

QUESTIONAIR REGARDING FAMILY AND DEPENDENTS AS PER PUNJAB MEDICAL ATTENDENCE RULES, 1940 AS AMENDED FROM TIME TO TIME

Q. 1 What is the definition of a family?

Ans: Family means a Government Employee's wife (*including judicially separated wife*) or husband in case of a female Government employee, who is residing with & wholly dependent on him/her, legitimate children (including step & adopted children) up to two and father and mother residing with and wholly dependent on the Government employee. **(Punjab Govt. Letter No. 12/9/93-5H5/9495 dated 17.03.1994)**

The definition given above will be applicable on those employees also who children exceed two after the birth of any child/children within a year after the issue of the above instructions. **(Punjab Govt. Letter No. 12/97/93-5H5/8093 dated 14.03.1995)**

Q. 2 What is the definition of Dependents?

Ans: Any family member who is not Income Tax payee can be treated as Dependent and eligible for medical reimbursement. **(Punjab Govt. Letter No. 12/2/11-5H5/721 dated 30.03.2012)**

- Family members of employees who are also earning members are not entitled to reimbursement of medical charges unless they are also the State Govt. Employees. A Govt. Employee can, thus claim reimbursement of medical charges in respect of those members of family who are wholly dependent upon him. **(Punjab Govt. Letter No. 149-1HB1/69 dated 29.12.1969)**
- A wife/husband of a Govt. Employee who is in private service is not entitled to any medical reimbursement **(Punjab Govt. Letter No. 782-1HB1-72/18006 dated 26.06.1972)**
- Accordingly employees working in private schools or their family members even with no benefit of free medical treatment/reimbursement are not entitled to reimbursement of medical charges. **(DHS Pb's Letter No. PM (2) 71-3633 dated 26.03.1971)**
- Any family members claiming medical reimbursement from other sources is not dependent
- Father not income tax payee. Mother, if widow, and herself not income tax payee, treated as dependent.
- Unmarried Son, if not income tax payee treated as dependent. Married son is not dependent.
- Unmarried daughter, if not income tax payee treated as dependent
- Family of wife cannot be treated as dependents.

- Wife of a Government employee shall be deemed to be wholly dependent on him as long as she is not legally separated from him.
- The son or daughter of a Government employee is suffering from any disorder or disability of mind or is physically crippled or disabled for life as certified by the Competent Authority i.e. a medical officer not below the rank of a Civil Surgeon.

Q. 3 Who is Income Tax Payee?

Ans: A person having annual income of more than Rs. 2.50 lacs.

Q. 3 What are the conditions when both husband and wife are in service of Punjab Govt. and when employed in different States?

Ans: When both husband and wife are State Govt. Employees, they may be allowed to avail the medical concessions depending upon their own and their dependant children's status. For the same purpose they will have to furnish a joint declaration to their respective administrative authorities as to who will claim for reimbursement of medical expenses incurred on the medical attendance and treatment in respect of wife/husband and their children. The declaration state above should be submitted in duplicate and a copy of each shall be recorded into their personal file of each of their respective offices. The declaration shall remain in force till revised on the express request in writing by both husband and wife in the event of promotion, transfer, resignation etc. off either of the two. If such a declaration is not doe, the medical concessions shall be availed by the wife and the children, according to the status of the husband.

Although the entitlement of medical expenses is to be regulated according to the individual status of each of them i.e. husband and wife in service, their respective department separately debar husband/wife from claiming reimbursement. In such case only one of the spouses will prefer claims for reimbursement of medical expenses against a joint declaration and furnishing the Certificate given as per **Punjab Govt.'s letters No. 2653-HBIV-60-59236 dated 16.12.1960, 12378-5HB1-72/8144 dated 27.03.1973 and 14972-1HB1-69/554-618 dated 21.01.1970.**

Punjab Govt. employee is not entitled to claim reimbursement of medical charges in respect of any member of his family who is an employee of other State/Central Govt. or is working in any other Govt. institution. In such cases also it will be necessary for the husband/wife to submit a joint declaration as to who will prefer the claim in respect of their dependent family members. **(PG letter No. 12510-5HB1-73/31255 dated 17.12.1973)**