

**256.046 ADMINISTRATIVE FRAUD DISQUALIFICATION HEARINGS.**

Subdivision 1. **Hearing authority.** A local agency must initiate an administrative fraud disqualification hearing for individuals, including child care providers caring for children receiving child care assistance, accused of wrongfully obtaining assistance or intentional program violations, in lieu of a criminal action when it has not been pursued, in the Minnesota family investment program and any affiliated program to include the diversionary work program and the work participation cash benefit program, child care assistance programs, general assistance, family general assistance program formerly codified in section 256D.05, subdivision 1, clause (15), Minnesota supplemental aid, food stamp programs, general assistance medical care, MinnesotaCare for adults without children, and upon federal approval, all categories of medical assistance and remaining categories of MinnesotaCare except for children through age 18. The Department of Human Services, in lieu of a local agency, may initiate an administrative fraud disqualification hearing when the state agency is directly responsible for administration or investigation of the program for which benefits were wrongfully obtained. The hearing is subject to the requirements of section 256.045 and the requirements in Code of Federal Regulations, title 7, section 273.16.

Subd. 2. **Combined hearing.** The referee may combine a fair hearing and administrative fraud disqualification hearing into a single hearing if the factual issues arise out of the same, or related, circumstances and the individual receives prior notice that the hearings will be combined. If the administrative fraud disqualification hearing and fair hearing are combined, the time frames for administrative fraud disqualification hearings specified in Code of Federal Regulations, title 7, section 273.16, apply. If the individual accused of wrongfully obtaining assistance is charged under section 256.98 for the same act or acts which are the subject of the hearing, the individual may request that the hearing be delayed until the criminal charge is decided by the court or withdrawn.

**History:** 1992 c 513 art 8 s 10; 1997 c 85 art 4 s 12; art 5 s 6; 1Sp1997 c 5 s 13; 1999 c 159 s 40; 1999 c 205 art 1 s 52; 1Sp2003 c 14 art 9 s 31; art 12 s 3; 2004 c 288 art 4 s 25; 1Sp2005 c 4 art 8 s 10; 2008 c 286 art 1 s 2; 2010 c 301 art 1 s 1