

**NORTH DAKOTA DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES
BISMARCK, NORTH DAKOTA
JUNE 23, 2017**

IM 5307

TO: County Social Service Directors
Economic Assistance Policy Regional Representatives
Economic Assistance Policy Quality Control Reviewers

FROM: Carol Cartledge, Director, Economic Assistance

SUBJECT: Increase in Medical Leave Days

PROGRAMS: Basic Care Assistance Program

EFFECTIVE: July 1, 2017

RETENTION: Until superseded

**SECTIONS
AFFECTED:** 400-29-75 – Payment to Licensed Basic Care Facilities.

The number of allowable medical leave days is increasing from 15 allowable days per occurrence to 30 allowable days per occurrence.

Below is the specific policy that will be updated for the Basic Care Program

Payment to Licensed Basic Care Facilities 400-29-75

The Basic Care Assistance Program payment shall be authorized by the county through the Resident Payment System for room and board services received in a licensed basic care facility. The county authorizing the case shall send the "Notice of Action" to the basic care provider and to the recipient.

The Basic Care Assistance Program policy for hospital days is similar to the policy used by the Medicaid Program. A maximum of ~~15~~ **30** days per occurrence will be allowed for payment for basic care during a time a recipient requires a level of care higher than basic care, including days in a hospital, swing bed, hospice care, or nursing facility, if the care plan provides that the resident will return to the basic care facility and the facility holds the bed until the resident returns. Payment for therapeutic days, or days when the resident is on personal

leave, will be limited to 28 days per year. Basic care facilities will receive payment for room and board for leave days but not the payment for personal care services. A facility may charge to hold a bed for a period in excess of the maximums stated in this paragraph if the resident or a person acting on behalf of the resident has requested the bed be held, the facility informs the person making the request the amount of the charge, and the payment comes from a source other than the recipient's monthly income (75-02-07.1-04).

Any Questions please contact your Regional Representative.