



STATE OF IOWA

CHESTER J. CULVER, GOVERNOR
PATTY JUDGE, LT. GOVERNOR

DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES
CHARLES J. KROGMEIER, DIRECTOR

INFORMATIONAL LETTER NO. 862

DATE: November 16, 2009

TO: All Iowa Non-Emergency Medical Transportation Agencies.

ISSUED BY: Iowa Department of Human Services, Iowa Medicaid Enterprise

RE: Program Changes Non-Emergency Transportation

EFFECTIVE: December 1, 2009

On October 8, 2009 Governor Culver issued Executive Order 19 which mandated a 10 percent across-the-board cut in state government spending. As a result, the Department of Human Services enacted rule changes as part of the effort to achieve the savings required in the executive order. The following changes to the non-emergency medical transportation reimbursement rates are identified below:

- 1. Effective December 1, 2009, there will be a cap of \$1.40 per mile for transportation agencies.**
- 2. Effective December 1, 2009, the individual mileage reimbursement rate will be reduced from 34 cents per mile, to 30 cents per mile.**

Transportation agencies have been and still are able to either bill “per mile” or “per trip.” For agencies that bill “per trip,” you must ensure that the cost of the “per trip” rate is equal to, or below the cost of the actual miles driven, multiplied by \$1.40 per mile.

DHS Income Maintenance Workers will verify the actual mileage for “per trip” charges the same way they verify “per mile” charges by reimbursing trip costs up to the actual miles driven, using Mapquest, multiplied by \$1.40.

Below is an excerpt of the current draft rule changes pertaining to these services. The complete rule changes are posted on the IME provider homepage (<http://www.ime.state.ia.us/Providers/>). Official rules are projected to be published on December 2, 2009 in the Iowa Administrative Bulletin.

“Amend paragraph 441—**78.13(5)“a”** and **“b”** as follows:

- ~~Effective September 1, 2008, when~~ When transportation is by car, the maximum payment that may be made will be the actual charge made by the provider for transportation to and from the source of medical care, but not in excess of ~~34-30~~cents per mile.
- When public transportation is utilized, the basis of payment will be the actual charge made by the provider of transportation, not to exceed ~~the charge that would be made by the most economical available source of public transportation~~ \$1.40 per mile”