

What Can My Special Needs Trust Pay For?

There are many items and services that a special needs trust can pay for so long as the trust funds are used to supplement and not supplant any public benefits that the special needs person is receiving. Here is a list of some of those item and services:

- **Automobile**/van; automobile;
- Accounting services; • Haircuts/salon services;
- Acupuncture/acupressure; • Hobby supplies;
- Appliances (TV, VCR, DVD player, stereo, microwave, stove, refrigerator, washer/dryer); • Holiday decorations, parties, dinner dances, holiday cards;
- Bottled water or water service; • Home alarm and/or monitoring/response system;
- Bus pass/public transportation costs; • Home improvements, repairs, and maintenance, including tools to perform home improvements, repairs, and maintenance by homeowner;
- Camera, film, recorder and tapes, development of film; • **Home purchase** (to the extent not covered by benefits);
- **Clothing**; • House cleaning/maid services; Insurance (automobile, home and/or possessions);
- Clubs and club dues (record clubs, book clubs, health clubs, service clubs, zoo, advocacy groups, museums); • Legal fees/advocacy (may need court approval of legal fees if court-supervised);
- Computer hardware, software, programs, and Internet service; • Linens and towels;
- Conferences; • Magazine and newspaper subscriptions;
- Courses or classes (academic or recreational), including books and supplies; • Massage;
- Curtains, blinds, and drapes; • Musical instruments (including lessons and music);
- Dental work not covered by Medicaid, including anesthesia; • **Nonfood grocery items** (laundry soap, bleach, fabric softener, deodorant, dish soap, hand and body soap, personal hygiene products, paper towels, napkins, Kleenex, toilet paper, and household cleaning products);
- Down payment on home or security deposit on apartment; • **Transportation** (automobile, motorcycle, bicycle, moped, gas, bus passes, insurance, vehicle license fees, gas, car repairs);
- Dry cleaning and/or laundry services; • **Utility bills** (satellite TV, cable TV, telephone—but not gas, water, or electricity);
- Elective surgery; • **Vacation** (including paying for a personal assistant to accompany the beneficiary if necessary);
- Fitness equipment;
- **Funeral expenses**;
- Furniture, home furnishings;
- Gasoline and/or maintenance for



Law Office of David T. Siegel, Esq., LLC

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235 North Sycamore St., Newtown, Pa 18940 | (215) 860-0154 | www.DavidSiegelLaw.com