

State of Mississippi

**METHODS AND STANDARDS FOR ESTABLISHING PAYMENT RATES-OTHER
TYPES OF CARE**

Effective for emergency transportation services, required by 42 CFR § 431.53, for dates of service on or after July 1, 2022, qualifying emergency ground ambulance services within the State of Mississippi shall be eligible to receive emergency ambulance service access payments. No payment under this section is dependent on any agreement or arrangement for providers or related entities to donate money or services to a governmental entity.

The Division of Medicaid will provide supplemental payments for government and non-government ambulance providers. The annual payment period is each state fiscal year, from July 1 through June 30. Provider eligibility will be determined annually for each state fiscal year as of July 1. Eligible emergency ambulance service providers must be enrolled as a Mississippi Medicaid provider and licensed in Mississippi as a ground ambulance provider as of July 1. Ambulance providers must also be an eligible ground ambulance provider enrolled with the Mississippi Division of Medicaid at the time of payment.

An average commercial rate (ACR) is the calculated average of at least three, and no more than five, commercial payer rates for specific Healthcare Common Procedure Coding System (HCPCS) emergency transport service codes. The list of CPT codes being utilized for the ACR includes A0427, A0429, A0433, A0434, A0380, A0390, and A0425. The submitted survey data will be used to determine the ACRs for each provider. A statewide average ACR will be used when any provider-specific ACR is not available. Average commercial rate data used for payments will be from a period no more than two years prior to the beginning of the payment year.

The access payments will be calculated on an annual basis and will equal one hundred percent (100%) of the difference between Medicaid payments otherwise made to each emergency ambulance provider for the applicable HCPCS transport codes and the average amount the emergency ambulance provider would have received from commercial insurers for those services. Annual access payments shall be made on a quarterly basis in the last month of each quarter of the state fiscal year in September, December, March and June.

CY2021 claims will be used as the basis for the SFY2023 payment. Beginning July 1, 2023, the total payments for each annual payment period will be calculated using actual Medicaid claims volume and payments from the state fiscal year two years prior to the payment period. As an example, SFY2022 claims will be used as the basis for the SFY2024 payment.

Eligible Participating providers who will receive payment and receive payments under the program include the emergency ambulance service providers which:

- Are enrolled as a Mississippi Medicaid provider as of July 1 of the payment year,
- Have not been terminated from Medicaid enrollment at the time of the payment, and
- Are licensed by the MS Department of Health as a ground ambulance provider as of July 1 of the payment year which is also the state fiscal year.