

## CHAPTER 256K

## WORK FIRST PROGRAM PILOT PROJECTS

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**256K.03 PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS.**

Subdivision 1. **Notification of program.** Except for the provisions in this section, the provisions for the MFIP application process shall be followed. Within two days after receipt of a completed combined application form, the county agency must refer to the provider the applicant who meets the conditions under section 256K.02, and notify the applicant in writing of the program including the following provisions:

- (1) notification that, as part of the application process, applicants are required to attend orientation, to be followed immediately by a job search;
- (2) the program provider, the date, time, and location of the scheduled program orientation;
- (3) the procedures for qualifying for and receiving benefits under the program;
- (4) the immediate availability of supportive services, including, but not limited to, child care, transportation, and other work-related aid; and
- (5) the rights, responsibilities, and obligations of participants in the program, including, but not limited to, the grounds for exemptions and deferrals, the consequences for refusing or failing to participate fully, and the appeal process.

*[For text of subds 2 to 12, see M.S.2000]*

**History:** *1Sp2001 c 9 art 2 s 58*

**NOTE:** The amendment to subdivision 1 by Laws 2001, First Special Session chapter 9, article 2, section 58, is effective July 1, 2002. Laws 2001, First Special Session chapter 9, article 2, section 58, the effective date.

**256K.07 ELIGIBILITY FOR FOOD STAMPS AND CHILD CARE.**

The participant shall be treated as an MFIP recipient for food stamps and child care eligibility purposes. The participant who leaves the program as a result of increased earnings from employment shall be eligible for child care without regard to MFIP receipt in three of the six months preceding ineligibility.

**History:** *1Sp2001 c 9 art 2 s 59*

**NOTE:** The amendment to this section by Laws 2001, First Special Session chapter 9, article 2, section 59, is effective July 1, 2002. Laws 2001, First Special Session chapter 9, article 2, section 59, the effective date.

**256K.25 SUPPORTIVE HOUSING AND MANAGED CARE PILOT PROJECT.**

Subdivision 1. **Establishment and purpose.** (a) The commissioner shall establish a supportive housing and managed care pilot project to determine whether the integrated delivery of employment services, supportive services, housing, and health care into a single, flexible program will:

- (1) reduce public expenditures on homeless families with minor children, homeless noncustodial parents, and other homeless individuals;
- (2) increase the employment rates of these persons; and
- (3) provide a new alternative to providing services to this hard-to-serve population.

(b) The commissioner shall create a program for counties for the purpose of providing integrated intensive and individualized case management services, employment services, health care services, rent subsidies or other short- or medium-term housing assistance, and other supportive services to eligible families and individuals. Minimum project and application requirements shall be developed by the commissioner in cooperation with counties and their nonprofit partners with the goal to provide the maximum flexibility in program design.

(c) Services available under this project must be coordinated with available health care services for an eligible project participant.

*[For text of subd 2, see M.S.2000]*

**Subd. 3. County eligibility.** (a) A county may request funding under this pilot project if the county:

(1) agrees to develop, in cooperation with nonprofit partners, a supportive housing and managed care pilot project that integrates the delivery of employment services, supportive services, housing and health care for eligible families and individuals, or agrees to contract with an existing integrated program;

(2) for eligible participants who are also MFIP recipients, agrees to develop, in cooperation with nonprofit partners, procedures to ensure that the services provided under the pilot project are closely coordinated with the services provided under MFIP;

(3) develops a method for evaluating the quality of the integrated services provided and the amount of any resulting cost savings to the county and state; and

(4) addresses in the pilot design the prevalence in the homeless population served those individuals with mental illness, a history of substance abuse, or HIV.

(b) Preference may be given to counties that cooperate with other counties participating in the pilot project for purposes of evaluation and counties that provide additional funding.

**Subd. 4. Participant eligibility.** (a) In order to meet initial eligibility criteria for the pilot project, the county must determine that a participant is homeless or is at risk of homelessness and is a family that meets the criteria in paragraph (b) or is an individual who meets the criteria in paragraph (c).

(b) An eligible family must include a minor child or a pregnant woman, and:

(1) be receiving or be eligible for MFIP assistance under chapter 256J; or

(2) include an adult caregiver who is employed or is receiving employment and training services, and have household income below the MFIP exit level in section 256J.24, subdivision 10.

(c) An eligible individual must:

(1) meet the eligibility requirements of the group residential housing program under section 256I.04, subdivision 1; or

(2) be a noncustodial parent who is employed or is receiving employment and training services, and have household income below the MFIP exit level in section 256J.24, subdivision 10.

(d) Counties participating in the pilot project may develop and initiate disenrollment criteria, subject to approval by the commissioner of human services.

**Subd. 5. Funding.** A county may request funding from the commissioner for a specified number of project participants. The commissioner shall review the request for compliance with subdivisions 1 to 4 and may approve or disapprove the request. If other funds are available, the commissioner may allocate funding for project participants who meet the eligibility requirements of subdivision 4, paragraph (c). The commissioner may also redirect funds to the pilot project.

**Subd. 6. Report.** Participating counties and the commissioner shall collaborate to prepare and issue an annual report, beginning December 1, 2001, to the chairs of the appropriate legislative committees on the pilot project's use of public resources, including other funds leveraged for this initiative and an assessment of the feasibility of financing the pilot through other health and human services programs, the employment and housing status of the families and individuals served in the project, and the cost-effectiveness of the project. The annual report must also evaluate the pilot project with respect to the following project goals: that participants will lead more productive, healthier, more stable and better quality lives; that the teams created under the project to deliver services for each project participant will be accountable for ensuring that services are more appropriate, cost-effective and well-coordinated; and that the system-

wide costs of serving this population, and the inappropriate use of emergency, crisis-oriented or institutional services, will be materially reduced. The commissioner shall provide data that may be needed to evaluate the project to participating counties that request the data.

*[For text of subd 7, see M.S.2000]*

**History:** *1Sp2001 c 9 art 10 s 55-59*