WHAT EXPENSES MAY BE PAID FROM A SPECIAL NEEDS TRUST?

The following is a list of some typical expenses that may be paid from a Special Needs Trust. The payment for these expenses must be made directly from the Special Needs Trust to the vendor and not given directly to the beneficiary.

- Advocacy services
- Alternative medical treatments – i.e. acupuncture, acupressure, massage etc.
- Appliances - used by and for the benefit of the beneficiary
- Books, CD’s DVD’s/ TV, VCR, DVD
- Cable bill
- Car or Van – used by the beneficiary or to transport the beneficiary; also including fuel, repairs, maintenance, insurance and any adaptable equipment or modifications for the car or van.
- Cell phone
- College tuition
- Computer – including internet service, software, training, repairs and any adaptive technology i.e., Drag and Speak.
- Curtains, blinds and drapes
- Dental expenses not covered by dental insurance or Medicaid
- Drugs and medication - those that are unavailable through Medicaid (non-generic) or are over the counter medications
- Entertainment, movie or theater tickets
- Eye glasses if not covered by Medicaid or private health insurance
- Fitness equipment
- Furniture – used by and for the benefit of the beneficiary
- Haircuts, manicure, pedicures, salon and personal grooming services
- Health club membership
- Hearing aids and batteries
- Hobby supplies
- House cleaning/maid service
- Incontinence supplies and equipment - if not covered by Medicaid or private health insurance
- Laundry and Dry Cleaning service
- Legal fees (including guardianship if the guardianship is for the benefit of the PWD, however, if the Trust is under court supervision court authority to pay such fees is needed)
- Lessons or class fees
- Linen
- Musical instruments and lessons
- Non-food items: laundry soap, cleaning supplies, paper products, personal care items
- Orthopedic shoes/podiatry expenses - if not covered by Medicaid or private health insurance
- Payment of private health insurance premiums
- Personal care attendant/monitoring – over and above Medicaid or private health insurance limits
- Pets, pet supplies, pet food and veterinarian expenses
- Rehabilitation expenses - over and above Medicaid or private health insurance limits
- Respite care
- Special recreation expenses
- Sporting events, tickets, equipment
- Telephone bill and/or phone cards
- Therapy – over and above Medicaid or private health insurance limits; speech, physical, occupational, music and art therapies
- Transportation expenses – bus, train or taxi
- Vacations
- Wheelchairs and wheelchair repairs - over and above Medicaid or private health insurance limits.

***This should not be considered legal advice. It is general information that we believe is current as of the date listed below. It is the client’s responsibility to verify and update this information***

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