

# SELF-DIRECTION

## Program Compliance



### OVERVIEW

By agreeing to participate in the Long Term Care program, the Participant/Representative must abide by the program rules and regulations in addition to all State and Federal laws that relate to the program. Participation in the program may be terminated by the Department of Human Services if rules are not followed. Your Palco Support Coordinator will help advise you of the rules and ensure you are following them. Below are some common topics of Issue Based Monitoring visits.

### HOSPITALIZATIONS

If the Participant enters the hospital or an institution of any kind, self-directed services must stop. Palco cannot pay for any services rendered when a participant is hospitalized. If a time is submitted to Palco during a hospitalization, Palco is required to make a fraud report to the State. In addition, the Participant/Representative, as the legal employer of record may be responsible for the wages owed to their worker.

### BUDGET UNDERUTILIZATION

It is important that you are in communication with your Palco Support Coordinator and DHS Nurse and using the services you have been authorized for. If you go without services for 30 days you may face termination from the program. Always communicate your needs and ensure you are following the program guidelines to keep your services in place.

### RULES ON

### HIRING CAREGIVERS

The Department of Human Services who manages the self-directed program has specific rules on who can be a paid caregiver. An individual cannot be hired as paid caregiver if:

- They are the spouse of the Participant
- The Participant lives in their home, unless they are related by blood and marriage
- They are a Power of Attorney or SSI payee
- They are a DHS representative or signer

### BOUNDARIES

It is extremely important in a self-directed program that everyone understands their role and the limitations of that role. As the Participant/Representative you are responsible for directing and managing your services and supports. While it is nice to have the help of family and friends, it is important you do not let them interfere or fulfill your duties. For example, a worker cannot call Palco on your behalf and get information about your budget or other workers pay. It is important that your Palco Support Coordinator be able to reach YOU, the Participant/Representative, to have key conversations and relay information so they can ensure you are in charge and understand your role.

