

CHAPTER 50-24.7
EXPANDED SERVICE PAYMENTS FOR ELDERLY AND DISABLED

50-24.7-01. Definitions.

In this chapter, unless the context otherwise requires:

1. "Aged" means at least sixty-five years of age.
2. "Blind" has the same meaning as the term has when used by the social security administration in the supplemental security income program under titles II and XVI of the Social Security Act [42 U.S.C. 401-434 and 42 U.S.C. 1381 et seq.].
3. "County agency" means the county social service board.
4. "Department" means the department of human services.
5. "Disabled" has the same meaning as the term has when used by the social security administration in the supplemental security income program under titles II and XVI of the Social Security Act [42 U.S.C. 401-434 and 42 U.S.C. 1381 et seq.].
6. "Eligible beneficiary" means a resident of this state who:
 - a. (1) Is aged; or
(2) Is at least eighteen years of age and is disabled or blind;
 - b. Has applied for and is eligible to receive benefits under title XIX of the Social Security Act [42 U.S.C. 1396 et seq.], and who has applied for and is receiving benefits, if the individual is eligible to receive benefits, under titles II and XVI of the Social Security Act [42 U.S.C. 401-434 and 42 U.S.C. 1381 et seq.];
 - c. Based on a functional assessment, is not severely impaired in any of the activities of daily living of toileting, transferring to or from a bed or chair, or eating and:
 - (1) Has health, welfare, or safety needs, including a need for supervision or a structured environment; and
 - (2) Is impaired in three of the four instrumental activities of daily living of preparing meals, doing homework, taking medicine, and doing laundry;
 - d. Has countable income, less the cost of necessary remedial care that may be provided under this chapter, does not exceed an amount equal to the cash benefit under titles II and XVI of the Social Security Act [42 U.S.C. 401-434 and 42 U.S.C. 1381 et seq.] which the individual would receive if the individual had no income, plus the personal needs allowance;
 - e. Has impairments that are not the result of an intellectual disability; and
 - f. Is determined to be eligible pursuant to rules adopted by the department.
7. "Family home care" means the provision of room, board, supervisory care, and personal services to an eligible elderly or disabled person by the spouse or by one of the following relatives, or the current or former spouse of one of the following relatives, of the elderly or disabled person: parent, grandparent, adult child, adult sibling, adult grandchild, adult niece, or adult nephew. The family home care provider need not be present in the home on a twenty-four-hour basis if the welfare and safety of the client is maintained.
8. "Qualified service provider" means a county agency or independent contractor who agrees to meet standards for services and operations established by the department.
9. "Remedial care" means services that produce the maximum reduction of an eligible beneficiary's physical or mental disability and the restoration of an eligible beneficiary to the beneficiary's best possible functional level.

50-24.7-02. Powers and duties of the department.

The department shall:

1. Administer expanded service payments for elderly and disabled and supervise and direct county agencies in the administration of expanded service payments for elderly and disabled.
2. Pay qualified service providers at rates determined by the department, within limits of legislative appropriation, for the provision of the following services provided to eligible individuals:
 - a. Adult day care;

- b. Adult family foster care;
 - c. Case management;
 - d. Chore services;
 - e. Family home care;
 - f. Homemaker services;
 - g. Nonmedical transportation;
 - h. Respite care; and
 - i. Other services the department determines to be essential and appropriate to sustain an individual in the individual's home and community and to delay or prevent institutional care.
3. Take actions, give directions, and adopt rules as necessary to carry out the provisions of this chapter.

50-24.7-03. Powers and duties of county agency.

Each county agency shall:

1. Administer expanded service payments for the elderly and disabled at the county level under the direction and supervision of the department, pursuant to state requirements.
2. Provide the services described in this chapter. The county agency may contract with a qualified service provider in the provision of those services.
3. Determine eligibility for benefits under this chapter and periodically redetermine eligibility of persons receiving benefits pursuant to this chapter.
4. Provide case management services to eligible beneficiaries.
5. Conduct initial and ongoing functional assessments of applicants.

50-24.7-04. Applicant's or guardian's duty to establish eligibility.

The applicant or guardian of the applicant shall provide information sufficient to establish eligibility for benefits, including a social security number and proof of age, identity, residence, blindness, disability, functional limitation, and financial eligibility for each month for which benefits are sought.

50-24.7-05. Department has preferred claim against estate.

Funds used to provide services to an eligible beneficiary may not be considered as gifts. The department has a preferred claim against the estate of any person for recovery of funds expended under this chapter for that person or that person's spouse or minor children. No statute of limitations or similar statute nor the doctrine of laches bars a claim under this chapter.

50-24.7-06. Responsibility for expenditures.

Except as otherwise specifically provided in section 50-03-08, expenditures required under this chapter are the responsibility of the state of North Dakota.