EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES AGENCY
LOS ANGELES COUNTY

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To ensure timely, compassionate, and quality emergency and disaster medical services.

Health Services
http://ems.dhs.lacounty.gov

April 3, 2018

TO: Fire Chief, All 9-1-1 Paramedic Provider Agencies
CEO, Private Provider Agencies
City Manager, Each Los Angeles County City

FROM: Cathy Chidester
Director

SUBJECT: GENERAL PUBLIC AMBULANCE RATES JULY 1, 2018 THROUGH June 30, 2019

Attached are the maximum allowable rates chargeable to the general public for ambulance transportation as of July 1, 2018, as per Section 7.16.340, Modification of Rates, of the County Ordinance (Attachment I).

Transportation services provided on or after July 1, 2018 may not be billed above the allowable maximum rates according to the attached Rate Schedule.

If you have any questions, please call John Telmos, Chief Prehospital Operations at (562) 347-1677.

CC:jt
03-24a

Attachment

c: Kathy Hanks, Director, Contracts and Grants Division, Health Services
Brian Chu, Deputy County Counsel, Health Services
Cristina Talamantes, Ordinance liaison, Board of Supervisors Executive Office

COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES
GENERAL PUBLIC AMBULANCE RATES
EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2018

Section 7.16.280 Rate Schedule For Ambulances

A. A ground ambulance operator shall charge no more than the following rates for one patient:

Rates Effective July 1, 2018

1.	Response to a non-emergency call with equipment and personnel at an advanced life support (ALS) level	**$2,132.00**
2.	Response to an emergency 9-1-1 call with equipment and personnel at an advanced life support (ALS) level	**$2,282.00**
3.	Response to a nonemergency call with equipment and personnel at a basic life support (BLS) level	**$1,420.00**
4.	Response to an emergency 9-1-1 call with equipment and personnel at a basic life support (BLS) level	**$1,523.00**
5.	Mileage rate. Each mile or fraction thereof	**$20.00**
6.	Waiting time. For each 30-minute period or fraction thereof after the first 30 minutes of waiting time at the request of the person hiring the ambulance	**$120.00**
7.	Standby time. The base rate for the prescribed level of service and, in addition, for each 30-minute period or fraction thereof after the first 30 minutes of standby time	**$115.00**

B. This section does not apply to a contract between the ambulance operator and the County where different rates or payment mechanisms are specified.

Section 7.16.310 Special Charges

A. A ground ambulance operator shall charge no more than the following rates for special ancillary services:

1.	Request for services after 7 PM and before 7 AM of the next day will be subject to an additional maximum charge of	**$24.00**
2.	Persons requiring oxygen, shall be subject to an additional maximum charge per tank or fraction thereof, and oxygen delivery equipment to include nasal cannula and/or oxygen mask, of	**$96.00**
3.	Neonatal transport	**$228.00**
4.	Registered nurse or respiratory therapist specialty care transport with equipment and personnel for up to 3 hours of transportation time	**$2567.00**
5.	Registered nurse **and** respiratory therapist specialty care transport with equipment and personnel for up to 3 hours of transportation time	**$2901.00**
6.	Registered Nurse and/or Respiratory Therapist per hour after the first 3 hours	**$143.00**
7.	Volume ventilator	**$184.00**
8.	Disposable medical supplies	**$28.00**

B. Where other special services are requested or needed by any patient or authorized representative thereof, a reasonable charge commensurate with the cost of furnishing such special service may be made, provided that the ambulance operator shall file with the Director of the Department of Health Services a schedule of each special service proposed and the charge therefore, which charge shall be effective unless modified, restricted, or denied by the Director of the Department of Health Services. Special services are defined as services provided to a patient that are unique and individual to a specific patient's needs, and are performed on a limited basis.

C. Charges for special services provided to patients that are new services, but will become an industry standard, must be reviewed and a rate commensurate with the service developed prior to ambulance operators charging such rate to the general public. Such rates shall not be charged to patients until approved by the Board of Supervisors.

D. This section does not apply to a contract between an ambulance operator and the County where different rates or payment mechanisms are specified.

Section 7.16.340 Modification of Rates.

The maximum rates chargeable to the general public as set forth in Sections 7.16.280 and 7.16.310 of this chapter shall be adjusted effective July 1, 1992, and on July 1st of each year thereafter, to reflect changes in the value of the dollar. For each of the one year periods respectively beginning July 1, 1992 and July 1, 1993 such adjustments shall be made by multiplying the base amounts by the percentage change in the transportation portion of the Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers, Western Region, as compiled and reported by the Bureau of Labor Statistics for the 12-month period ending with the last day of the prior month of February. Beginning July 1, 1994, and on each July 1 thereafter, such adjustments shall be determined by multiplying the base amounts by the average of the percentage changes of the transportation portion and of the medical portion of the Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers, Western Region, as compiled and reported by the Bureau of Labor Statistics for the 12-month period ending with the last day of the prior month of February. Beginning July 1, 2017, and on every July 1 thereafter, such adjustments shall be determined by multiplying seventy-five (75) percent of the base amounts by the percentage change of the minimum wage change in Los Angeles County as defined in County Code Section 8.100 .040 - Minimum Wage and by multiplying twenty-five (25) percent of the base amounts by the percentage change of the Medical Care line item of the Consumer Price Index for all Urban Customers, Western Region, as compiled and reported by the Bureau of Labor Statistics for the 12-month period ending with the last day of the prior month of February, except for the following changes: Registered Nurse/Respiratory Therapist per hour after the first three (3) hours adjustment shall be determined by multiplying the current charge by the percentage change of the minimum wage change in Los Angeles County as defined in County Code Section 8.100 .040 - Minimum Wage: mileage adjustment shall be determined by multiplying the current charge for the percentage change of the transportation line item of the Consumer Price Index for All Urban Customers, Western Region, as compiled and reported by the Bureau of Labor Statistics for the 12-month period ending with the last day of the prior month of February: and Oxygen, Disposable Medical Supplies, and a Ventilator adjustment shall be determined by multiplying the current charges by the percentage change of the Medical Care line item of the Consumer Price Index for all of the Customers, Western Region, as compiled and reported by the Bureau of Labor Statistics for the 12 month period ending with the last day of the prior month of February. The result so determined shall be rounded to the nearest whole number and added or subtracted, as appropriate, to the rate. The result so determined shall be rounded to the nearest whole number and added or subtracted, as appropriate, to the rate. The Director of the Department of Health Services, or authorized designee, shall initiate implementation of these rate changes by notifying in writing each licensed private ambulance operator in Los Angeles County thereof, and any other individual or agency requesting such notification from the Director. Such notice shall be sent by first class mail no later than June 15 of the prior period.