ARIZONA HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES



Fifty-fifth Legislature First Regular Session

Senate: HHS DP 6-0-2-0 | 3rd Read DP 30-0-0-0 **House:** HHS DP 9-0-0-0 | 3rd Read DP 59-1-0-0

SB 1466: family caregiver grant program
Sponsor: Senator Gray, LD 21
Transmitted to the Governor

Overview

Modifies qualifying expenses, family member eligibility and reapplication requirements related to the Family Caregiver Grant Program (Grant Program).

History

<u>Laws 2019, Chapter 270</u> established the Grant Program for individuals who have qualifying expenses due to caring for and supporting a qualifying family member in the individual's home. To apply for a grant under this program, an individual must: 1) apply to the Arizona Department of Economic Security (DES); 2) be an Arizona resident; 3) not have a gross family income that exceeds \$75,000 if single or \$150,000 if married; 4) incur qualifying expenses; and 5) submit with the claim for the grant the qualifying family member's name and relationship to the individual.

Individuals who are eligible for benefits receive a grant that is equal to 50% of the qualifying expenses incurred with a maximum grant of \$1,000 for each qualifying family member. Currently, an individual is not eligible to apply for another grant again for three consecutive calendar years, after receiving grant monies (A.R.S. § 46-342).

A *qualifying family member* is defined as an individual who: 1) is at least 18 years of age; 2) requires assistance with one or more activities of daily living as certified by a licensed physician, registered nurse practitioner or physician assistant; and 3) is an eligible member of the grant applicant's family. Grant monies can be used for qualifying expenses directly related to caring for a qualifying family member, including improvements or alterations made to the individual's primary residence (A.R.S. § 46-341).

Provisions

- 1. Defines *care coordinator* or *case manager* as a person who provides medical or nonmedical case management service including:
 - a) Services provided by managed care organizations, insurance companies or hospitals; and
 - Home and community-based services provided through area agencies on aging, the Arizona Long-Term Care System (ALTCS), home health agencies, hospice or senior centers. (Sec. 1)
- 2. Modifies the definition of *qualifying expense* by:
 - a) Including improving or altering a qualifying family member's primary residence; and
 - b) Excluding improvements or alterations to long-term care facilities or assisted living facilities. (Sec. 1)
- 3. Modifies the definition of *qualifying family member* to include an individual who requires assistance with one or more activities of daily living as certified by a licensed social worker, case manager or care coordinator who is capable of assessing the activities of daily living. (Sec. 1)

- 4. Expands the Grant Program to include individuals who have qualifying expenses due to caring for and supporting a qualifying family member in the qualifying family member's primary residence. (Sec. 2)
- 5. Prohibits an individual from reapplying for a grant again after the individual has received \$1,000 for each qualifying family member, rather than for three consecutive years. (Sec. 2)
- 6. Allows an individual who received a grant before the effective date of this act to apply for additional grant monies if they have not received grant monies totaling \$1,000 for each qualifying family member. (Sec. 4)
- 7. Extends the delayed repeal date from July 1, 2023 to July 1, 2024. (Sec. 3)
- 8. Makes technical and conforming changes. (Sec. 1-3)

☐ Prop 105 (45 votes)	☐ Prop 108 (40 votes)	☐ Emergency (40 votes)	☐ Fiscal Note