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PART I. GENERAL PROVISIONS

Section 101. Authority

The rules and procedures of the Republic of Palau Healthcare Fund (hereinafter "HCF") documented in this Operations Manual (hereinafter "HCF OM") are promulgated pursuant to and in accordance with the Administrative Procedure Act, as codified in 6 PNC §101 ff. and RPPL No. 8-14, as codified in Title 41, Chapter 9 of the PNC. These rules and regulations have been promulgated by the Republic of Palau Healthcare Financing Governing Committee (hereinafter "Committee") and shall have the force and effect of law. [Source: 41 PNC §908]

Section 102. Purpose and Scope

The purpose of these rules and regulations is to ensure effective and efficient implementation and administration of the National Healthcare Financing Act, RPPL 8-14 (HCFA) by its Committee and by the Social Security Administration, as the administrative agency mandated with the responsibility and duty of administering the provisions of the HCFA. [Source: 41 PNC §908]

Section 103. To Whom Applicable

Unless contrary to the purpose and intent of the HCFA, these regulations are to be enforced by employees of the Social Security Administration and of the Ministry of Health of the Republic of Palau and shall be made available for public inspection upon request at the offices of the Social Security Administration during regular hours of operation. [Source: 6 PNC §123]

Section 104. Definitions

Unless otherwise specified, definitions as set forth in 41 PNC §702 and 41 PNC §901 are incorporated into and made a part of these rules and procedures for all purposes. Other definitions specifically applicable to these regulations are:

- (a) Account holder: The individual identified as the owner of a particular medical savings account.
- (b) Approved provider: An individual or organization that is licensed or otherwise officially recognized as meeting the required standards to provide and charge for medical care to others by the jurisdiction where the provider is located.
- (c) Dependent: A spouse, child under the age of eighteen, or child under the age of twenty-two who is a bona fide student, of the account holder.
- (d) Designated beneficiary (or "beneficiary"): A dependent or other individual authorized to access an account holder's Medical Savings Account. [Source: 41 PNC §901]