

PERSONAL NECESSITIES UNDER RSS

GUIDELINE:

Reinstate "Personal Necessities" as one choice within the Recovery Support Services (RSS) voucher at a cap of \$200.00 per client not to be automatically given to every client due to risk of monies operating as an "undue inducement" which removes the voluntary nature of participation in the AAIR program and as a result, violates AAIR policies and SAMHSA Federal Grant regulatory guidelines. Qualification should be based on need alone and tied to treatment objectives.

LIMITATIONS:

The Recovery Support Services Voucher amount is set at \$1000.00 but the dollar value for Personal Necessities is limited to \$200.00. The Personal Necessities line item is defined as those personal basic necessity items deemed essential for the client to attend treatment, whether it be Residential, Transitional housing, Clinical Outpatient, Recovery Support Services, or Dental treatment. Client's "necessity" is determined from and after AAIR Provider staff completes the Recovery Support Service Assessment tool together with the client. The issuance of this voucher is also dictated by the level of client's participation in recovery as defined by the treatment plan put in place at the time of intake. Assessed need must be documented in the client's file.

Any determination that a particular client qualifies for the Personal Necessities line item must be directly tied to that individual's treatment regimen. Please note that all clients will not qualify for the Personal Necessities line item as some may already have these basic requirements met. The Personal Necessities line item is to be reserved to benefit those clients for whom treatment would be undermined by a lack of basic necessities including but not limited to: shampoo, deodorant, a hair-cut, proper shoes, clean clothing, clothing for job interview, under garments, soap, shaving cream, feminine hygiene articles, masculine hygiene articles, lotion, socks, identification documentation, and birth certificate. If you are unsure about whether an item may be appropriate or not, please call the AAIR administrative staff at 916.929.9761 and we will be happy to answer your questions.

Personal Necessities should operate by the client procuring a service (hair cut) or purchasing an item (shampoo) and providing the receipt to the AAIR Provider to be reimbursed. However, we understand that the very necessity for this line item means that many of our clients may not possess the funds to pay for these essentials up front and therefore encourage Providers to establish relationships with retail businesses available in your area that

provide the aforementioned services. By establishing these relationships, Providers will be able to arrange payment for services or products through a means that protects client confidentiality while procuring the needed items or services on behalf of the client. Respecting the nature of addiction, we prohibit AAIR Providers from giving any cash to their clients. Please be aware that SAMHSA views gift cards as "cash". Cash for many of our clients can operate as an automatic trigger to use and sets them up to fail. Please call us if you want to discuss additional ways you may be able to dispense this line item and avoid possible problematic issues with same.

We wanted to reintroduce the Personal Necessities line item because we understand and appreciate that the need is there despite programmatic problems with its proper utilization in the past. Please know that the parameters we have attached to this particular line item serve to protect the client and you as the Provider and are not meant to hinder your efforts on the client's behalf.

EXCLUSIONS:

Some examples of items that would not be considered appropriate use of these funds include but are not limited to: (electronics of any kind) television sets, DVD players, Ipods, MP3 players, DVDs, CDs, as well as utility bills, rent payments, court fines, and/or traffic citations.

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