

Willowbrook Will Share in 450G Award

The Willowbrook State School on Staten Island, a recent target of criticism that staff shortages caused by budget cuts were imperiling care, will be a principal beneficiary of a \$450,000 award won by one of its residents, an 8-year-old boy.

The award ordered Williamsburg Hospital in Brooklyn to pay damages for allegedly inadequate care given the boy at his birth. The care at delivery was responsible for his retardation, his parents charged. The award has been affirmed by the trial judge.

The award to the boy, Michael Mamunes, will be deposited in his name and used for his care. His bill at Willowbrook, where he has been a resident since January 1969, is already around \$20,000 and the annual cost will run around \$7,700, according to his attorney, Harry H. Lipsig.

Long-Term Patient

Lipsig said the boy is expected to be a resident of Willowbrook for some years, perhaps his entire life.

The award was won by Lipsig Dec. 2 after a two-month jury trial before Brooklyn Supreme Court Justice Aaron E. Koota. Last week, Koota rejected a defense motion to set it aside as excessive.

At the trial, the boy's parents, Perry and Marjorie Mamunes of 150-68 86th Ave., Kew Gardens Hills, Queens, charged that the boy is retarded because there was no oxygen available when he had difficulty breathing at his birth on Aug. 29, 1963.

No Doc on Hand

Mrs. Mamunes charged further that there was no doctor in attendance at the delivery.

None of the award is to go to the parents as long as the boy lives. Lipsig