

NEBRASKA

Good Life. Great Mission.

DEPT. OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES



Pete Ricketts, Governor

December 15, 2016

Patrick O'Donnell, Clerk of the Legislature
State Capitol, Room 2018
P.O. Box 94604
Lincoln, NE 68509

RE: 2015-2016 Annual Report

Dear Mr. O'Donnell,

In accordance with Nebraska Revised Statute 68-158, please find attached a copy of the annual report on the Nebraska Elemental Formula Reimbursement Program. This report covers the period 2015-2016 and demonstrates that the work accomplished by staff within the Division of Public Health.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Thomas L. Williams, MD".

Thomas L. Williams, MD
Chief Medical Officer
Director, Division of Public Health
Department of Health and Human Services

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**Annual Report on Nebraska Elemental Formula Reimbursement Program
as required by Nebraska Revised Statute 68-158**

July 1, 2015 to June 30, 2016

**Presented to Governor Pete Ricketts
and Clerk of the Legislature**

Department of Health and Human Services

**Division of Public Health
Dr. Thomas Williams, Director**

**Community and Environmental Health
Judy Martin, Deputy Director**

**Lifespan Health Services Unit
Sara Morgan**

**Program Coordinator
Barb Packett**

December 2016

AA/EOE/ADA

Nebraska Elemental Formula Reimbursement Program Annual Report December 2016

The Nebraska Elemental Formula Reimbursement Program was created by Nebraska Revised Statute 68-158, with the operative date of July 1, 2014. This report covers the second full year of implementation from July 1, 2015 through June 30, 2016. During this year, staff conducted activities such as:

1. Updating application guidelines and forms, which are posted on the Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) website at <http://dhhs.ne.gov/publichealth/Pages/ElementalFormulaReimbursementProgram.aspx>.
2. Conducting outreach to inform the public of the program by working with Children's Hospital and Boys Town National Research Hospital, two facilities providing care too many of the patients that require medically necessary amino acid-based elemental formulas. Program staff have also been working with various doctors and clinics statewide that care for these patients.
3. Serving 96 individuals for their formula needs. This represents a 25 percent increase in individuals served and a 52 percent increase in costs expended (\$99,650 in formula costs) as compared to SFY13-14.

***Nebraska Revised Statute 68-158**

The Department of Health and Human Services shall establish a program to provide amino acid-based elemental formulas for the diagnosis and treatment of Immunoglobulin E and non-Immunoglobulin E mediated allergies to multiple food proteins, food-protein-induced enterocolitis syndrome, eosinophilic disorders, and impaired absorption of nutrients caused by disorders affecting the absorptive surface, functional length, and motility of the gastrointestinal tract, when the ordering physician has issued a written order stating that the amino acid-based elemental formula is medically necessary for the treatment of a disease or disorder. Up to fifty percent of the actual out-of-pocket cost, not to exceed twelve thousand dollars, for amino acid-based elemental formulas shall be available to an individual without fees each twelve-month period. The department shall distribute funds on a first-come, first-served basis. Nothing in this section is deemed to be an entitlement. The maximum total General Fund expenditures per year for amino acid-based elemental formulas shall not exceed two hundred fifty thousand dollars each fiscal year in FY2014-15 and FY2015-16. The Department of Health and Human Services shall provide an electronic report on the program to the Legislature annually on or before December 15 of each year.