

# Minnesota Long-Term Care Partnership Program – Summary

The Minnesota Long Term Care Partnership is a public/private arrangement between approved long-term care insurance carriers and Minnesota's Medical Assistance (MA) program. The program helps Minnesota residents protect assets if they later need state assistance to pay for long-term care.

In simple terms, Partnership-qualified long-term care insurance allows individuals to use private insurance first and then keep more of their assets if they later qualify for Medical Assistance.

## How Asset Protection Works

To qualify for Medical Assistance, most individuals must meet an asset limit, which is currently \$3,000. Under the Partnership program, assets counted toward this limit are reduced by the total dollar amount of benefits paid by a Partnership-qualified long-term care policy.

**Example:** If a Partnership policy has paid \$25,000 in benefits at the time the individual applies for Medical Assistance, an additional \$25,000 of assets will not be counted toward the asset limit. These protected assets are also exempt from estate recovery.

## Program Administration

The Minnesota Department of Human Services administers the Partnership program, while the Minnesota Department of Commerce reviews and approves qualifying long-term care insurance policies. Policyholders should contact their insurer with questions about policy status.

## Recent Changes to the Partnership Program

- Minimum inflation protection was reduced from 3% to 1% for policies sold on or after July 1, 2015.
- Policies issued before July 1, 2006 may qualify if no benefits have been paid and all requirements are met.
- Policyholders may request written confirmation of Partnership status from their insurer, which must respond within 30 days.

## What Qualifies as a Partnership Policy

Partnership policies must be tax-qualified under IRC Section 7702B, meet consumer protection standards, and include required inflation protection if purchased before age 76. Minnesota does not impose minimum or maximum benefit dollar amounts.

*Extracted from the State of Minnesota webpage:*

<https://mn.gov/commerce/insurance/other/long-term-care/partnership.jsp>