

**RESOLUTION 2019-9-130**

**A RESOLUTION ESTABLISHING GENERAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAM PROVISIONS IN ACCORDANCE WITH CHAPTER 20, ARTICLE III, CODE OF ORDINANCES, LINN COUNTY, IOWA**

(SUPERCEDES RESOLUTION 2013-5-89)

**WHEREAS**, Iowa Code Section 252.25 requires the Board of Supervisors to provide for the assistance of persons in the county who are ineligible for state or federal assistance programs, or who are in immediate need and are awaiting approval from state or federal assistance programs, or whose actual needs cannot be fully met by the assistance furnished under said programs; and,

**WHEREAS**, Iowa Code Section 252.25 also requires the Board of Supervisors to establish general rules as the Board deems necessary to properly discharge its responsibility under said code section; and,

**WHEREAS**, Section 20-64, Code of Ordinances, Linn County, Iowa establishes that applicants determined eligible for general assistance shall be granted assistance in an amount and for a duration as determined by resolution of the Linn County Board of Supervisors.

**BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED** by Linn County Board of Supervisors that effective upon the passage of this resolution, Resolution 2013-5-89, and any other resolutions, or parts of resolutions, in conflict with the provisions of this resolution are hereby repealed.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** by Linn County Board of Supervisors that in place of Resolution 2013-5-89, and any other resolutions, or parts of resolutions, in conflict with the provisions of this resolution, the following limits are established to implement the provisions of Chapter 20, Article III of the Code of Ordinances, Linn County, Iowa.

1. Pursuant to Section 20-61(e), Code of Ordinances, Linn County, Iowa, the following shall be considered exempt property:
  - a. Wedding rings from current marriage.
  - b. Household furniture and appliances.
  - c. One burial lot or funeral trust fund per individual.
  - d. Equity in one homestead within Linn County, per applying household, not to exceed \$50,000.
  - e. Equity in one motor vehicle registered in Linn County, per applying household, not to exceed \$5000 based on Kelly Blue Book trade in value.
  - f. Equity in tools and equipment used in the course of employment by members of the applying household not to exceed \$1500.
  - g. Equity in personal effects (clothing, jewelry, cell phones, etc.) not to exceed \$250 per individual.

2. Pursuant to Section 20-60(a)(3), Code of Ordinances, Linn County, Iowa, monthly countable income for eligible applying households shall be at or below 100 percent of the Federal Poverty Guidelines for either a one or two-person household, depending on the composition of the applying household. An applying household with one or more dependents will be considered a two-person household when determining income eligibility.
3. Pursuant to Section 20-60(a)(4), Code of Ordinances, Linn County, Iowa, eligible applying households shall have a non-exempt property limit of \$500.
4. Pursuant to Section 20-60(b)(4), Code of Ordinances, Linn County, Iowa, unearned income for eligible applying households shall not exceed \$150.
5. Pursuant to Section 20-60(b)(5), Code of Ordinances, Linn County, Iowa, eligible applying households shall have a non-exempt property limit of \$500.
6. Pursuant to Section 20-61(d), Code of Ordinances, Linn County, Iowa, a transfer of property with a value exceeding \$1000 shall make the applying household subject to the provisions of said section.
7. Food and Non-Food Assistance provided pursuant to Section 20-64(b) and Section 20-67 Code of Ordinances, Linn County, Iowa, shall be determined by household size, including children, as set out below and shall be available only to eligible applying households meeting the criteria established in Section 20-60 Code of Ordinances, Linn County, Iowa.

Food and Non-Food Assistance shall not include alcohol, tobacco, gambling products or other products as deemed ineligible by the Linn County General Assistance Advisory Board.

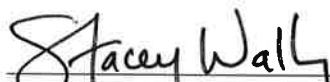
- |                              |              |
|------------------------------|--------------|
| a. One Individual            | \$30 voucher |
| b. Two Individuals           | \$50 voucher |
| c. Three or more Individuals | \$70 voucher |

8. In addition to the food and non-food assistance limits established in numbered Paragraph 8 of this Resolution, a household receiving temporary economic assistance may not receive combined assistance for rental unit rent, room rent, transitional housing, mobile home lot rent, home mortgage interest, transportation assistance, and/or utility assistance in excess of \$450 per month.

9. An eligible applying household meeting the criteria for temporary economic assistance established in Section 20-60(a), Code of Ordinances, Linn County, Iowa, may receive assistance up to two (2) times in a rolling twelve (12) month period. This means there must be at least twelve months between the first month of assistance and the third month of assistance and so on until said household receives ten months of assistance. Once an eligible applying household receives ten months of assistance, it may receive assistance one (1) time in a rolling twelve-month period so that there must be twelve months between the ninth month of assistance and the eleventh month of assistance, and then twelve months between each month of assistance thereafter.
10. An eligible applying household meeting the criteria established in Section 20-60(b), which is not subject to Section 20-62(c), may receive assistance for the duration of the applicant's disability or up to six (6) consecutive months, whichever is less. Assistance under this provision is available three (3) times total in an applicant's lifetime. Applicants subject to Section 20-62(c) who apply for and diligently pursue supplemental security income (SSI) or social security disability insurance (SSDI) benefits may continue to receive assistance until their application is successful, or until a determination is made at the administrative law judge level that the applicant does not have a qualifying disability.
11. Pursuant to Section 20-64(b) and Section 20-69, funeral expense shall be an amount not to exceed \$1000 and shall be conditioned on the provider offering a choice of cremation or traditional burial and the provider accepting the funeral expense amount in full payment of services rendered. Any available cash or cash equivalent held in the name of the deceased person shall be paid to the provider, where possible, and assistance shall be reduced by that amount. If cremation is selected, a funeral director may accept additional money from any family member or friend that desires to purchase an upgraded urn for return of the cremains.
12. In the event of a projected budget shortfall or budget overage, the Director may, under the direction of the General Assistance Advisory Board, temporarily reduce or increase the amount of assistance provided for under this resolution, including adjusting the percentage of the Federal Poverty Guidelines that eligible applying household's income must meet as is necessary to keep the General Assistance program in compliance with its budget for the current fiscal year.

PASSED AND APPROVED this 4<sup>th</sup> day of September 2019.

**LINN COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS**

  
Stacey Walker, Chair

  
Ben Rogers, Vice Chair

\_\_\_\_\_  
Brent Oleson, Supervisor

**ATTEST:**

*Joel Miller by Rhonda Bestsmith Deputy Auditor*  
Joel Miller, Linn County Auditor

I, Joel Miller, Linn County Auditor, certify that the Linn County Board of Supervisors duly adopted the foregoing resolution at a regular meeting by a vote of

2 Aye    0 Nay    0 Abstain, and 1 Absent