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**NOTICE OF ACCESS SERVICE AVAILABILITY**  
**TO ELIGIBLE MINNESOTA HEALTH CARE PROGRAM RECIPIENTS**

You may be able to get paid for expenses to help you get medical care or to attend an appeal hearing. You may also receive reimbursement when your eligibility is made retroactive.

***Please read this information sheet carefully.***

The Meeker County Social Services MHCP Biennial Health Care Access Plan will pay for the most cost-effective form of transportation to get you to a primary care provider within 30 miles of your home and a specialty care provider within 60 miles of your home. Transport beyond those respective distances will require referral based on medical necessity or health plan referral and approval from the county/tribe. If you have your own vehicle and can drive, you must use it whenever possible.

- If you drive your car or have a friend, someone in your household or a relative that may drive your car for you, you will be paid at a rate of 22 cents a mile.
- If a volunteer driver provides transportation, the volunteer driver will be paid up to the IRS business deduction rate effective on the date the access transportation service was provided.
- Bus, light rail, or other similar commercial carrier standard rider fares will be reimbursed at the rate charged. You must have authorization from your worker in order to receive reimbursement for these transportation and ancillary service costs.
- If your doctor says that you must have medical care which you cannot get within 30 miles of your residence for primary care or 60 miles from your residence for specialty care, you may be eligible for transportation, meals, lodging, and parking reimbursements to help you get care. Services must not be available from a closer provider capable of providing the level of care needed. This would include there not being another provider within the 30/60 mile limits from your residence capable of providing the level of care needed.
- If someone must go with you to get necessary medical care, they may also be reimbursed meals and lodging costs when also approved for you at the same rate
- You may also be eligible for reimbursement of transportation and related expenses during the months you were found to be eligible before the date you applied.
- If you appeal a decision on your MA or MinnesotaCare case, you are eligible for reimbursement of transportation, related ancillary service expenses and, if necessary, child care costs incurred while you are attending the appeal hearing.

**This Institution is an Equal Opportunity Provider and Employer**

## **TO GET PAID**

Contact the above number Monday thru Friday from 8:00 AM to 4:30 PM to get prior approval for transport and/or ancillary services or to schedule a ride before you go for your medical appointment. You will need to contact us at least one (1) working day before your appointment.

Bring or send your appointment slip and a letter from your doctor that says you need to exceed the 30/60 mile limits for medically necessary care because there are “no providers within the 30/60 miles or closer than the “referred to” provider capable of providing the medically necessary level of care needed” by the recipient. The appointment slip and letter must be provided to your local agency worker prior to reimbursement approval. Attach the appointment slip to the signed voucher.

**YOU MUST PROVIDE** receipts for meals, lodging, and parking, except for parking meters, with the signed voucher. Provide mileage and state whether your car or another person's was used.

- Meals may be reimbursed when travel is farther than 35 miles from your home by the most direct route and you are in transit to, from, or at medical appointment during normal meal hours: Breakfast, prior to 6:00 am; Lunch, between 11:00 am and 1:00 pm; Dinner: after 7:00 pm. Meals are reimbursed up to the following amounts: Breakfast - \$5.50, Lunch - \$6.50, Dinner - \$8.00.
- Lodging must be prior authorized and is limited to \$50.00 per night unless authorized by the local agency for a greater amount. Lodging may be reimbursed when travel is farther than 60 miles from your home and the first scheduled appointment is before 8:00 am.
- Parking fees will be paid at actual cost. The least costly parking option must be utilized. For example: single entry/exit rate vs weekly permit rate vs monthly permit rate, etc. as necessary for the health care appointment or services.

**IF YOU CHOOSE** to get medical care from a provider that is not within 30 miles for primary or 60 miles for specialty care from your home, you may have to pay for your own transportation and ancillary service costs. This includes emergencies when you can get the services needed at a closer location.

**IF YOU HAVE A MEDICAL EMERGENCY** contact your worker immediately after the emergency to make arrangements for reimbursement of allowed expenses.

**IMPORTANT REMINDER:** If you want to be paid, you must get authorization to incur costs before you get certain non-emergency medical transportation or related ancillary services. Prior authorization to incur a transportation or ancillary service cost is not required for emergencies, retroactive eligibility, and appeal hearings. Reporting, billing, and receipt documentation is still required.