



Ohio Revised Code

Section 5122.43 Payment of costs, fees, and expenses of proceedings - reimbursement.

Effective: April 6, 2023

Legislation: House Bill 281

(A) Costs, fees, and expenses of all proceedings held under this chapter shall be paid as follows:

(1) To police and health officers, other than sheriffs or their deputies, the same fees allowed to constables, to be paid upon the approval of the probate judge;

(2) To sheriffs or their deputies, the same fees allowed for similar services in the court of common pleas;

(3) To physicians or licensed clinical psychologists acting as expert witnesses and to other expert witnesses designated by the court, an amount determined by the court;

(4) To other witnesses, the same fees and mileage as for attendance at the court of common pleas, to be paid upon the approval of the probate judge;

(5) To a person, other than the sheriff or the sheriff's deputies, for taking a person with a mental illness to a hospital or removing a person with a mental illness from a hospital, the actual necessary expenses incurred, specifically itemized, and approved by the probate judge;

(6) To assistants who convey persons with a mental illness to the hospital when authorized by the probate judge, a fee set by the probate court, provided the assistants are not drawing a salary from the state or any political subdivision of the state, and their actual necessary expenses incurred, provided that the expenses are specifically itemized and approved by the probate judge;

(7) To an attorney appointed by the probate division for an indigent who allegedly is a person with a mental illness pursuant to any section of this chapter or a person experiencing alcohol and other drug abuse and who may be ordered under sections 5119.91 to 5119.98 of the Revised Code to undergo treatment, the fees that are determined by the probate division. When those indigent persons are



before the court, all filing and recording fees shall be waived.

(8) To a referee who is appointed to conduct proceedings under this chapter that involve a respondent whose domicile is or, before the respondent's hospitalization, was not the county in which the proceedings are held, compensation as fixed by the probate division, but not more than the compensation paid for similar proceedings for respondents whose domicile is in the county in which the proceedings are held;

(9) To a court reporter appointed to make a transcript of proceedings under this chapter, the compensation and fees allowed in other cases under section 2101.08 of the Revised Code.

(B) A county shall pay for the costs, fees, and expenses described in division (A) of this section with money appropriated pursuant to section 2101.11 of the Revised Code. A county may seek reimbursement from the department of mental health and addiction services by submitting a request and certification by the county auditor of the costs, fees, and expenses to the department within two months of the date the costs, fees, and expenses are incurred by the county.

Each fiscal year, based on past allocations, historical utilization, and other factors the department considers appropriate, the department shall allocate for each county an amount for reimbursements under this section. A county's allocation may be zero. The department shall set aside an amount in addition to the allocations to cover court costs associated with proceedings held under this chapter for counties that received an allocation of zero but that incurred expenditures authorized by the department. The total of all the allocations plus the additional amount set aside shall equal the amount appropriated for the fiscal year to the department specifically for the purposes of this section.

On receipt, the department shall review each request for reimbursement and prepare a voucher for the amount of the costs, fees, and expenses incurred by the county, provided that the total amount of money paid to all counties in each fiscal year shall not exceed the total amount of moneys specifically appropriated to the department for these purposes.

The department's total reimbursement to each county shall be the lesser of the full amount requested or either the amount allocated for the county under this division, or, for counties that received an



allocation of zero, the amount approved by the department. In addition, the department shall distribute any surplus remaining from the money appropriated for the fiscal year to the department for the purposes of this section as follows to counties whose full requests exceed their allocations:

- (1) If the surplus is sufficient to reimburse such counties the full amount of their requests, each such county shall receive the full amount of its request;
- (2) If the surplus is insufficient, each such county shall receive a percentage of the surplus determined by dividing the difference between the county's full request and its allocation by the difference between the total of the full requests of all such counties and the total of the amounts allocated for all such counties.

The department may adopt rules in accordance with Chapter 119. of the Revised Code to implement the payment of costs, fees, and expenses under this section.