



## 94TH GENERAL ASSEMBLY

### State of Illinois

2005 and 2006

HB1375

Introduced 2/9/2005, by Rep. William Delgado

#### SYNOPSIS AS INTRODUCED:

305 ILCS 5/11-4.5 new  
305 ILCS 5/11-15

from Ch. 23, par. 11-15

Amends the Illinois Public Aid Code. Provides that the Department of Human Services shall form a workgroup comprised of representatives of the Department of Human Services, the Illinois Department of Public Aid, and nonprofit community-based organizations that serve individuals and families with incomes at or below 200% of the federal poverty level to create policies and procedures and a reimbursement methodology for partnerships with nonprofit community-based organizations. For the purposes of outreach and the initiation of applications for benefit programs, requires the Department to adopt rules to implement the workgroup's recommended policies and procedures, to take effect no later than July 1, 2007. Provides that nonprofit community partners shall be reimbursed for the application assistance provided to eligible individuals and families in the form of a one-time technical assistance payment (TAP) of a minimum of \$50 for a successful application; provides that this TAP is in addition to any TAP received in connection with a successful KidCare application. Requires the Department of Human Services to adopt rules providing that, effective no later than January 1, 2006, (i) if an applicant for a particular assistance program has already submitted documents and information for another assistance program, the applicant need not resubmit the same documents and information in support of the new application and (ii) the Department shall use the already-submitted documents and information in ruling on the new application. Effective immediately.

LRB094 06398 DRJ 38471 b

FISCAL NOTE ACT  
MAY APPLY

1 AN ACT concerning public aid.

2 **Be it enacted by the People of the State of Illinois,**  
3 **represented in the General Assembly:**

4 Section 5. The Illinois Public Aid Code is amended by  
5 changing Section 11-15 and by adding Section 11-4.5 as follows:

6 (305 ILCS 5/11-4.5 new)

7 Sec. 11-4.5. Reimbursement for application assistance.

8 (a) The Department of Human Services shall form a workgroup  
9 comprised of representatives of the Department of Human  
10 Services, the Illinois Department of Public Aid, and nonprofit  
11 community-based organizations that serve individuals and  
12 families with incomes at or below 200% of the poverty  
13 guidelines updated annually in the Federal Register by the U.S.  
14 Department of Health and Human Services under authority of  
15 section 673(2) of the Omnibus Budget Reconciliation Act of 1981  
16 ("the federal poverty level") to create policies and procedures  
17 and a reimbursement methodology for partnerships with  
18 nonprofit community-based organizations. The purpose of these  
19 partnerships shall be for outreach and initiation of  
20 applications for benefit programs, including but not limited to  
21 Food Stamps, medical assistance, and the Temporary Assistance  
22 for Needy Families Program. The Department of Human Services  
23 shall adopt rules to implement the policies and procedures  
24 recommended by the workgroup. These rules shall take effect no  
25 later than July 1, 2007.

26 (b) A nonprofit community-based organization is entitled  
27 to reimbursement for the assistance it provides to an eligible  
28 individual or family in applying for a benefit program. The  
29 reimbursement shall be in the form of a one-time technical  
30 assistance payment (TAP) of a minimum of \$50 for a successful  
31 benefit program application. This TAP shall be in addition to  
32 any TAP that the community-based organization may receive from

1 the Illinois Department of Public Aid for a successful  
2 Children's Health Insurance Program (KidCare) application. A  
3 nonprofit community-based organization is eligible for a TAP  
4 when the application contains all information and proofs  
5 necessary to approve the request for at least one of the  
6 benefit programs and the applicant has been determined eligible  
7 for at least one of the benefit programs. The Department shall  
8 issue a TAP to a nonprofit community-based organization within  
9 45 days after a benefit program applicant is determined  
10 eligible for at least one of the benefit programs.

11 (c) The rules adopted by the Department to implement this  
12 program may include a phased rollout beginning in at least one  
13 county with a population in excess of 3,000,000 as well as in  
14 at least one county each in northern Illinois, central  
15 Illinois, and southern Illinois. If the rules provide for a  
16 phased rollout, the program must be implemented statewide  
17 within 18 months after the date the rules take effect.

18 (d) The Department's rules adopted to implement this  
19 program must, at a minimum, require that a nonprofit  
20 community-based organization comply with all confidentially  
21 requirements, as well as any safeguards put in place for  
22 certain populations, such as those individuals or families who  
23 have experienced domestic or sexual violence. The rules may  
24 require that a nonprofit community-based organization  
25 demonstrate a capacity for an ongoing, in-person relationship  
26 with applicants, and a level of investment in the constituency  
27 that accesses income supports. An organization must provide  
28 assistance with benefit program applications to individuals  
29 and families free of charge and must participate in at least  
30 one annual training event concerning benefit program  
31 applications and related policies and procedures, including  
32 fraud prevention, confidentiality protocols, and outreach and  
33 referral options. The Department must offer this training to  
34 nonprofit community-based organizations free of charge.

35 (e) The Department's rules must also provide that a  
36 nonprofit community-based organization's responsibilities

1 include identifying potentially eligible individuals and  
2 families at or below 200% of the federal poverty level;  
3 educating potentially eligible individuals and families about  
4 income support programs they may be eligible for, including  
5 Food Stamps, medical assistance, and the Temporary Assistance  
6 for Needy Families Program; assisting potentially eligible  
7 individuals and families with initial applications, including  
8 the collection of verification documents; and submitting a  
9 complete application for one or more programs to the Department  
10 of Human Services.

11 (f) The date of the application shall be the date on which  
12 the individual or family first contacted the Department of  
13 Human Services or a contracted nonprofit community partner,  
14 whether that contact is in person or by telephone, regular  
15 mail, or electronic transmission, with the intention to apply  
16 for benefits, whichever is the earliest date.

17 (305 ILCS 5/11-15) (from Ch. 23, par. 11-15)

18 Sec. 11-15. Application requirements.

19 (1) An application for financial aid shall be filed in  
20 writing by the person requesting aid and, in the case of a  
21 request for family aid, by the head of that family, except as  
22 otherwise permitted in paragraph (2). Applications for aid  
23 under Articles III, IV, and V shall be filed in writing with  
24 the county department of the county in which the applicant  
25 resides in the manner prescribed by the Illinois Department.  
26 Applications for aid under Article VI shall be filed in writing  
27 with the local governmental unit upon forms approved by the  
28 Illinois Department.

29 Each applicant shall provide information as to the amount  
30 of property, real and personal, owned by him or her within the  
31 period of time preceding the application as required under  
32 Sections 3-1.3, 4-1.11, and 5-2.1 of this Code. The applicant  
33 shall also furnish information concerning all income, money  
34 contributions, and other support from any source, and the  
35 beneficiary and the amount or cash surrender or loan value of

1 all insurance policies held by himself or herself or any member  
2 of his family for whom aid is requested.

3 (2) An application, in all instances to be in writing, may  
4 be filed in behalf of a person considered to be in need of  
5 financial aid under Articles III, IV, V, or VI only if the  
6 person

7 (a) has been adjudged to be under legal disability; or

8 (b) is unable because of minority or physical or mental  
9 disability, to execute the application; or

10 (c) in the case of need for funeral and burial, died  
11 before an application was filed and the application is  
12 filed not more than 30 days after the person's death,  
13 excluding the day on which the death occurred.

14 Applications in behalf of persons specified in (a) and (b)  
15 shall be filed by the applicant's legal guardian or, if a  
16 guardian has not been appointed or the applicant has no legal  
17 guardian or the guardian is not available, by a relative or  
18 other person, acceptable under the rules of the Illinois  
19 Department, who is able to furnish the required information.  
20 Applications in behalf of persons specified in (c) shall be  
21 filed by any next of kin of the deceased who is not under legal  
22 disability or, if there are no such next of kin or they are  
23 unknown or unavailable, by a person, acceptable under the rules  
24 of the Illinois Department, who is able to furnish the required  
25 information.

26 (3) The application shall contain a written declaration to  
27 be signed by the applicant, or in behalf of the applicant by a  
28 person qualified under paragraph (2), in substantially the  
29 following form, the parenthetical references being applicable  
30 to an application filed by a person in behalf of the applicant:

31 "I declare under penalties of perjury that I have examined  
32 this form and all accompanying statements or documents  
33 pertaining to the income and resources of myself (the  
34 applicant) or any member of my family (the applicant's family)  
35 included in this application for aid, or pertaining to any  
36 other matter having bearing upon my (the applicant's)

1 eligibility for aid, and to the best of my knowledge and belief  
2 the information supplied is true, correct, and complete".

3 (4) If an application for financial aid is filed for a  
4 family, and any person in that family is under 18 years of age,  
5 the application shall be accompanied by the following for each  
6 such person under 18 years of age:

- 7 (i) a copy of the person's birth certificate, or  
8 (ii) other reliable proof, as determined by the  
9 Department, of the person's identity and age.

10 (5) The Illinois Department shall provide information to  
11 all families, orally by an intake worker and in writing when  
12 the application is filed, about the availability and location  
13 of immunization services.

14 (6) The Department of Human Services shall adopt rules  
15 providing that, effective no later than January 1, 2006, (i) if  
16 an applicant for a particular program of assistance has already  
17 submitted documents and information for another program of  
18 assistance, the applicant need not resubmit the same documents  
19 and information in support of the new application and (ii) the  
20 Department shall use the already-submitted documents and  
21 information in ruling on the new application. The programs that  
22 shall be included in this rulemaking include at least all  
23 programs for cash and for medical or food assistance, including  
24 but not limited to the following: Temporary Assistance for  
25 Needy Families; Aid to the Aged, Blind and Disabled; General  
26 Assistance and General Assistance for Families and Children;  
27 Food Stamps; Medical Assistance (Medicaid); State Children's  
28 Health Insurance Program; Supplemental Food Program for Women  
29 Infants and Children (WIC); the Child Care subsidy program;  
30 Child Support Enforcement; programs of the Office of  
31 Rehabilitation Services; and the Low Income Home Energy  
32 Assistance Program.

33 (Source: P.A. 92-111, eff. 1-1-02.)

34 Section 99. Effective date. This Act takes effect upon  
35 becoming law.