

MISSISSIPPI DIVISION OF MEDICAID

Eligibility Policy and Procedures Manual

Burial Funds (Continued)

Designated Burial Funds vs Excluded Funds

Any amount may be designated for burial; however, only the amount up to the applicable maximum exclusion may be excluded. Once the amount of the designated burial funds equals the applicable maximum, the only additions to it that can be excluded are appreciation and interest.

However, until the maximum has been reached, additional amounts can be excluded if the individual designates them for burial expenses. Interest is not included in determining if the maximum has been reached.

302.06.05B1 EXCLUSION OF BURIAL FUNDS UNDER SSI POLICY

SSI policy allows up to \$1,500 in funds set aside for the burial of the individual and up to an additional \$1,500 in funds set aside for burial of the individual's eligible or ineligible spouse.

Example: Mr. Brown designates \$1,500 in a bank account for burial. The entire amount may be excluded.

Example: Mr. Brown designates an account with a \$2,000 balance for burial. Since \$1,500 is the maximum exclusion, the remaining designated funds are not excluded and count toward the resource limit.

302.06.05B2 EXCLUSION OF BURIAL FUNDS UNDER LIBERALIZED POLICY

Under liberalized policy, the maximum that can be excluded for burial of the individual is \$6,000. In addition, up to \$6,000 is allowed for burial of the eligible or ineligible spouse.

302.06.05B3 TREATMENT OF BURIAL FUNDS UNDER SSI AND LIBERALIZED POLICY

Reductions in Maximum Exclusions

The \$1,500 or \$6,000 maximum exclusion is reduced by:

- Any amount held in an irrevocable trust or burial contract or other revocable arrangement for the individual or spouse, if applicable, except to the extent it represents excludable burial spaces.