

CHAPTER 57B
HEPATITIS INOCULATION FUND

Authority

N.J.S.A. 26:4-100.13.

Source and Effective Date

R.2006 d.92, effective January 31, 2006.
See: 37 N.J.R. 3172(a), 38 N.J.R. 1319(a).

Chapter Expiration Date

Chapter 57B, Hepatitis Inoculation Fund, expires on January 31, 2011.

Chapter Historical Note

Chapter 57B, Hepatitis Inoculation Fund, was adopted as R.1995 d.207, effective April 17, 1995. See: 27 N.J.R. 28(a), 27 N.J.R. 1615(b). Pursuant to Executive Order No. 66(1978), Chapter 57B expired on April 17, 2000.

Chapter 57B, Hepatitis Inoculation Fund, was adopted as new rules by R.2000 d.328, effective August 7, 2000. See: 32 N.J.R. 425(a), 32 N.J.R. 2896(a).

Chapter 57B, Hepatitis Inoculation Fund, was readopted by R.2006 d.92, effective January 31, 2006. See: Source and Effective Date.

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SUBCHAPTER 1. FUND PROVISION

8:57B-1.1 Purpose and scope

The purpose of this subchapter is to establish a uniform process for allocating the Fund's resources among municipalities in accordance with the priorities set forth in the Act. The Fund shall be used exclusively to reimburse municipalities for expenses incurred in the provision of hepatitis B inoculations of emergency medical technicians—ambulance, firefighters, and police officers. The following rules are established to implement the Hepatitis Inoculation Fund Act, N.J.S.A. 26:4-100.13 et seq. (P.L.1993, c. 227), an Act providing for the payment of the cost of hepatitis inoculations for certain health and safety workers.

8:57B-1.2 Definitions

The following words and terms, when used in this subchapter, shall have the following meanings, unless the context clearly indicates otherwise.

“Act” means P.L.1993, c. 227, which establishes the Hepatitis Inoculation Fund.

“Commissioner” means the New Jersey Commissioner of Health and Senior Services.

“Covered individual” means emergency medical technician—ambulance (EMT-A), firefighters, and police officers.

“Department” means the New Jersey Department of Health and Senior Services.

“Division” means the Division of Epidemiology, Environmental, and Occupational Health.

“Emergency medical technician—ambulance” or “EMT-A” means an individual trained and currently certified or recognized by the Commissioner, in accordance with the United States Department of Transportation EMT-A training course, as outlined in the standards established by the Federal Highway Traffic Safety Act of 1966, 23 U.S.C. 401 et seq. (amended) to deliver basic life support services, and who has completed the national standard curriculum, as published by the United States Department of Transportation for Emergency Medical Technician Ambulance.

“Hepatitis Inoculation Fund” or “Fund” means a separate, nonlapsing, revolving account used to reimburse municipalities for expenses incurred in the provision of hepatitis B inoculations to certain emergency services personnel. The Fund shall be administered by the Division of Epidemiology, Environmental, and Occupational Health. The source of this Fund is the statutorily defined percentage of proceeds collected from property forfeiture and cash seizures pursuant to N.J.S.A. 2C:64-6.

“May” means that the action referred to is discretionary.

“N.J.A.C.” means the New Jersey Administrative Code.

“N.J.S.A.” means the New Jersey Statutes Annotated.

“Reimbursable costs” means the cost of hepatitis B vaccine, equal to, or less than, the cost of the purchase of the vaccine at the prevailing State contract rate, and the cost of such fees for professional medical services for administration of the vaccine.

“Shall” means that the action referred to is mandatory.

“Volunteer” means a person who gives services without any express or implied promise of remuneration.

8:57B-1.3 General requirements

(a) The Fund shall provide financial assistance to municipalities in the form of reimbursement of expenses incurred in providing hepatitis B inoculations to certain emergency services personnel.

(b) Each applicant municipality shall appoint a liaison who shall be responsible for preparing and submitting an application to the Division on behalf of all emergency services personnel within its jurisdiction.

1. Applications received by the Division directly from individual first aid and rescue squads, fire companies, departments, and districts, and police departments or their members and/or staffs shall be disallowed.

(c) Funds shall be allocated to municipalities in accordance with the following tiered eligibility schedule of covered individuals:

1. Tier I: Volunteer emergency medical technicians—ambulance and volunteer firefighters;

2. Tier II: All other emergency medical technicians—ambulance, firefighters and police officers in squads or departments with less than 100 members; and

3. Tier III: All other emergency medical technicians—ambulance, firefighters and police officers.

(d) Fund distributions shall commence at Tier I eligibility and shall proceed through Tier I until all eligible applicant municipalities in Tier I have been reimbursed. Upon completion of Tier I reimbursement, Fund distribution will proceed to Tier II and upon completion of Tier II reimbursement, Fund distribution will proceed to Tier III.

(e) A municipality shall not claim expense reimbursement for a covered individual whose medical insurance pays for the full cost of the hepatitis inoculation, but may claim expense reimbursement for any portion of the cost disallowed by such medical insurance.

8:57B-1.4 Application process by municipalities for reimbursement

(a) Municipalities shall submit an application for reimbursable costs in the format prescribed at (d) below by a specified deadline date as determined by the Division. This application shall remain valid until all municipalities have been reimbursed.

(b) Reimbursable costs shall include the cost of the hepatitis B vaccine and the cost of fees for professional medical services for administration of the vaccine. Reimbursable cost of the hepatitis B vaccine shall not exceed the cost of the purchase of the vaccine at the prevailing State contract rate.

(c) Only applications for reimbursable costs from municipalities shall be honored. Requests for reimbursement from individual first aid and rescue squads, fire departments,

districts, and companies, and police departments or their members and/or staffs shall be disallowed.

(d) Each application for reimbursable costs shall be in the form of a letter and shall include the following information:

1. The name of the municipality;

2. The total amount expended for inoculations of each of the individuals specified in (d)4 below;

3. The amount sought for reimbursement;

4. The composition of the municipality's emergency services personnel, including the number of volunteer emergency medical technicians—ambulance, the number of volunteer firefighters, the number of paid emergency medical technicians—ambulance, the number of paid firefighters, and the number of police officers;

5. Actual reimbursable costs incurred for inoculations of each of the individuals specified in (d)4 above, categorized according to total amount incurred for the hepatitis B vaccine and the cost of fees of professional medical services for administration of the vaccine; and

6. A statement certifying that the reimbursement applied for represents actual costs incurred and that such costs are not eligible for coverage, and have not been covered through any other source.

(e) The municipality shall maintain all records which were relied upon in making applications for reimbursement for five years after receiving reimbursement from the Division.

8:57B-1.5 Funding and allocation

(a) The amount available to fund reimbursable costs is contingent upon the total amount collected and deposited into the Fund and designated by the State Treasurer as available for distribution.

(b) The amount of reimbursement per municipality shall not exceed \$5,000 per reimbursement cycle.

(c) All reimbursements shall be made based on the cost of the purchase of vaccine at the prevailing State contract rate.

(d) All reimbursements may include the cost of professional medical services to administer the vaccine which are reasonable and customary in the locality.

8:57B-1.6 Lottery

(a) At the close of the application period, all applications shall be reviewed by the Division for eligibility and subsequently sorted into the tiers as specified in the eligibility schedule at N.J.A.C. 8:57B-1.3(c).