

(c) (1) Payments under subsection (b)(2) of this section may not be made for more than 15 days for any single hospital stay.

(2) (i) Payments under subsection (b)(3) of this section may not be made for more than 18 days in any calendar year.

(ii) Notwithstanding any rule or regulation, a leave of absence is not subject to any requirement that it may not exceed a particular number of days a visit, except that the leave of absence may not exceed a total of 18 days during any 12-month period.

(d) Payments required under this section shall be made according to the per diem payment procedures that the Department sets and may not be less than the per diem payments made to the NURSING facility for days when the Program recipient is present in the facility.

(e) A NURSING facility may not make additional charges against a Program recipient because the Program recipient is absent temporarily from the NURSING facility.

[15-119.

For the purposes of §§ 15-103, 15-104, and 15-106 of this title as they apply to Baltimore City, the Baltimore City Commissioner of Health may appoint the necessary individuals to carry out the purposes of those sections within the budget and in accordance with the Baltimore City charter.]

15-123.

(a) (1) (i) In this subsection the following words have the meanings indicated.

(ii) "Convicted" includes being convicted after a plea of nolo contendere.

(iii) "Fraud" includes the commission of or an attempt or conspiracy to commit a crime such as concealment of medical records, embezzlement, false pretenses, larceny, larceny after trust, Medicaid fraud, misappropriation by a fiduciary, or theft.

(iv) "Person" means an individual, partnership, limited partnership, or corporation, including a professional corporation formed under Title 5, Subtitle 1 of the Corporations and Associations Article.

(2) A person who is convicted of fraud in connection with the [Maryland Medical Assistance] Program or a similar program of any other state is ineligible for further payment under the [Maryland Medical Assistance] Program.