

MICHIGAN DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

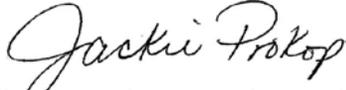
NOTICE OF PROPOSED POLICY

Public Act 280 of 1939, as amended, and consultation guidelines for Medicaid policy provide an opportunity to review proposed changes in Medicaid policies and procedures.

Please review the policy summary and the attached materials that describe the specific changes being proposed. Let us know why you support the change or oppose the change.

Submit your comments to the analyst by the due date specified. Your comments must be received by the due date to be considered for the final policy bulletin.

Thank you for participating in the consultation process.



Director, Program Policy Division
Bureau of Medicaid Policy and Health System Innovation

Project Number:	1613-NEMT	Comments Due:	May 16, 2016	Proposed Effective Date:	July 1, 2016
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Policy Subject: Fee-for-Service Medicaid Transportation Rate and Policy Updates

Affected Programs: Medicaid, Healthy Michigan Plan, MIChild, Maternal Infant Health Program

Distribution: Bridges Eligibility Manual (BEM) and Bridges Administrative Manual (BAM) Holders, Medicaid Health Plans

Policy Summary: This policy revises current rates for Non-Emergency Medical Transportation (NEMT) services reimbursed by Fee-for-Service (FFS), and removes inclusion of those rates from BAM 825 through the establishment of a separately maintained NEMT rate schedule. This policy also clarifies DHS-5330 (Medical Verification for Transportation) requirements that were initially revised in bulletin MSA 15-50.

Purpose: Current FFS NEMT meal and lodging rates have not seen an adjustment in three decades. Additionally, the decrease in the 2016 Internal Revenue Service (IRS) standard mileage rates requires that FFS NEMT mileage rates be decreased to avoid tax implications for providers. Moving the rates to a separately maintainable database will allow for greater ability to adjust rates based on mandates from department leadership, the legislature, or the IRS.

Proposed Policy Draft

Michigan Department of Health and Human Services
Medical Services Administration

Distribution: Bridges Eligibility Manual (BEM) and Bridges Administrative Manual (BAM) Holders, Medicaid Health Plans

Issued: June 1, 2016 (Proposed)

Subject: Fee-for-Service Medicaid Transportation Rate and Policy Updates

Effective: July 1, 2016 (Proposed)

Programs Affected: Medicaid, Healthy Michigan Plan, MICHild, Maternal Infant Health Program

The purpose of this bulletin is to inform Michigan Department of Health and Human Services (MDHHS) and Medicaid transportation contractor staff of changes to Medicaid Fee-for-Service (FFS) Non-Emergency Medical Transportation (NEMT) policy. This policy impacts rates pertaining to the reimbursement of mileage, meals and lodging, and clarifies previously issued policy. Refer to the MDHHS BAM 825 for additional information regarding Medicaid FFS NEMT policy.

The proposed policy applies to Medicaid FFS only. Medicaid Health Plans are allowed to develop their own requirements, which may differ from Medicaid FFS requirements. Providers should contact the specific health plan for questions related to NEMT for managed care enrollees.

Meal Reimbursement

Medicaid may provide meal reimbursement to beneficiaries and to certain transportation providers (i.e., volunteer drivers and individuals with a vested interest) as defined by BAM 825. The following meal rates, and departure and return criteria, apply:

MEALS	MAXIMUM
Breakfast (Must depart prior to 6:30 AM and return after 9 AM)	\$8.50 (includes tax & gratuity)
Lunch (Must depart prior to 11:30 AM and return after 2 PM)	\$8.50 (includes tax & gratuity)
Dinner (Must depart prior to 4:30 PM and return after 7 PM)	\$19.00 (includes tax & gratuity)

Meal expenses are reimbursable when verified with original, itemized, unaltered receipts. Meal rates specific to the University of Michigan Children's Hospital/Outpatient Treatment, as delineated in EXHIBIT I of BAM 825, are being discontinued. Medicaid meal reimbursement rates cannot exceed in-state employee travel rates as established by the Michigan Department of Technology, Management & Budget (DTMB).

Lodging Reimbursement

Medicaid may provide lodging reimbursement to beneficiaries and to certain transportation providers (i.e., volunteer drivers and individuals with a vested interest) as defined by BAM 825. The following lodging rates apply:

LODGING	MAXIMUM
Per Night	\$75.00 (excludes tax)

Lodging expenses are reimbursable when verified with original, itemized, unaltered receipts. The least expensive, sufficiently maintained lodging available must be utilized. The availability of nonprofit accommodations (i.e., Ronald McDonald House or accommodations available through the visiting medical facility) must be explored before commercial lodging is considered. Medicaid lodging reimbursement rates cannot exceed in-state employee travel rates as established by DTMB.

Mileage Reimbursement

Medicaid may provide mileage reimbursement to beneficiaries or transportation providers under certain conditions as defined by BAM 825. The following mileage rates apply, and cannot exceed in-state employee premium mileage rates as established by DTMB:

MILEAGE	MAXIMUM
Public City or Commercial inter-city bus transportation (one-way or round-trip)	Ticket charge
Personal	\$0.19/mile
Volunteer or foster care parents	\$0.54/mile
Commercial, nonprofit, medical facilities, or local health departments	\$0.27/mile
Wheelchair lift or Medivan	\$30/round trip and \$0.27/mile
SPECIAL TRANSPORTATION ALLOWANCE	MAXIMUM
Attendant	\$10.00

Mileage is only reimbursable when the beneficiary is being transported in the vehicle (loaded miles). Medicaid personal mileage rates cannot exceed “medical or moving” standard mileage rates while Medicaid volunteer or foster care mileage cannot exceed “business” standard mileage rates as established by the Internal Revenue Service.

Rate Schedule

BAM 825 will no longer maintain Medicaid NEMT FFS reimbursement rates, as currently defined in EXHIBIT I. An NEMT database will be posted on the MDHHS website at www.michigan.gov/medicaidproviders >> Billing and Reimbursement >> Provider Specific Information. Providers and beneficiaries should refer to the database for the most current information pertaining to NEMT reimbursement and services. The database is reviewed and updated as applicable.

Maternal Infant Health Program Mileage Reimbursement

Maternal Infant Health Program (MIHP) transportation costs associated with mileage reimbursement are aligned with MDHHS established NEMT personal mileage rates. As such, any and all adjustments to MDHHS NEMT personal mileage rates are applicable to MIHP providers. Rates for MIHP providers are reviewed and updated at least annually and published on the MIHP database located on the MDHHS website.

Verification of Medical Needs Clarification

Bulletin MSA 15-50, issued December 1, 2015, defined when the completion of a DHS-5330 (Medical Verification for Transportation) is required. To further clarify, a completed DHS-5330 is required when the DHS-54A has expired. For example, if a beneficiary requested transportation during the month of December 2015, and secured a completed DHS-54A, that beneficiary does not need to secure a completed DHS-5330 until one year after the signature date of the DHS-54A.