

claims, including the reasonable and necessary cost of travel incident thereto. A medical expense generally is not "reasonable" when the medical evidence for which the expense was incurred is of no value in the adjudication of a claim. Medical evidence will then be considered to be of "no value" when, for instance, it is wholly duplicative or when it is wholly extraneous to the medical issue of whether the claimant is disabled or died due to pneumoconiosis. In order to minimize inconvenience and possible expense to the claimant, he should not generally incur any medical expense for which he intends to claim reimbursement without first contacting the district office to determine what types of evidence not already available to the Administration may be useful in adjudicating his claim, what types of medical evidence may be reimbursable, and what would constitute a "reasonable medical expense" in a given case. However, a claimant's failure to contact the Administration before the expense is incurred will not preclude the Administration from later approving reimbursement for any reasonable medical expense. Where a reasonable expense for medical evidence is ascertained, the Administration may authorize direct payment to the provider of such evidence.

[36 FR 23752, Dec. 14, 1971, as amended at 37 FR 20638, Sept. 30, 1972; 65 FR 16814, Mar. 30, 2000]

§410.250 Effect of conviction of felonious and intentional homicide on entitlement to benefits.

An individual who has been finally convicted by a court of competent jurisdiction of the felonious and intentional homicide of a miner or of a widow shall not be entitled to receive any benefits payable because of the death of such miner or widow, and such felon shall be considered nonexistent in determining the entitlement to benefits of other individuals with respect to such miner or widow.

[37 FR 20638, Sept. 30, 1972]

Subpart C—Relationship and Dependency

AUTHORITY: Sec. 702(a)(5) of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 902(a)(5)), secs. 402, 412(a), 426(a), and 508, 83 Stat. 792; 30 U.S.C. 902, 922(a), 936, and 957.

§410.300 Relationship and dependency; general.

(a) In order to establish entitlement to benefits, a widow, child, parent, brother, or sister must meet relationship and dependency requirements with respect to the miner or widow, as applicable, prescribed by or pursuant to the Act.

(b) In order for an entitled miner or widow to qualify for augmented benefits because of one or more dependents (see §410.510(c)), such dependents must meet relationship and dependency requirements with respect to such beneficiary prescribed by or pursuant to the Act.

(c) References in §§410.310(c), 410.320(c), 410.330(d), and 410.340, to the "same right to share in the intestate personal property" of a deceased miner (or widow), refer to the right of an individual to share in such distribution in his own right and not by right of representation.

[37 FR 20638, Sept. 30, 1972]

§410.310 Determination of relationship; wife.

An individual will be considered to be the wife of a miner if:

(a) The courts of the State in which such miner is domiciled (see §410.392) would find that such individual and the miner were validly married; or

(b) The courts of the State in which such miner is domiciled (see §410.392) would find, under the law they would apply in determining the devolution of the miner's intestate personal property, that the individual is the miner's wife; or

(c) Under State law, such individual has the same right she would have if she were the wife to share in the miner's intestate personal property; or

(d)(1) Such individual went through a marriage ceremony with the miner resulting in a purported marriage between them and which, but for a legal impediment (see §410.391), would have