

granted and/or payments made on applications heretofore signed by the applicant and witnessed, shall be deemed valid payments for the purposes of this Article.

8. INVESTIGATION OF APPLICATION. Whenever a County Department receives an application for assistance under this Article, an investigation and record shall promptly be made of the circumstances of the applicant in order to ascertain the facts supporting the application and in order to obtain such other information as may be required by the rules of the State Department.

9. GRANTING OF ASSISTANCE. Upon the completion of such investigation the County Department shall decide whether the applicant is eligible for assistance under the provisions of this Article, and determine in accordance with the rules and regulations of the State Department the amount of such assistance and the date on which such assistance shall begin. The County Department shall notify the applicant of its decision. Such assistance shall be paid monthly to the applicant upon order of the County Department from funds allocated to the County Department for this purpose.

10. ASSIGNMENTS OF PROPERTY. Any County Department, with the consent of the State Department, may require as a condition for granting assistance under the provisions of this Article, that every applicant having an interest in any personal property, tangible or intangible, shall dispose of or transfer to the County Department, any or all such property, in accordance with such rules and regulations as the State Department may prescribe. Provided, however, if any applicant at the time shall have in his possession any insurance policy, be it endowment, industrial, or life insurance, \$300.00 of the face value of the said insurance policy shall remain the sole and exclusive property of the applicant and shall not be assigned to the local County Department. Any property transferred to a County Department under the provisions of this section shall be held by it in trust to sell, pledge, lease, surrender or transfer the same, to pay all claims against it and to do all things necessary for the protection, preservation and management thereof, to collect the income therefrom, and to disburse the principal and income thereof for the benefit of said applicant, in accordance with such rules and regulations as the State Department may prescribe. If the assistance granted to any recipient be discontinued during his lifetime, the property remaining in the hands of the County Department at such time or the proceeds thereof, shall be returned to the recipient, after deducting therefrom the sums paid as assistance. In the event of the recipient's death, the remaining property, or the