



Department of Health Services



Wisconsin Funeral and Cemetery Aids Program (WFCAP)

Division of Medicaid Services

January 19, 2017



Agenda

- What Is WFCAP?
- WFCAP Payment Policy and Process
- Program Changes Effective October 3, 2016
- Reminders



What Is WFCAP?



WFCAP Introduction

- WFCAP is governed by Wis. Stat. § 49.785.
- WFCAP is an assistance program to service providers who offer funeral, cremation, and cemetery services to certain decedents, and whose services are not fully compensated by the decedent's estate, family, or other resources.
- WFCAP is the payer of last resort.



Program Administration

- WFCAP is now administered by the Department of Health Services (DHS) Estate Recovery Program.
- Contact information:
 - Telephone: 888-859-0611
 - Fax: 608-266-8317
 - Email: DHSWFCAPApplications@wi.gov



Program Administration

Service Providers Can Contact WFCAP:

- To check if a deceased individual meets the criteria for potential eligibility
- To submit an application
- To check the status of an application



Qualifying Decedents

WFCAP may issue payment for the unmet funeral and/or cemetery/crematory expenses of a decedent who, on the date of death, was any one of the following individuals:

- W-2 participant (paid placement only)
- Child for whom a Caretaker Supplement (CTS) or Kinship Care benefit was being made on their behalf



Qualifying Decedents

- Categorically needy elderly, blind, or disabled (EBD)-related Medicaid recipient (does not include a person eligible through meeting a deductible or the Medicaid Purchase Plan)
- Child receiving foster care or adoption assistance
- Child certified for Katie Beckett Medicaid
- Categorically or medically needy institutional Medicaid recipient



Qualifying Decedents

- Home and Community-Based Waiver or Family Care recipient
- Tuberculosis (TB)-related Medicaid recipient
- Supplemental Security Income (SSI) or State SSI recipient who resides in Wisconsin



Qualifying Decedents

- BadgerCare Plus recipients who meet any of the following criteria on the date of death:
 - Parent or caretaker relative with income not more than 50% of the Federal Poverty Level (FPL)
 - Child younger than age 6 or a pregnant woman with family income that does not exceed 185% of the FPL



Qualifying Decedents

- Child age 6 through 18 with income not more than 100% of the FPL
- Unborn child of a woman in a WFCAP-eligible program



Qualifying Decedents

- Eligibility for a qualifying program must be established prior to consideration for WFCAP payment.
- If the decedent was not enrolled, but was eligible for a WFCAP-qualifying program at the time of death, the family can apply for Medicaid benefits on behalf of the decedent through the decedent's [income maintenance agency](#).



Potential Eligibility Inquiries

- Upon the death of the decedent, service providers are encouraged to contact WFCAP about potential program eligibility before submitting an application.



Potential Eligibility Inquiries

- Potential eligibility is based on the decedent meeting at least one of the eligibility criteria at the time of contact.
- Actual program eligibility and the amount of payment that may be approved is determined at the time the complete application is processed.



Program Changes Effective October 3, 2016



Program Changes

Under 2015 Wisconsin Act 55, two policy changes are effective October 3, 2016, related to:

- How life insurance is considered when determining WFCAP payments
- Exemption from certain fees assessed by coroners, medical examiners, and counties



Life Insurance

Payments will be reduced for decedents whose lives are insured for more than \$3,000.

Wis. Stat. § 49.785(1m)(d) If the recipient, or the recipient's spouse or another person, owns a life insurance policy insuring the recipient's life and the face value of the policy is more than \$3,000, any amount that the department would be obligated to pay under sub. [\(1\)](#) shall be reduced by one dollar for every dollar by which the face value of the policy exceeds \$3,000.



Life Insurance

- A life insurance benefit amount of more than \$3,000 must be used to pay for the decedent's final expenses first, with WFCAP payment available only for remaining unmet amounts.
- Applies to cases where:
 - Decedent's date of death is on or after October 3, 2016, and
 - The life insurance policy was issued on or after October 3, 2016.



Exemption From Certain Fees

WFCAP service providers are exempt from certain fees for WFCAP-eligible decedents.

Wis. Stat. § 49.785(1r) A funeral home, cemetery, or crematorium that receives payment under sub. (1) shall be exempt from paying any of the following fees:

- (a) Fees for services rendered by a coroner or medical examiner.*
- (b) Fees assessed for the signing of a death certificate by a coroner or medical examiner.*
- (c) Fees assessed by a county related to transportation services.*



Exemption From Certain Fees

If these fees are included in a payment request for decedents with a date of death on or after October 3, 2016:

- WFCAP will deny these fees
- WFCAP will not apply these fees to the funeral or cemetery/crematory expense caps



Questions?



Contact Information

Wisconsin Funeral and Cemetery Aids Program

1-888-859-0611

DHSWFCAPApplications@wi.gov