



Native Village of Chitina
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Title: Purchase Referred Care Policies & Procedures	Implementation Date: November 18, 2023	Page Number: Page 1 of 3
Department: Health	Review Date: 11/18/2026	Revise Number: 01

Title: Purchase & Referred Care Program

Purpose: To define categories of individuals eligible for Purchase Referred Care (PRC) benefits. Formally known as Contract Health Services, PRC is a benefit that provides funding of medically necessary health services by providers outside of the IHS Tribal Health Care System that cannot be provided directly by NVC. These are limited funds available for IHS beneficiaries living in the NVC service area and require a formal referral through a NVC provider.

Scope: This policy applies to all individuals who seek funding through the NVC PRC program and meet the eligibility requirements.

Policy: Eligibility Requirements: Beneficiaries must meet the following requirements to be eligible for assistance from Native Village of Chitina's PRC program. The PRC representative will review the following to determine eligibility:

- A. Certificate of Indian Blood
- B. Tribal Member Documentation: A document issued By the Native Village of Chitina

As well as both:

- A. Proof of Residency: The beneficiary's primary and Physical residence in Alaska for at least six months and show proof of residency (unless otherwise verified). Applicants may request a waiver of residency from the appropriate village council. Documents that may determine residency include rent receipt, notarized statement from landlord, electric bill in applicant's name, voter registration card or telephone bill in applicant's name.

- B. Eligibility Registration Form: This form is required to determine eligibility for NVC's PRC Program. Incomplete applications will be returned to sender with a notice of missing documents.

Once determined eligible for PRC, the following requirements must also be met before any payment for PRC is made:

- A. Payor of Last Resort Requirements: Alternative Resources: To maintain compliant with 42 C.F.R. 136.61 all NVC IHS Clients must apply and/or utilize all alternative resources. Alternative Resources include, but are not limited to, Denali Kid Care, Medicaid, Medicare, Private Insurance, and Worker's compensation. Federal Law mandates that PRC is not responsible for and will not authorize payment for any health service for where there are alternative resources or if there would be such resources if the patient were to apply for them.
- B. Referral; Required: Client must be seen by a NVC Provider before a referral can be written for a non-emergency service at a non-IHS or non-tribally operated health facility. NVC will not reimburse or pay for non-emergency medical costs without a referral from a NVC Provider.
- C. 72 Hour Emergency Notification: For emergencies not occurring during NVC's operating hours, a referral is not needed. Seek medical assistance as soon as possible and then contact the NVC Purchase & Referred Care Staff at (907) 823-2213 within 72-hours (3 days) to discuss possible payment of services. Elders and disabled NVC IHS Clients have up to 30 days to notify Purchase & Referred Care Staff of emergency services. Notice may be provided by another person or entity acting on behalf of the NVC IHS Client.
- D. Air Ambulance Services- Due to limited funds, NVC PRC program does not cover air ambulance services.

Appeal Process:

If beneficiary is not satisfied with the PRC Coordinator's written decision, the applicant has a right to appeal the decision. The process is:

- A. The applicant must submit a written appeal to the PRC Coordinator within thirty (30) working days from the date on notification letter of denial.
- B. The PRC Coordinator will gather all pertinent information (policies, correspondence, etc.) pertaining to the decision being disputed and present it to the Council. The Council will determine if the decision was made in compliance with NVC PRC Policies and Procedures.
- C. The Council will have the final decision.

Definitions:

1. Emergency shall mean a medical condition for which immediate medical attention is deemed necessary by a medical provider to prevent the death or serious health impairment of the patient.
2. Term Elder used to identify an individual that is 55 years or older.
3. Disabled persons require proof of Disability.

Related Documents: NVC Procedures for Purchased and Referred Care Services

Title: Purchase/Referred Care Policy