

NEBRASKA

Good Life. Great Mission.

DEPT. OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES



Pete Ricketts, Governor

December 20, 2019

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

RE: 2019 Nebrasaka Elemental Formula Reimbursement Program Annual Report

Dear Mr. O'Donnell:

Please find attached a copy of the 2019 Nebrasaka Elemental Formula Reimbursement Program Annual Report. This report covers the fifth full year of implementation from July 1, 2018 through June 30, 2019.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Gary Anthone, M.D.".

Gary J. Anthone, M.D.
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, 2018 to June 30, 2019

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

Department of Health and Human Services

**Division of Public Health
Gary J. Anthon, M.D.
Director and Chief Medical Officer**

**Community Health, Health Promotion, Lifespan Health Services, and
Preparedness
Mark Pyle, Deputy Director**

**Lifespan Health Services Unit
Sara Morgan, Administrator**

**Program Coordinator
Barb Packett**

December 2019

AA/EOE/ADA

Nebraska Elemental Formula Reimbursement Program Annual Report December 2019

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 fifth full year of implementation from July 1, 2018 through June 30, 2019. Activities conducted during this time period include:

1. Updated application guidelines and forms, which are posted on the Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) website at <http://dhhs.ne.gov/Pages/Elemental-Formula-Reimbursement-Program.aspx>
2. Conducted outreach to inform the public of the program by working with Children's Hospital and Boys Town National Research Hospital, facilities providing care to many of the patients who require medically necessary amino acid-based elemental formulas. DHHS staff have also worked with various doctors and clinics statewide that care for these patients.
3. Served 81 individuals, which is an 11 percent increase from SFY 17-18, and expended \$84,345 in formula reimbursement costs, which is a 6 percent decrease from the prior year.

***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.