

Homebound Guidelines

*Meals on Wheels provides home delivered meals to **homebound** individuals with no reliable means of getting groceries or safely preparing meals.*

Definition

Normal inability of an individual to leave the home, and when leaving the home, a considerable and taxing effort is required. This does not mean that the individual should be bed bound.

The individual may leave the home to receive healthcare services including:

- Visits to the physician's office
- Visits to receive healthcare treatment, i.e. wound clinic, outpatient chemotherapy, dialysis, etc.

Occasional absences from the home for non-medical purposes may include, but are not limited to:

- An occasional trip to the barber or beauty salon
- A walk around the block
- Attendance at a family reunion, funeral, graduation
- Attending a religious service, or
- Other infrequent or unique events

Absences from the home must be undertaken on an infrequent basis, of relatively short duration and require a considerable and taxing effort on behalf of the individual.

Generally, an individual will be considered to meet the qualifications of homebound when they have a medical condition due to an illness or injury that restricts their ability to leave their place of residence except with:

- The aid of supportive devices such as crutches, canes, wheelchairs, and walkers
- The use of special transportation
- The assistance of another person, or
- When leaving home is medically contraindicated (unsafe or related to psychiatric condition)