



## LARIMER COUNTY WORKS POLICY

<b>Title:</b>	Other Assistance Program for Participants		
<b>Effective Date:</b>	07-01-10	<b>Page: 1 of</b>	2
<b>Desk:</b>	BPD	<b>Revision:</b>	5
<b>Reference:</b>			
<b>Agency Letters:</b>			
<b>Regulations:</b>	3.620, 3.620.1 & 3.620.2		

### Background:

State of Colorado regulations allow counties to determine under what circumstances a participant may receive other assistance in addition to the basic cash assistance payment (BCA). (3.620.1) Larimer County defines this optional program benefit as the Other Assistance Program.

### Policy:

It shall be the policy of the Larimer County Works Program to allow the payment of a special need to a caretaker relative (both parents and relatives within the 5<sup>th</sup> degree) whose child or children are eligible and receiving Basic Cash Assistance during the month of the assistance request. The household must have completed all required documents for the retrospective payment process in the current month and also be determined to be prospectively eligible for the next payment month as of the point of authorization of the special need.

Other Assistance may be provided in addition to the monthly Basic Cash Assistance payment in order to:

- Support non-parental caretaker relatives to ensure their continued interest in caring for relative children,
- Support Colorado Works families with special needs, or
- Promote sustainable employment.

A special need is defined as any need of a family receiving Basic Cash Assistance other than normal, necessary living expenses. Special needs which will allow one of the above stated needs to be met include, but are not limited to, tutoring, camps, and classes or lessons; one time clothing allowances, school fees or furniture allowances when children enter a non-parental relatives home; special adaptive equipment for a household member that cannot be covered by

Medicaid benefits; or repairs to a vehicle necessary for medical transportation of the eligible household members. All special needs payments will require the approval of the Diversion Committee.

The maximum benefit allowed is \$1500.00 within a twelve month period. Under special circumstances, the assistance may exceed this amount upon written approval of the Diversion Committee. This twelve month period does not imply an entitlement to future requests for the same or similar needs.

### **Exclusions**

An adult household member convicted of an Intentional Program Violation (IPV) who is in the disqualification period is not eligible to receive other assistance for his or her needs. Other assistance may be approved for a child's needs on a case-by-case basis as determined by the Diversion Committee.

### **Payment**

It shall be the policy to make all other assistance payments directly to the caretaker relative payee's electronic benefit account/card.

Failure to provide proof of how the funds were spent within the required time frame will result in the establishment of a recovery for the amount of any unverified funds.