

N.J.A.C. 10:123

This file includes all Regulations adopted and published through the New Jersey Register, Vol. 57 No. 12, June 16, 2025

NJ - New Jersey Administrative Code > **TITLE 10. HUMAN SERVICES** >
CHAPTER 123. SOCIAL SERVICES PROGRAMS FOR INDIVIDUALS AND FAMILIES

Title 10, Chapter 123 -- Chapter Notes

Statutory Authority

CHAPTER AUTHORITY:

[N.J.S.A. 30:1-12.](#)

History

CHAPTER SOURCE AND EFFECTIVE DATE:

Effective: October 17, 2024.

See: [56 N.J.R. 2243\(a\).](#)

CHAPTER HISTORICAL NOTE:

Chapter 123, Social Services Programs for Individuals and Families, was adopted as R.1973 d.279, effective September 26, 1973. See: 5 N.J.R. 306(a), 5 N.J.R. 379(a).

Subchapter 2, Boarding Homes, was adopted as R.1979 d.350, effective August 31, 1979. See: 11 N.J.R. 132(a), 11 N.J.R. 519(a).

Pursuant to Executive Order No. 66(1978), Subchapter 2, Boarding Homes, was readopted as R.1980 d.371, effective August 15, 1980. See: 12 N.J.R. 415(a), 12 N.J.R. 586(c).

Subchapter 3, Personal Needs Allowance, was adopted as R.1980 d.358, effective August 27, 1980. See: 12 N.J.R. 536(e).

Subchapter 1, General Provisions, was repealed by R.1983 d.587, effective December 19, 1983. See: 15 N.J.R. 209(a), 15 N.J.R. 2125(a).

Pursuant to Executive Order No. 66(1978), Subchapter 2, Boarding Homes, was readopted as R.1984 d.417, effective August 29, 1984. See: 16 N.J.R. 1450(a), 16 N.J.R. 2444(a).

Pursuant to Executive Order No. 66(1978), Subchapter 3, Personal Needs Allowance, was readopted as R.1985 d.426, effective July 29, 1985. See: 17 N.J.R. 1526(b), 17 N.J.R. 2046(b).

Pursuant to Executive Order No. 66(1978), Chapter 123, Social Services Programs for Individuals and Families, was readopted as R.1990 d.388, effective July 13, 1990. Subchapter 4, Financial Eligibility, was adopted and Appendices A through I were deleted by R.1990 d.388, effective August 6, 1990. See: 22 N.J.R. 1520(a), 22 N.J.R. 2318(b).

Title 10, Chapter 123 -- Chapter Notes

Pursuant to Executive Order No. 66(1978), Chapter 123, Social Services Programs for Individuals and Families, was readopted as R.1995 d.361, effective June 12, 1995. See: 27 N.J.R. 1123(a), [27 N.J.R. 2616\(b\)](#).

Pursuant to Executive Order No. 66(1978), Chapter 123, Social Services Programs for Individuals and Families, was readopted as R.2000 d.255, effective May 24, 2000. See: [32 N.J.R. 640\(a\)](#), [32 N.J.R. 2240\(a\)](#).

Chapter 123, Social Services Programs for Individuals and Families, was readopted by R.2005 d.440, effective November 18, 2005. See: [37 N.J.R. 861\(a\)](#), [37 N.J.R. 5004\(a\)](#).

In accordance with N.J.S.A. 52:14B-5.1b, Chapter 123, Social Services Programs for Individuals and Families, was scheduled to expire on May 17, 2013. See: [43 N.J.R. 1203\(a\)](#).

Chapter 123, Social Services Programs for Individuals and Families, was readopted as R.2011 d.146, effective April 28, 2011. See: [42 N.J.R. 2916\(a\)](#), [43 N.J.R. 1341\(a\)](#).

Chapter 123, Social Services Programs for Individuals and Families, was readopted with technical changes, effective November 17, 2017. See: [49 N.J.R. 4009\(b\)](#).

Chapter 123, Social Services Programs for Individuals and Families, was updated by administrative change, effective June 11, 2024, to change all references to county welfare agencies (CWA) and county welfare boards to county social service agencies (CSSA) and county social services boards, respectively. See: [56 N.J.R. 1244\(a\)](#).

Chapter 123, Social Services Programs for Individuals and Families, was readopted, effective October 17, 2024. See: Source and Effective Date.

Annotations

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Research References & Practice Aids

CHAPTER EXPIRATION DATE:

Chapter 123, Social Services Programs for Individuals and Families, expires on October 17, 2031.

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SUBCHAPTER 1. SOCIAL SERVICES BLOCK GRANT PROVISIONS

§ 10:123-1.1 Purpose and scope

This subchapter contains the rules of the Department of Human Services regarding the social services programs for individuals and families, which are supported by Federal Social Services Block Grant funds.

History

HISTORY:

Amended by R.1990 d.388, effective August 6, 1990.

See: 22 N.J.R. 1520(a), 22 N.J.R. 2318(b).

Text on financial eligibility and income schedule recodified to 4.1; purpose and scope added.

Amended by R.2011 d.146, effective June 6, 2011.

See: [42 N.J.R. 2916\(a\)](#), [43 N.J.R. 1341\(a\)](#).

Substituted "Department of Human Services" for "Division of Youth and Family Services", and inserted a comma following "families".

Annotations

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N.J.A.C. 10:123-1.2

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§ 10:123-1.2 Pre-Expenditure Report availability

The Federal Omnibus Reconciliation Act of 1981, P.L. 97-35, which amended Title XX of the Social Security Act to establish a Social Services Block Grant (SSBG), requires the State to submit a Pre-Expenditure Report, which outlines how the State plans to expend funds allocated to it for the program to furnish social services to individuals and families in accordance with the provisions of the annual Pre-Expenditure Report, and with Title XX of the Social Security Act. The Division of Family Development's social services programs that are supported by Federal SSBG revenues are included in the Department of Human Services' annual Pre-Expenditure Report, which is available from the Department, PO Box 700, Trenton, New Jersey 08625.

History

HISTORY:

New Rule, R.1990 d.388, effective August 8, 1990.

See: 22 N.J.R. 1520(a), 22 N.J.R. 2318(b).

Amended by R.2000 d.255, effective June 19, 2000.

See: [32 N.J.R. 640\(a\)](#), [32 N.J.R. 2240\(a\)](#).

Amended by R.2011 d.146, effective June 6, 2011.

See: [42 N.J.R. 2916\(a\)](#), [43 N.J.R. 1341\(a\)](#).

Substituted "Act" for "act", "Family Development's" for "Youth and Family Services' ", and "that" for the third occurrence of "which", and inserted a comma following the first occurrence of "Report".

Annotations

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§ 10:123-1.3 Agreement with Federal requirements

The Department of Human Services, Division of Family Development, hereby agrees to administer the Social Services Block Grant Program to furnish social services to individuals and families in accordance with the provisions of the annual Pre-Expenditure Report, and with Title XX of the Social Security Act and all applicable Federal regulations.

History

HISTORY:

New Rule, R.1990 d.388, effective August 8, 1990.

See: 22 N.J.R. 1520(a), 22 N.J.R. 2318(b).

Amended by R.2011 d.146, effective June 6, 2011.

See: [42 N.J.R. 2916\(a\)](#), [43 N.J.R. 1341\(a\)](#).

Substituted "Family Development" for "Youth and Family Services".

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SUBCHAPTER 2. BOARDING HOMES

§ 10:123-2.1 Purpose and scope

(a) The purpose of this subchapter is to delineate the responsibility of the Division of Family Development and the county social service agencies in accordance with P.L. 1979, c. 496, the Rooming and Boarding House Act of 1979.

(b) The purpose of the law is to:

1. Provide for the health, safety and welfare of all those who reside in rooming houses, boarding houses, and residential health care facilities in this State;
2. Ensure that all agencies of this State work in unison for the protection and care of the residents of rooming houses, boarding houses and residential health care facilities;
3. Ensure that needed social and remedial services are made available to the residents of such facilities through the efforts of county social service agencies; and
4. Promote the growth and continued improvement of residential health care facilities.

(c) The provisions of this subchapter apply to all rooming houses, boarding houses and residential health care facilities in the State of New Jersey, and all the residents of such facilities.

History

HISTORY:

As amended by R.1984 d.417, effective September 17, 1984.

See: 16 N.J.R. 1450(a), 16 N.J.R. 2444(a).

Deleted (b)2; changed 3.-4. to 2.-3.; added new 4.

Amended by R.1990 d.388, effective August 6, 1990.

See: 22 N.J.R. 1520(a), 22 N.J.R. 2318(b).

Scope added at (c).

Amended by R.2000 d.255, effective June 19, 2000.

See: [32 N.J.R. 640\(a\)](#), [32 N.J.R. 2240\(a\)](#).

Amended by R.2011 d.146, effective June 6, 2011.

See: [42 N.J.R. 2916\(a\)](#), [43 N.J.R. 1341\(a\)](#).

In (a), substituted "Family Development" for "Youth and Family Services" and "c. 496" for "c.496"; and in (a) and (b)3, substituted "county welfare agencies" for "County Welfare Agencies".

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§ 10:123-2.2 Authority

(a) All provisions of this subchapter, unless otherwise expressly noted, were adopted pursuant to authority of Section 3 of P.L. 1973, c. 256 ([N.J.S.A. 44:7-87](#)) and Title 30 of the Revised Statutes as amended and supplemented by the Rooming and Boarding House Act of 1979 (P.L. 1979, c. 496).

(b) The Commissioner of the Department of Human Services hereby authorizes and directs the Division of Family Development to act on behalf of the Department with all the authority thereof, as the official designated lead agency in taking the necessary and appropriate action in accord with the provisions of Section 3 of P.L. 1973, c. 256 ([N.J.S.A. 44:7-87](#)) and Title 30 of the Revised Statutes as amended and supplemented by the Rooming and Boarding House Act of 1979 (P.L. 1979, c. 496, effective September 1, 1980), Sections 34, 35 and 36, except for Subsection (d)4. Section 35(d)4 pertains to the provision of mental health and developmentally disabled services.

(c) The Division of Family Development is thus specifically authorized and directed to assist and supervise the county social service agencies in their provision of services to eligible residents of rooming houses, boarding houses and residential health care facilities.

History

HISTORY:

Amended by R.2011 d.146, effective June 6, 2011.

See: [42 N.J.R. 2916\(a\)](#), [43 N.J.R. 1341\(a\)](#).

In (a) and (b), substituted "c. 256 (N.J.S.A.)" for "c.256 (c.)" and "c. 496" for "c.496"; in (b) and (c), substituted "Family Development" for "Youth and Family Services", in (b), substituted "developmentally disabled" for "mental retardation", and deleted a comma following "35"; and in (c), substituted "county welfare agencies" for "County Welfare Agencies".

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SUBCHAPTER 2. BOARDING HOMES

§ 10:123-2.3 Definitions

The following words and terms, when used in this subchapter, shall have the following meanings unless the context clearly indicates otherwise.

"Abuse" means the willful infliction of physical pain, injury or mental anguish, unreasonable confinement, or the willful deprivation of services which are necessary to maintain a person's physical or mental health.

"Boarding house" means any building, together with any related structure, accessory building, any land appurtenant thereto, and any part thereof, which contains two or more units of dwelling space arranged or intended for single-room occupancy, exclusive of any such unit occupied by an owner or operator, and wherein personal or financial services are provided to the residents, including any residential hotel or congregate living arrangement, but excluding any hotel, motel, or established guest house wherein a minimum of 85 percent of the units of dwelling space are offered for limited tenure only, any foster home as defined in [N.J.S.A. 30:4C-26.1](#), and community residence for the developmentally disabled as defined in [N.J.S.A. 30:11B-2](#), any dormitory owned or operated on behalf of any nonprofit institution of primary, secondary, or higher education for the use of its students, any building arranged for single-room occupancy wherein the units of dwelling space are occupied exclusively by students enrolled in a full-time course of study at an institution of higher education approved by the Commission on Higher Education, and any facility or living arrangement operated by, or under contract with, any State department or agency, upon the written authorization of the Commissioner of the Department of Community Affairs.

"Department" means the Department of Human Services.

"Eligible resident" means a resident of a rooming house, boarding house or residential health care facility who receives services under the latest New Jersey Social Services Block Grant Pre-Expenditure Report for the use of funds appropriated under Title XX of the Federal Social Security Act, and as otherwise defined in P.L. 1979, c. 496 (the Rooming and Boarding House Act of 1979), N.J.S.A. 30:1A and 11A.

"Exploitation" means the act or process of using a person or his or her resources for another person's profit or advantage.

"Full and free access" means the lawful authority to enter any rooming house, boarding house, or residential health care facility without notice to meet with the residents and employees in private and, after notifying a person in charge, to inspect the premises and operations of any such facility and inspect any books, files, medical records, or other records that pertain to the residents of the facility and which are required by law or regulation to be maintained by the facility.

"Limited tenure" means residence at a rooming or boarding house on a temporary basis for a period lasting no more than 90 days, when a resident either maintains a primary residence at such a location and does so within 90 days after taking up original residence at the rooming or boarding house.

§ 10:123-2.3 Definitions

"Residential health care facility" means a facility, whether in single or multiple dwellings, whether public or private, whether incorporated or unincorporated, whether for profit or nonprofit, operated at the direction of or under the management of an individual or individuals, corporation, partnership, society, or association which furnishes food and shelter to four or more persons 18 years of age or older who are unrelated to the proprietor, and which provides dietary services, recreational activities, supervision of self-administration of medications, supervision of and assistance in activities of daily living and assistance in obtaining health services to any one or more of such persons, excluding, however, any community residence for the developmentally disabled as defined in [N.J.S.A. 30:11B-2](#), any facility or living arrangement operated by or under contract with any State department or agency, upon the written authorization of the Commissioner of the Department of Health, and any privately operated establishment licensed under N.J.S.A. 30:11.

"Rooming house" means a boarding house wherein no personal or financial services are provided to the residents.

"Single-room occupancy" means an arrangement of dwelling space which does not provide a private, secure dwelling space arranged for independent living, which contains both the sanitary and cooking facilities required in dwelling spaces pursuant to the Hotel and Multiple Dwelling Law, [N.J.S.A. 55:13A-1](#) et seq., and which is not used for limited tenure occupancy in a hotel, motel, or established guest house, regardless of the number of individuals occupying any room or rooms.

"Units of dwelling space" means any room, rooms, suite, or portion thereof, whether furnished or unfurnished, which is occupied or intended, arranged, or designed to be occupied for sleeping or dwelling purposes by one or more persons.

History

HISTORY:

Amended by R.1990 d.388, effective August 6, 1990.

See: 22 N.J.R. 1520(a), 22 N.J.R. 2318(b).

Text on DYFS responsibility and supervision recodified to 2.4; text on definitions recodified from 2.9.

Amended by R.2000 d.255, effective June 19, 2000.

See: [32 N.J.R. 640\(a\)](#), [32 N.J.R. 2240\(a\)](#).

In "Boarding house", substituted a reference to the Commission on Higher Education for a reference to the Department of Higher Education.

Amended by R.2011 d.146, effective June 6, 2011.

See: [42 N.J.R. 2916\(a\)](#), [43 N.J.R. 1341\(a\)](#).

In definition "Eligible resident", deleted a comma following "house" and substituted "c. 496" for "c.496".

Notice of readoption with technical change, effective December 18, 2017.

See: [49 N.J.R. 4009\(b\)](#).

Annotations

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§ 10:123-2.3 Definitions

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§ 10:123-2.4 Division of Family Development responsibility and supervision

(a) It shall be the responsibility of the Division of Family Development, in supervising the county social service agency, to:

1. Maintain a Statewide Central Registry of all reports received concerning abuse, exploitation, unsafe conditions, unsanitary conditions and violations of P.L. 1979, c. 496 (the Rooming and Boarding House Act of 1979) in rooming houses, boarding houses and residential health care facilities;
2. Provide statistical data for all involved State and local agencies regarding reports made to the Statewide Central Registry;
3. Maintain a record of:
 - i. The State and local agencies to which reports have been referred by county social service agencies for remedial action;
 - ii. Follow up on all such reports to determine whether appropriate remedial action has been taken.
4. Develop appropriate standards, policy, and procedures for services to eligible residents;
5. Periodically monitor and evaluate services provided to eligible residents by county social service agencies;
6. Maintain a 24-hour seven day-per-week, toll-free hotline, which will be listed publicly and posted in all board and care facilities, for the receipt of all reports of violations of the law and abuse and exploitation in rooming houses, boarding houses and residential health care facilities.
 - i. Reports received through the hotline will be referred to the county social service agency for investigation, coordination and/or follow-up.

(b) In order to effectively implement the provisions of P.L. 1979, c. 496, the Division of Family Development and county social service agencies will publicize the county social service agency service provision in rooming houses, boarding houses and residential health care facilities, and the toll-free hotline.

History

HISTORY:

Amended by R.1990 d.388, effective August 6, 1990.

See: 22 N.J.R. 1520(a), 22 N.J.R. 2318(b).

Text on CWA responsibility recodified to 2.5; text on DYFS responsibility and supervision recodified from 2.3.

Amended by R.2000 d.255, effective June 19, 2000.

§ 10:123-2.4 Division of Family Development responsibility and supervision

See: [32 N.J.R. 640\(a\)](#), [32 N.J.R. 2240\(a\)](#).

Amended by R.2011 d.146, effective June 6, 2011.

See: [42 N.J.R. 2916\(a\)](#), [43 N.J.R. 1341\(a\)](#).

Section was "Division of Youth and Family Services responsibility and supervision". In the introductory paragraph of (a) and (b), substituted "Family Development" for "Youth and Family Services"; in the introductory paragraph of (a), and in (a)6i, and (b), substituted "county welfare agency" for "County Welfare Agency"; in (a)1, deleted a comma following "unsanitary conditions" and "boarding houses", and substituted "c. 496" for "c.496"; in (a)2, substituted "Statewide" for "statewide"; and in (a)3i, (a)5, and (b), substituted "county welfare agencies" for "County Welfare Agencies"; in the introductory paragraph of (a)6, substituted ", which will be listed publicly and posted in all board and care facilities," for "(800-792-8672)", and deleted a comma following "boarding houses"; in (a)6i, deleted a comma following "coordination"; and in (b), substituted "c." for "Chapter".

Annotations

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§ 10:123-2.5 County social service agency responsibility

(a) Under the supervision of the Division of Family Development, county social service agencies shall provide services to eligible residents of rooming houses, boarding houses and residential health care facilities, which shall include, but not be limited to, the following:

1. Outreach. The county social service agency shall visit boarding houses and residential health care facilities at a minimum of two visits per year. Rooming houses shall be visited at a minimum of once per year. This does not prohibit county social service agencies from more frequent visits to these facilities, if they are deemed necessary. These visits shall be for the purpose of:

i. Providing information and referral to residents regarding services they may need and be eligible for; and

ii. Determining whether residents are receiving needed services and appropriate levels of care;

2. Investigation of reports. County social service agencies shall investigate and evaluate reports of abuse or exploitation. This investigation and evaluation responsibility includes reports initiated by the county social service agency, as well as reports received from other sources.

i. The county social service agency shall, independently or in conjunction with other agencies:

(1) Evaluate the situation in terms of the allegations specified in the report and also in terms of other risk of danger to the resident;

(2) Explore alternatives for removing or limiting danger and determine the necessary steps and services needed to assure the resident's well being; and

(3) Provide needed services or make arrangements for the provision of such services, as available.

ii. The investigation and evaluation shall begin within 24 hours of county social service agency receipt of a report when it is alleged that:

(1) A resident is currently being physically abused;

(2) A resident has been physically injured by abuse and may need medical treatment; or

(3) A resident is without supervision and may not be competent to provide for his or her own care.

iii. For all other reports of abuse or exploitation, the investigation and evaluation shall begin within 72 hours of county social service agency receipt.

iv. If there is a question regarding the severity of a referral situation, an investigation should be conducted within 24 hours;

§ 10:123-2.5 County social service agency responsibility

3. Coordination. The county social service agency shall coordinate all services provided to eligible residents with services provided by other State and local agencies. This coordination includes, but is not limited to, the following activities:

- i. The receipt and compilation of reports from other involved agencies including reports of abuse, exploitation, unsafe conditions, unsanitary conditions and other violations of P.L. 1979, c. 496 (the Rooming and Boarding House Act of 1979);
- ii. Notification and referral of reports to the appropriate agencies (the Department of Community Affairs, the Department of Health and other Divisions within the Department of Human Services, etc.) with legal jurisdiction and responsibility for the investigation and follow-up;
- iii. The development of a plan for investigation in cooperation with other agencies as necessary;
- iv. Cooperative on-site visits as deemed appropriate; and
- v. Follow-up with agencies when a report has been referred until the matter has been resolved;

4. Personal needs allowance (PNA). The PNA is a monthly amount intended to meet the personal expenses of Supplemental Security Income recipients. The Commissioner of the Department of Human Services has the responsibility for establishing a monthly personal needs allowance (PNA), which shall be no less than \$ 25.00 per month as per P.L. 1979, c. 496. The county social service agencies shall assist eligible residents in the receipt or use of their PNA. In situations where the county social service agency is unable to resolve PNA problems, possible violation of licensure standards shall be referred to the Department of Health, the Department of Community Affairs, and/or the Office of the Ombudsman for the Institutional Elderly, as appropriate; and

5. Additional services. Additional services may include those services listed in (a)5i, ii or iii below.

i. Services provided by the county social service agencies, as available, may include, but are not limited to, the following:

- (1) Information and referral;
- (2) Adult protective services;
- (3) Case management services;
- (4) Housing-related services;
- (5) Health-related services;
- (6) Transportation;
- (7) Legal services;
- (8) Recreational services; and/or
- (9) Companionship services.

ii. Such services may only be provided with the resident's consent. Where the resident refuses to accept services and the situation warrants, the county social service agency may initiate legal action to obtain legal protection and appropriate services for the resident.

iii. Eligible residents will be referred to State, county and local agencies and organizations for any services that the county social service agency cannot provide. The county social service agency shall follow up on referrals to determine whether the service(s) are being provided.

(b) The county social service agencies shall compile all reports, including those received from other agencies, regarding abuse, exploitation, unsafe conditions, unsanitary conditions and violations of P.L. 1979, c. 496 (the Rooming and Boarding House Act of 1979). These reports shall be forwarded to the Central Registry of the Division of Family Development.

§ 10:123-2.5 County social service agency responsibility

(c) The county social service agencies shall report findings in writing to the county Prosecutor when a determination is made that a resident may have suffered abuse or exploitation. The county social service agencies and the county Prosecutor's Office should establish agreements for instances in which such findings are reported to the county Prosecutor.

(d) The county social service agencies, upon receiving a report that a resident of a rooming house, boarding house or residential health care facility may be suffering or may have suffered abuse or exploitation, shall promptly notify the Ombudsman for the Institutionalized Elderly when the report involves an elderly person as defined in Section 2 of P.L. 1977, c. 239 ([N.J.S.A. 52:27G-2](#)). Similarly, cooperation and coordination provisions of P.L. 1979, c. 496 (the Rooming and Boarding House Act of 1979) require that the Ombudsman for the Institutionalized Elderly shall, at a minimum, refer all reports received concerning services and conditions at rooming houses, boarding houses and residential health care facilities to the Division of Family Development, through the county social service agency.

History

HISTORY:

As amended, R.1983 d.420, effective October 3, 1983.

See: 15 N.J.R. 1168(a), 15 N.J.R. 1665(a).

Required outreach services by CWAs reduced from once every six months to once annually.

Amended by R.1990 d.388, effective August 6, 1990.

See: 22 N.J.R. 1520(a), 22 N.J.R. 2318(b).

Text on full and free access recodified to 2.6; text on CWA responsibility recodified from 2.4.

Amended by R.2000 d.255, effective June 19, 2000.

See: [32 N.J.R. 640\(a\)](#), [32 N.J.R. 2240\(a\)](#).

Amended by R.2011 d.146, effective June 6, 2011.

See: [42 N.J.R. 2916\(a\)](#), [43 N.J.R. 1341\(a\)](#).

Section was "County Welfare Agency responsibility". Rewrote the section.

Notice of readoption with technical change, effective December 18, 2017.

See: [49 N.J.R. 4009\(b\)](#).

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§ 10:123-2.6 Full and free access

(a) In order to fulfill their responsibilities under P.L. 1979, c. 496 (the Rooming and Boarding House Act of 1979), the county social service agencies and the Division of Family Development shall be entitled to receive full and free access to rooming houses, boarding houses and residential health care facilities from the owners and operators of such facilities. The county social service agencies shall receive cooperation and assistance from State and local law enforcement officials as needed.

(b) Where such access cannot be obtained by the county social service agency on a voluntary basis or in cooperation with other government agencies as deemed appropriate, the county social service agency shall obtain access pursuant to legal process. In accord with existing law, regulations and applicable court rules, the county social service agency shall seek administrative/civil search warrants as necessary to be executed in conjunction with appropriate law enforcement officials such that lawful access can be obtained.

History

HISTORY:

Amended by R.1990 d.388, effective August 6, 1990.

See: 22 N.J.R. 1520(a), 22 N.J.R. 2318(b).

Text on confidentiality recodified to 2.7; text on full and free access recodified from 2.5.

Amended by R.2011 d.146, effective June 6, 2011.

See: [42 N.J.R. 2916\(a\)](#), [43 N.J.R. 1341\(a\)](#).

In (a), substituted "c. 496" for "c.496", "county welfare agencies" for "County Welfare Agencies" twice and "Family Development" for "Youth and Family Services", and deleted a comma following "boarding houses"; and in (b), substituted "county welfare agency" for "County Welfare Agency" three times, and deleted a comma following "regulations".

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§ 10:123-2.7 Confidentiality

(a) The county social service agencies and the Division of Family Development shall maintain confidentiality with respect to the Central Registry and all matters in relation to any report or investigation and evaluation. The identities of the complainants, witnesses, residents and other involved parties and all evaluations, findings, recommended actions and all the information received and compiled, shall not be a public record and shall not be disclosed or released. This confidentiality provision is in accordance with P.L. 1979, c. 496 (the Rooming and Boarding House Act of 1979), [N.J.S.A. 30:4-24.3](#), Department of Human Services Administrative Order 2:01, [45 CFR 205.50](#) and other applicable State and Federal laws and regulations. Exceptions to prohibited disclosure are limited to situations where:

1. The individual identified or his or her legal guardian has consented to the release of information in writing;
2. The disclosure or release is necessary to enable the county social service agency or the Division of Family Development to perform its duties, coordinate investigations and to support any opinions or recommendations that may result from a report of investigation; or
3. A court, upon its determination, directs that disclosure is necessary for the conduct of proceedings before it and that failure to make such disclosure would be contrary to the public interest.

History

HISTORY:

Amended by R.1990 d.388, effective August 6, 1990.

See: 22 N.J.R. 1520(a), 22 N.J.R. 2318(b).

Text on general reporting recodified to 2.8; text on confidentiality recodified from 2.5.

Amended by R.2011 d.146, effective June 6, 2011.

See: [42 N.J.R. 2916\(a\)](#), [43 N.J.R. 1341\(a\)](#).

In the introductory paragraph of (a) and in (a)2, substituted "Family Development" for "Youth and Family Services"; in the introductory paragraph of (a), substituted "county welfare agencies" for "County Welfare Agencies", "c. 496" for "c.496", and "Federal" for "federal", and deleted a comma following "residents" and "CFR 205.50"; in (a)1, inserted "or her", and deleted "or" from the end; and in (a)2, deleted a comma following "investigations".

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§ 10:123-2.8 General reporting

(a) In accord with the provisions of P.L. 1979, c. 496 (the Rooming and Boarding House Act of 1979):

1. Any person including any government, public or private agency who has reasonable cause to suspect that a resident of a rooming house, boarding house or residential health care facility is suffering or has suffered abuse or exploitation shall report such information in a timely manner to the appropriate county social service agency or the toll-free hotline of the Division of Family Development. Reports may be made by calling the county social service agency, the toll-free hotline, in person or by mail. Such reports shall contain the name and address of the resident, information regarding the nature of the suspected abuse or exploitation and any other information that might be helpful in an investigation of the case and the protection of the resident.
2. Any governmental agency shall report unsafe and unsanitary conditions in rooming houses, boarding houses and residential health care facilities and any suspected violations of the provisions of P.L. 1979, c. 496 (the Rooming and Boarding House Act of 1979) directly to the county social service agency.

History

HISTORY:

Amended by R.1990 d.388, effective August 6, 1990.

See: 22 N.J.R. 1520(a), 22 N.J.R. 2318(b).

Text on immunity recodified to 2.9; text on general reporting recodified from 2.5.

Amended by R.2011 d.146, effective June 6, 2011.

See: [42 N.J.R. 2916\(a\)](#), [43 N.J.R. 1341\(a\)](#).

In the introductory paragraph of (a) and (a)2, substituted "c. 496" for "c.496"; in (a)1 and (a)2, substituted "county welfare agency" for "County Welfare Agency"; and in (a)1, deleted a comma following "public", "boarding house" and "in person", and substituted "Family Development" for "Youth and Family Services" and the second occurrence of "that" for "which"; and in (a)2, deleted a comma following "boarding houses".

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§ 10:123-2.8 General reporting

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[N.J.A.C. 10:123-2.9](#)

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§ 10:123-2.9 Immunity

Any person, including any complainant or employee of the county social service agency or the Division of Family Development, who acts in accord with the provisions of P.L. 1979, c. 496 (the Rooming and Boarding House Act of 1979) and any rules promulgated pursuant thereto, acting in good faith without malicious purpose, shall have immunity from any civil or criminal liability on account of such action.

History

HISTORY:

Amended by R.1990 d.388, effective August 6, 1990.

See: 22 N.J.R. 1520(a), 22 N.J.R. 2318(b).

Definitions recodified to 2.3 with minor revisions; text on immunity recodified from 2.8.

Amended by R.2011 d.146, effective June 6, 2011.

See: [42 N.J.R. 2916\(a\)](#), [43 N.J.R. 1341\(a\)](#).

Substituted "county welfare agency" for "County Welfare Agency", "Family Development" for "Youth and Family Services", "c. 496" for "c.496", and "rules" for "regulations".

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N.J.A.C. 10:123-3.1

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SUBCHAPTER 3. PERSONAL NEEDS ALLOWANCE

§ 10:123-3.1 Purpose

The purpose of this subchapter is to ensure that each eligible resident of a boarding house or residential health care facility has reserved to him or her a monthly amount as a personal needs allowance.

History

HISTORY:

Amended by R.1990 d.388, effective August 6, 1990.

See: 22 New Jersey Register 1520(a), 22 New Jersey Register 2318(b).

Definitions recodified to 3.3; text on purpose added.

Amended by R.1991 d.215, effective April 15, 1991 (operative May 1, 1991).

See: 23 New Jersey Register 382(a), 23 New Jersey Register 1191(a).

Deleted reference to "rooming house".

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§ 10:123-3.2 Scope

This subchapter applies to all eligible residents, as defined in this subchapter, of all boarding houses and residential health care facilities in the State of New Jersey as such are defined in this subchapter.

History

HISTORY:

Amended by R.1990 d.388, effective August 6, 1990.

See: 22 New Jersey Register 1520(a), 22 New Jersey Register 2318(b).

Text on amount recodified to 3.4; text on scope added.

Amended by R.1991 d.215, effective April 15, 1991 (operative May 1, 1991).

See: 23 New Jersey Register 382(a), 23 New Jersey Register 1191(a).

Deleted reference to "rooming houses".

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Case Notes

Regulations adopted as emergency rules valid, but remanded for public notice and opportunity for public to be heard; submission of rule adoption prior to effective date of enabling act proper as Commissioner has implied authority to propose regulations to be effective concurrently with the enabling act. [*New Jersey Assn. of Health Care Facilities v. Klein*, 182 N.J.Super. 252, 440 A.2d 476 \(App.Div.1981\)](#).

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§ 10:123-3.3 Definitions

The following words and terms, when used in this subchapter, shall have the following meanings.

"Boarding house" means any building, together with any related structure, accessory building, any land appurtenant thereto, and any part thereof, which contains two or more units of dwelling space arranged or intended for single-room occupancy, exclusive of any such unit occupied by an owner or operator, and wherein personal or financial services are provided to the residents, including any residential hotel or congregate living arrangement, but excluding any hotel, motel, or established guest house wherein a minimum of 85 percent of the units of dwelling space are offered for limited tenure only, any foster home as defined in Section 1 of [N.J.S.A. 30:4C-26.1](#), and community residence for the developmentally disabled as defined in [N.J.S.A. 30:11B-2](#), any dormitory owned or operated on behalf of any nonprofit institution of primary, secondary, or higher education for the use of its students, any building arranged for single-room occupancy wherein the units of dwelling space are occupied exclusively by students enrolled in a full-time course of study at any institution of higher education approved by the Commission on Higher Education, and any facility or living arrangement operated by, or under contract with any State department or agency upon the written authorization of the Commissioner of the Department of Community Affairs.

"Eligible resident" means a resident of a boarding house or residential health care facility who receives Supplemental Security Income or General Assistance, and as otherwise defined in the Rooming and Boarding House Act of 1979, N.J.S.A. 30:1A and 11A.

"Limited tenure" means residence at a rooming or boarding house on a temporary basis for a period lasting no more than 90 days, when a resident either maintains a primary residence at a location other than the rooming or boarding house or intends to establish a primary residence at such a location and does so within 90 days after taking up original residence at the rooming or boarding house.

"Operator" means any individual who is responsible for the daily operation of any residential health care facility or boarding house.

"Owner" means any person who owns, purports to own, or exercises control of any residential health care facility or boarding house.

"Personal needs allowance" means a monthly amount of money intended to meet those personal and incidental expenses or needs of Supplemental Security Income recipients in residential health care facilities or boarding houses which are not included among those services provided by the facility in accord with the respective licensure standards.

"Residential health care facility" means facility, whether in single or multiple dwellings, whether public or private, whether incorporated or unincorporated, whether for profit or nonprofit, operated at the direction of or under the management of an individual or individuals, corporation, partnership, society, or association which furnishes food and shelter to four or more persons 18 years of age or older who are unrelated to the proprietor, and which provides dietary services, recreational activities, supervision of self-administration of medications, supervision of and

§ 10:123-3.3 Definitions

assistance in activities of daily living and assistance in obtaining health services to any one or more of such persons, excluding, however, any community residence for the developmentally disabled as defined in [N.J.S.A. 30:11B-2](#), any facility of living arrangement operated by or under contract with any State department or agency, upon the written authorization of the Commissioner of the Department of Health, and any privately operated establishment licensed under N.J.S.A. 30:11A.

"Single-room occupancy" means an arrangement of dwelling space which does not provide a private, secure dwelling space arranged for independent living, which contains both the sanitary and cooking facilities required in dwelling spaces pursuant to the Hotel and Multiple Dwelling Law, [N.J.S.A. 55:13A-1](#) et seq. and which is not used for limited tenure occupancy in a hotel, motel, or established guest house, regardless of the number of individuals occupying any room or rooms.

"Units of dwelling space" means any room, rooms, suite, or portion thereof, whether furnished or unfurnished, which is occupied or intended, arranged, or designed to be occupied, for sleeping or dwelling purposes by one or more persons.

"Work First New Jersey/General Assistance" means assistance rendered to needy persons not otherwise provided for under the laws of this State, where such persons are willing to work but are unable to secure employment due either to physical or mental disabilities or inability to find employment, and includes what is commonly called relief or emergency relief (see [N.J.S.A. 44:8-107](#) et seq. and *N.J.A.C. 10:90*).

History

HISTORY:

Amended by R.1981 d.423, effective November 2, 1981.

See: 13 N.J.R. 595(a), 13 N.J.R. 774(b).

"General Public Assistance" and "Supplemental Security Income/Social Security Income Disregard (SSI/SSA)" added.

Amended by R.1982 d.301, effective September 7, 1982.

See: 14 N.J.R. 699(a), 14 N.J.R. 981(b).

Definition of SSI/SSA Income Disregard deleted.

Amended by R.1990 d.388, effective August 6, 1990.

See: 22 N.J.R. 1520(a), 22 N.J.R. 2318(b).

Definitions recodified from 3.1 with minor revisions.

Amended by R.1991 d.215, effective April 15, 1991 (operative May 1, 1991).

See: 23 N.J.R. 382(a), 23 N.J.R. 1191(a).

Revised "Eligible resident" to clarify covered clientele.

Amended by R.2000 d.255, effective June 19, 2000.

See: [32 N.J.R. 640\(a\)](#), [32 N.J.R. 2240\(a\)](#).

In "Boarding house", substituted a reference to the Commission on Higher Education for a reference to the Department of Higher Education; deleted "General Public Assistance"; and added "Work First New Jersey/General Assistance".

Notice of readoption with technical change, effective December 18, 2017.

§ 10:123-3.3 Definitions

See: [49 N.J.R. 4009\(b\)](#).

Annotations

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SUBCHAPTER 3. PERSONAL NEEDS ALLOWANCE

§ 10:123-3.4 Amount

(a) The owner or operator of each residential health care facility or boarding home shall reserve to each Supplemental Security Income (SSI) recipient residing therein, and the owner or operator of each residential health care facility shall reserve to each Work First New Jersey/General Assistance recipient residing therein, a personal needs allowance in the amount of at least \$ 142.00 per month, set according to (b) below, and noticed in the New Jersey Register and otherwise publicized, in accordance with (c) below. No owner or operator, or agency thereof, shall interfere with the recipient's retention, use, or control of the personal needs allowance.

(b) The personal needs allowance shall be adjusted annually based on the following calculations: the Federal portion of the current total SSI rate multiplied by the Federal Cost of Living Adjustment (COLA) to be applied to the succeeding year equals the actual dollar increase (rounded to the nearest dollar); the actual dollar increase divided by the current total SSI rate equals the adjusted COLA for the succeeding year; the adjusted COLA multiplied by the current annualized base PNA equals the monthly PNA increase for the succeeding year. For the purposes of this rule, the COLA means the cost of living adjustment published annually in the Federal Register, in accordance with 42 U.S.C. 415i and [1382f](#).

(c) The personal needs allowance for each calendar year shall be noticed in the New Jersey Register on or about January 1 of that year, and shall be considered the current personal needs allowance for that calendar year. Additional notice shall be provided in at least three newspapers of general circulation in the State of New Jersey before January 1 of that year, and by other means reasonably calculated to inform those persons most likely to be affected by or interested in the personal needs allowance increase for that calendar year.

History

HISTORY:

Amended by R.1983 d.588, effective December 19, 1983.

See: 15 N.J.R. 1735(a), 15 N.J.R. 2172(b).

Personal needs allowance increased from \$ 46.00 to \$ 50.00 per month.

Amended by R.1985 d.134, effective March 18, 1985.

See: 17 N.J.R. 39(b), 17 N.J.R. 707(a).

Personal needs allowance raised from \$ 50.00 to \$ 52.00 per month.

Amended by R.1986 d.42, effective February 18, 1986.

See: 17 N.J.R. 2995(a), 18 N.J.R. 419(a).

Personal needs allowance raised from \$ 52.00 to \$ 53.00 per month.

§ 10:123-3.4 Amount

Amended by R.1988 d.201, effective May 2, 1988.

See: 20 N.J.R. 225(b), 20 N.J.R. 985(b).

Raised personal needs allowance from \$ 53.00 to \$ 55.00 per month.

Amended by R.1989 d.171, effective February 28, 1989.

See: 21 N.J.R. 788(a).

Emergency amendment, R.1989 d.171, effective February 28, 1989. (expires April 29, 1989).

See: 21 N.J.R. 788(a).

Raised personal needs allowance from \$ 55.00 to \$ 57.00 per month.

Amended by R.1989 d.285, effective April 28, 1989.

See: 21 N.J.R. 788(a), 21 N.J.R. 1575(a).

Raised personal needs allowance from \$ 55.00 to \$ 57.00 per month.

Amended by R.1990 d.137, effective February 20, 1990 (operative March 1, 1990).

See: 21 N.J.R. 3912(a), 22 N.J.R. 661(a).

Raised personal needs allowance from \$ 57.00 to \$ 59.00 per month.

Recodified by R.1990 d.388, effective August 6, 1990.

See: 22 N.J.R. 1520(a), 22 N.J.R. 2318(b).

Text on amount recodified from 3.2.

Amended by R.1991 d.215, effective April 15, 1991 (operative May 1, 1991).

See: 23 N.J.R. 382(a), 23 N.J.R. 1191(a).

\$ 62.00 per month was \$ 59.00 per month.

Amended by R.1992 d.177, effective April 20, 1992 (operative May 1, 1992).

See: 24 N.J.R. 330(a), 24 N.J.R. 1503(a).

Increased personal needs allowance from \$ 62.00 to \$ 65.00.

Amended by R.1993 d.152, effective April 5, 1993 (operative May 1, 1993).

See: 25 N.J.R. 229(a), 25 N.J.R. 1515(a).

Increased personal needs allowance from \$ 65.00 to \$ 66.50.

Amended by R.1993 d.489, effective October 4, 1993.

See: 25 N.J.R. 2684(a), 25 N.J.R. 4598(a).

Administrative Change: Personal needs allowance, effective January 1, 1994.

See: 25 N.J.R. 5705(b).

Administrative Change: Personal needs allowance, effective January 1, 1995.

See: 26 N.J.R. 5023(b).

Administrative change: Personal needs allowance, effective January 1, 1996.

See: [27 N.J.R. 5053\(a\)](#).

Administrative change: Personal needs allowance, effective January 1, 1997.

See: [28 N.J.R. 5174\(b\)](#).

§ 10:123-3.4 Amount

Administrative change: Personal needs allowance, effective January 1, 1998.

See: [29 N.J.R. 5329\(a\)](#).

Administrative change: Personal needs allowance, effective January 1, 1999.

See: [31 N.J.R. 75\(a\)](#).

Administrative change.

See: [31 N.J.R. 4045\(a\)](#).

Amended by R.2000 d.255, effective June 19, 2000.

See: [32 N.J.R. 640\(a\)](#), [32 N.J.R. 2240\(a\)](#).

In (a), substituted a reference to Work First New Jersey/General Assistance for a reference to General Public Assistance and substituted a reference to \$ 75.50 for a reference to \$ 73.50.

Administrative change.

See: [32 N.J.R. 4258\(b\)](#).

Administrative change.

See: [34 N.J.R. 4444\(a\)](#).

Administrative change.

See: [35 N.J.R. 5592\(a\)](#).

Administrative change.

See: [36 N.J.R. 5684\(b\)](#).

Administrative change.

See: [37 N.J.R. 4556\(a\)](#).

Administrative change.

See: [39 N.J.R. 934\(a\)](#).

Administrative correction.

See: [39 N.J.R. 934\(b\)](#).

Administrative change.

See: [41 N.J.R. 1866\(b\)](#).

Administrative change.

See: [44 N.J.R. 669\(c\)](#).

Administrative change.

See: [45 N.J.R. 2143\(b\)](#).

Administrative change.

See: [46 N.J.R. 857\(a\)](#).

§ 10:123-3.4 Amount

Administrative change.

See: [47 N.J.R. 998\(a\)](#).

Administrative change.

See: [50 N.J.R. 2239\(b\)](#).

Administrative change, effective May 9, 2022.

See: [54 N.J.R. 1082\(b\)](#).

Administrative change, effective July 2, 2024.

See: [56 N.J.R. 1564\(b\)](#).

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SUBCHAPTER 4. FINANCIAL ELIGIBILITY

§ 10:123-4.1 Financial eligibility: income schedule

(a) Financial eligibility for services provided by the county social service agencies and funded through the Social Services Block Grant program of the Social Security Act shall be determined using the following income schedule:

INCOME SCHEDULE

Family Size	Maximum Allowable Per Month	Gross Income Per Year
1	\$ 1,264	\$ 15,162
2	1,652	19,827
3	2,041	24,493
4	2,430	29,158
5	2,819	33,823
6	3,207	38,489
7	3,280	39,362
8	3,353	40,238
9	3,426	41,112
10	3,499	41,987
11	3,572	42,862
12	3,645	43,737

For each family member over 12, add \$ 73.00 to the maximum allowable gross income per month.

(b) Persons whose gross monthly or annual family income does not exceed the maximums established in (a) above shall be eligible for services provided by the county social service agency and funded by the Social Services Block Grant program, subject to the availability of funds, service priorities and need for service criteria.

(c) Persons who wish to appeal a determination of ineligibility for services based upon the income guidelines in (a) above shall proceed in accordance with [N.J.A.C. 1:10](#).

History

HISTORY:

Recodified by R.1990 d.388, effective August 6, 1990.

See: 22 N.J.R. 1520(a), 22 N.J.R. 2318(b).

Text on financial eligibility recodified from 1.1.

Amended by R.2000 d.255, effective June 19, 2000.

See: [32 N.J.R. 640\(a\)](#), [32 N.J.R. 2240\(a\)](#).

§ 10:123-4.1 Financial eligibility: income schedule

In (a), changed Income Schedule amounts for a family size of 2; in (b), added ", subject to the availability of funds, service priorities and need for service criteria" at the end; and in (c), changed N.J.A.C. reference.

Amended by R.2011 d.146, effective June 6, 2011.

See: [42 N.J.R. 2916\(a\)](#), [43 N.J.R. 1341\(a\)](#).

In (c), updated the N.J.A.C. reference.

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APPENDIX

History

APPENDICES HISTORICAL NOTE:

Appendices A through I were deleted by R.1990 d.388, effective August 6, 1990.

See: 22 New Jersey Register 1520(a), 22 New Jersey Register 2318(b).

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