June, 1967, No. 138, eff. 7-1-67.

**PW-PA 20.21 Destruction of record material.** (1) **PURPOSE.** The purpose of this rule is to define the limitations of section 59.715 (21), Wis. Stats., pertaining to the destruction of case record and other record material in aid to the blind, aid to dependent children, old-age assistance and aid to disabled persons, and in relief for which claim for state reimbursement is made under section 49.04, Wis. Stats., and the destruction of records in Indian relief claims under section 49.046, Wis. Stats.

(2) **RECORDS TO BE PERMANENTLY PRESERVED.** A face sheet or similar record of each case and a financial record of all payments for each aid account shall be permanently preserved.

(a) Face sheet or similar record means a sheet or sheets giving identifying data about the person or persons concerned, sufficient to distinguish the particular person or family, including such information as names, addresses, occupations, relatives, birth and marriage dates and marital status.

(b) Financial record means a financial card or ledger sheet showing all payments made to or in behalf of the individual or family aided, by month, and including a record of all refunds and collections.

(3) **CONDITIONS FOR DESTRUCTION OF OTHER RECORDS.** Records, other than those specified in subsection (2) of this rule, may be destroyed when there has been no case activity on the part of the county department and the particular person or family for a period of 5 years just preceding, except as hereinafter provided.

(a) No records may be destroyed in any case in which:

1. An estate against which the county has a claim has not been settled.

2. There is property on which the county has an old-age assistance lien and the claim has not been settled.

3. Claims for reimbursement under section 49.04 and section 49.046, Wis. Stats., have not been settled and audited.

(b) Claims paid by the county, and papers supporting such claims, and cancelled checks for payments made to or in behalf of recipients of aid to the blind, aid to dependent children, old-age assistance, aid to disabled persons or relief to needy Indians may not be destroyed until after 7 years, in accordance with subsections 59.715 (9) and (18), Wis. Stats.

**History:** 1-2-56; am. Register, October, 1962, No. 82, eff. 11-1-62.

**PW-PA 20.22 Liquid assets.** (1) **AID TO DEPENDENT CHILDREN.** Where a dependent child or children otherwise eligible for a grant of aid to dependent children together with the parent or parents included in the grant of such aid have more than \$500 in liquid assets, including cash or loan value of insurance, eligibility for grant of aid to dependent children does not exist.

(2) **AID TO TOTALLY AND PERMANENTLY DISABLED PERSONS.** Where a dependent person otherwise eligible for a grant of aid to totally and permanently disabled has more than \$500 in liquid assets, excluding cash or loan value of insurance, eligibility for aid does not exist.

**History:** Cr. Register, May, 1961, No. 65, eff. 6-1-61.

**PW-PA 20.23 Loans on Menominee Enterprises, Inc. bonds.** (1) **PURPOSE.** Loans will be made to owners of bonds of Menominee Enterprises, Inc. who are dependent persons in need of a loan for welfare purposes.

(2) **AMOUNT.** The amount of the loan shall not exceed the par value of bonds available for pledging to the state as security for such loan.

(3) **AGREEMENTS.** (a) The department shall prescribe the form of note to be executed.

(b) Loans will bear interest at the rate of 4% per annum from the first day of the month following the date of the execution of the note, such interest to become due and payable each December until such note is paid.

(c) The period for payment of the loan shall not exceed 3 years.

(d) Defaults in interest payments shall be added to the principal of the loan.

(e) Defaults in repayment of a loan shall after 60 days of maturity date result in forfeiture of the pledged bond in the amount of the loan plus all interest. Upon such default, the par value of the bond in excess of the amount due and owing shall be returned to the owner or his estate in the form of fractionated bonds to the lowest \$100 multiple with a cash adjustment for the difference.

(f) The department may extend notes in default upon the execution of a new note by the obligor if such new note is secured by a pledge of a Menominee Enterprise, Inc. bond.

**History:** Emergency rule, eff. 1-11-64; cr. Register, March, 1964, No. 99, eff. 4-1-64.