

Public Assistance (PA) Budget Examples

Below are two sample PA budgets. The methodology used in these budgets is the method used to determine the amount that the local social services district pays a domestic violence residential program and the amount of a victim's fee under both PA and Title XX when the victim has available income.

Note that although the examples do not include special allowances, recipients in DV residential settings may be eligible for additional needs such as the pregnancy allowance, storage fees, etc.

Glossary

The following terms are used in these examples:

Per Diem Rate: This is the daily per person rate established by the Office of Children and Family Services for a domestic violence residential program.

Personal Needs Allowance (PNA): This is the per person Public Assistance allowance for persons in domestic violence residential programs where three meals a day are provided. The personal needs allowance is for personal needs items not covered in the per diem rate.

Monthly Standard of Need: This is the total Public Assistance needs for an individual or family for the month. For individuals and families without income, this is equal to the amount of the Public Assistance grant. For individuals and families with income, this is the standard from which the available countable income is subtracted. Available countable income plus the Public Assistance grant will equal the standard of need.

Monthly Countable Income: This is the amount of the individual's or family's monthly income that is used to offset the standard of need. Not all available earned income is countable. All available unearned income is countable. The difference between the monthly standard of need and the monthly countable income is the amount of the Public Assistance grant. This is also known as the PA deficit.

Daily PA Deficit: This is the monthly PA deficit divided by the number of days in the month and the daily amount that is paid by the social services district to the residential program.

DSS Payment to Residential Program: This is the payment the residential program will receive from the social services district for the victim/family. It represents the daily PA deficit multiplied by the number of days (bednights) the victim/family was in the residential program.

Victim's (Recipient's) Fee: This is the amount that the victim is responsible to pay the residential program. It is the per diem rate for the number of persons in the family times the number of days (bednights) the victim/family was in the residential program minus the payment from the local social services district.

EXAMPLE 1

Family of 3, mother and two children, residing in Albany County with spouse. The mother and the children enter a domestic violence residential program in Albany County on October 1, 2006 and leave on the morning of October 21 (20 bednights). The mother and two children move into their own apartment in Albany on October 21 (10 days in October) and are in need of Public Assistance when they leave the residential program. The mother continues to work and has \$600/month gross earned income.

1. PA Standard of Need in Residential Program

Per diem rate	\$100.00 per person
Times Number of persons (3)	300.00 per day
Actual number of days in the month = 31* (October)	
31 x \$300/day =	\$9300.00
Personal Needs Allowance	<u>+ 135.00</u> (\$45 x 3 persons)
Monthly Standard of Need	\$9435.00

* While TA usually uses a standard 30-day proration factor, in DV situations the actual # of days in the month is used.

2. Monthly Countable Income

Monthly Gross Earned Income	\$600.00
Disregard	<u>- 90.00</u>
	\$510.00
Earned Income Disregard (47%) **	<u>- 239.70</u>
Monthly Countable Income	\$270.30

And/Or

Monthly Unearned Income (counted \$ for \$)	0
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** % disregard changes June 1 each year

3. Daily PA Deficit in Residential Program

Monthly PA Standard of Need (From 1 above)	\$9435.00
Monthly Countable Income (From 2 above)	<u>-270.30</u>
Monthly PA Deficit	\$9164.00(Rounded down)

Divide by number of days in month (31)

Daily PA Deficit	\$295.61
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4. DSS Pays Residential Program

Daily PA Deficit \$295.61 x
Number of days Family in program (20)

DSS Payment to residential program	\$5912.20
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5. Recipient's Fee

Residential Program Bill (\$300.00 x 20 days)	\$6000.00
Minus DSS Payment (From 4 above)	<u>-5912.20</u>

Recipient's fee	\$ 87.80
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Out of a monthly gross income of \$600, the fee is \$87.80 towards a bill of \$600.

1. Monthly Standard of Need in Apartment For Remainder of Month

Basic Allowance	\$ 238.00
Home Energy Allowance	30.00
Supplemental Home Energy Allowance	23.00
Shelter with Children	<u>309.00</u>
Monthly Standard of Need	\$ 600.00

2. Monthly Countable Income

Monthly Gross Earned Income	\$ 600.00
Disregard	<u>- 90.00</u>
	\$ 510.00
Earned Income Disregard (47%) **	<u>- 239.70</u>

Monthly Countable Income **\$270.30**

And/Or

Monthly Unearned Income (counted \$ for \$) 0

** % disregard changes June 1 each year

3. PA deficit

Monthly Needs	\$600.00
Monthly Countable Income	- <u>270.30</u>
PA deficit	\$ 329.00 (Rounded down)

Shelter Allowance	\$309.00
(Full Month for Initial Case Opening)	
Monthly Prorated Non-Shelter Needs	<u>+ 6.67</u> (\$20.00 / 30 days times 10 days)

PA cash grant for Remainder of October **\$315.67**

For the Month of October, DSS paid \$5912.20 for the residential program and \$315.67 for the 10 days that the family resided in their own apartment. The recipient's fee for the residential program was \$87.80.

EXAMPLE 2

Family of 3, mother and two children, reside in Albany County with spouse. The mother and two children enter a domestic violence residential program in Albany County on October 1, 2006 and remain there until the morning of October 21 (20 bednights). The family then enters their own apartment on October 21. The mother continues to work and has gross monthly income of \$1,200/month.

1. PA Monthly Standard of Need in Residential Program

Per diem rate	\$100.00 per person
Number of persons x 3 persons	
Family per diem	\$300.00 per day
Actual number of days in the month	<u> x31 (October)</u>
	\$9300.00
Personal Needs allowance	<u>+ 135.00</u> (\$45 x 3 persons)
Monthly Standard of Need	\$9435.00

2. Monthly Countable Income

Monthly Gross Earned Income	\$1200.00
Disregard	<u>-90.00</u>
	\$1110.00
Earned Income Disregard (47%) **	<u>\$ -521.70</u>
Countable Income	\$ 588.30

And/Or

Monthly Unearned Income (counted \$ for \$)	0
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** % disregard changes June 1 each year

3. Daily PA Deficit in Residential Program

Monthly PA Standard of Need (From 1 above)	\$9435.00
Monthly Countable Income (From 2 above)	<u>-588.30</u>
Monthly PA Deficit	\$8846.00 (Rounded down)
Divide by Number of Days in the Month (31)	
Daily PA Deficit	\$ 285.35

4. DSS Pays Residential Program

Daily PA Deficit	\$ 285.35
Number of days Family in Shelter	<u> x 20</u>
DSS Payment to Shelter	\$5707.00

5. Recipient's Fee

Residential Program Bill (\$300 x 20 days)	\$ 6000.00
Minus DSS Payment (From 4 above)	<u>- 5707.00</u>
Recipient's fee	\$ 293.00

Out of a monthly gross income of \$1200, the recipient's fee is \$293.00 towards a bill of \$6000.

1. Monthly Standard of Need in Apartment

Basic Allowance	\$ 238.00
Home Energy Allowance	30.00
Supplemental Home Energy Allowance	23.00
Shelter Allowance with Children	<u>309.00</u>
Monthly Standard of Need	\$ 600.00

The family is ineligible for cash Public Assistance when they leave the residential program because the family's gross monthly income of \$1,200 exceeds 185% (\$1,110) of the \$600 standard of need. However, depending upon the circumstances this family may also be eligible for other supportive programs and services such as Medicaid, Child Health Plus, Family Health Plus, Child Care Subsidies, Food Stamps, the Earned Income Tax Credit, etc.