

11.1 Purpose

1. This program shall be known as the General Assistance Program and is meant to implement Iowa Code Sections 252.1 and 252.25 Linn County shall provide assistance to those persons who meet the criteria established in the following sections. Financial limitations on personal income, personal resources, property ownership, exemptions and the amount and duration of assistance, unless specifically set out in the following sections, shall be established by the Linn County Board of Supervisors by resolutions. The Linn County Board of Supervisors have approved the following General Assistance Policy Manual for the remainder of FY13 (February 2013 through June 2013).

- i. **Iowa Code 252.25:**The board of supervisors of each county shall provide for the assistance of poor persons lawfully in the county who are ineligible for, or are in immediate need and are awaiting approval and receipt of, assistance under programs provided by state or federal law, or whose actual needs cannot be fully met by the assistance furnished under those programs. The county board of supervisors shall establish general rules as the board's members deem necessary to properly discharge their responsibility under this section. All applications, investigation reports, and case records of persons applying for county general assistance under this chapter are privileged communications and confidential, subject to use and inspection only by persons authorized by law in connection with their official duties relating to financial audits and administration of this chapter or as authorized by order of a district court. Examination of an individual's applications, reports, and records may also be authorized by a signed release from the individual.

- ii. **Iowa Code 252.1: "Poor Person" Defined.** The words "poor" and "poor person" as used in this chapter shall be construed to mean those who have no property, exempt or otherwise, and are unable, because of physical or mental disabilities, to earn a living by labor; but this section shall not be construed to forbid aid to needy persons who have some means, when the board shall be of opinion that the same will be conducive to their welfare and the best interests of the public.