

STATE OF LOUISIANA

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METHODS OF PROVIDING TRANSPORTATION:

CITATIONS

42 CFR 431.53  
42 CFR 440.170  
1902(a)(87) of the Social Security Act

Non-Emergency Medical Transportation

- I. The Bureau of Health Services Financing assures the provision of necessary non-emergency medical transportation to and from providers where it is needed to secure a Title XIX covered medical service. Based upon the beneficiary giving two days advance notice, Louisiana's Medical Assistance Program or its designated contractor arranges for the provision of non-emergency medical transportation, at no cost to the beneficiary, through the actual provision of transportation by arrangement for transportation service through community resources, or by payment to providers of non-emergency medical transportation who are enrolled in the Title XIX Program.

In instances when Title XIX funds are authorized to provide transportation, the beneficiary shall be given freedom to choose among medical transportation providers in the service area who are enrolled in the Title XIX Program except when such services can be provided by the Local Transit Authority. If the beneficiary does not make a choice, Bureau of Health Services Financing will assign the least expensive transportation suitable to meet the beneficiary's medical needs. If there is no difference in cost among providers, the beneficiary will be assigned on a rotating basis to available providers.

In instances when the Local Transit Authority can provide transportation the beneficiary does not have a choice. Bureau of Health Services Financing will attempt to provide non-emergency medical transportation even if two days advance notice is not given.

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Vendor payment shall be made for non-emergency transportation subject to the following conditions:

- A. The eligible Title XIX beneficiary seeks transportation to and from a medical provider of his/her choice who is generally available and used by other members of the community for a Title XIX covered medical service.
- B. All other avenues of providing transportation appropriate to meet the needs of the beneficiary have been explored and found to be unavailable; i.e. family, friends, community resources, the provision of transportation by the Bureau of Health Services Financing Parish Medicaid Office or other State of Federally funded transportation resources.
- C. The provider of transportation is enrolled in the title XIX Program.
- D. That transportation is arranged to and/or from a provider of medical services located geographically within the trade area in which the beneficiary resides who requests transportation.
- E. There are no arbitrary limitations as to the number of non-emergency medical transportation services for which payment will be made.

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- II. The Bureau of Health Services Financing Parish Medicaid Office may elect to utilize any of the following methods of transportation in assuring for the provision of non-emergency medical transportation.
  - A. Public transportation providers such as taxi companies and public transit systems.
  - B. Non-profit providers of transportation such as church or volunteer groups.
  - C. Providers of transportation who are partially or totally funded by State, Federal or Local funds such as service agencies.
  - D. State owned vehicles driven by Department of Health and Hospitals staff, such as cars, vans, mini-buses or trucks.
  - E. Ambulances.
  - F. For-Profit providers of transportation.

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METHODS OF PROVIDING TRANSPORTATION:

Emergency Medical Transportation

The Bureau of Health Services Financing assures the provision of emergency medical transportation where it is needed to secure emergency medical services when provided for unforeseen circumstances which apparently demand immediate attention at a hospital to prevent serious impairment or loss of life. In instances when Title XIX funds are authorized to provide transportation, the beneficiary shall be given freedom to choose among emergency medical transportation providers in the service area who are enrolled in the Title XIX Program.

Emergency medical transportation is provided by ambulance.

The Bureau of Health Services Financing attests that all the minimum requirements outlined in 1902(a)(87) of the Social Security Act are met.