



Date: July 11, 2019

DCTS Action Memo 2019-09

To: County Departments of Community Services
County Departments of Health and Human Services
County Departments of Human Services
Tribal Chairpersons/Human Services Facilitators

From: Rose Kleman, Administrator

Reimbursement for Mental Health High-Cost Placements Ordered by a Tribal Court

Document Summary

Under 2009 Wisconsin Act 318, the state legislature authorized up to \$250,000 to fund high-cost mental health placements of tribal members when county or tribal costs exceed \$50,000 annually and when treatment services are ordered by a tribal court. This appropriation is available to eligible tribes and/or counties for state fiscal year 2019. This memo outlines the criteria for the use of these funds and how to apply.

Background

The enactment of 2009 Wisconsin Act 318 authorized up to \$250,000 of tribal gaming revenues to fund high-cost mental health placements of tribal members when county or tribal costs exceed \$50,000 annually. This appropriation is available to eligible counties and tribes. These mental health placements must be ordered by a tribal court under tribal ordinances comparable to Wis. Stat. § 51.20, the mental health commitment statute that authorizes circuit courts to commit individuals for mental health treatment. Funds for this special allocation are transferred to the Department of Health Services from tribal gaming funds for the period ending June 30, 2019.

The expenses for treatment costs can be incurred and claimed by either a tribe or a county department of human services, community programs, or social services. Funding up to \$250,000 is available for eligible expenses incurred between July 1, 2018, and June 30, 2019. Expenditures for the cost of mental health placements must exceed \$50,000 during this time period.

Criteria for Use of Funds

The criteria for the use of these funds include:

1. The individual must have been court ordered for mental health placement by a tribal court under tribal ordinances comparable to Wis. Stat. § 51.20.
2. The placement must have been made for the primary purpose of mental health treatment. This could include individuals who are developmentally disabled or who have a co-occurring substance use diagnosis.
3. The total annual expenditure for allowable services has exceeded \$50,000.

Action Summary

To apply for these funds, complete the [2009 Wisconsin Act 318 High Cost Mental Health Fund Application, F-00301](#), and submit it by mail or email to:

Sarah Coyle
Division of Care and Treatment Services
Department of Health Services
1 W. Wilson St., Room 850
Madison, WI 53703
sarah.coyle@dhs.wisconsin.gov

All requests for reimbursement from this funding source must be submitted by July 31, 2019. If requests for funding exceed available funds, allocations will be pro-rated based on total approved funding requests.

Up to \$250,000 may be available again for state fiscal year 2020 for the period July 1, 2019, through June 30, 2020, based on availability of tribal gaming revenues. If this funding is available, instructions for applying for these funds will be shared in the spring of 2020. The criteria for the use of these funds will be similar to the criteria this year.

REGIONAL OFFICE CONTACT

Area Administrators

CENTRAL OFFICE CONTACT

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