



MEMO

MISSISSIPPI DIVISION OF
MEDICAID

To: MS Emergency Ambulance Service Providers

From: MS Division of Medicaid

Date: March 3, 2023

Re: Ambulance Provider Assessment Notice

July 1, 2022 – June 30, 2023 – State Fiscal Year (SFY) 2023

The Mississippi Division of Medicaid (DOM) is seeking Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) approval effective July 1, 2022, for the Transforming Reimbursement for Emergency Ambulance Transportation (TREAT) program. The program was authorized by MS Code Annotated, §43-13-117 to provide additional funding, referred to as access payments, to ground emergency ambulance services providers to preserve and improve access to ambulance transportation provider services. The program is available to eligible providers for services provided on behalf of Medicaid beneficiaries. Emergency ambulance service providers must be enrolled as a Mississippi Medicaid provider and licensed in Mississippi as a 911 ground ambulance provider or critical care ground transport provider to be eligible for payments.

The access payments will be calculated on an annual basis and are based on the difference between the total amount that the ambulance transportation service provider received from Medicaid and the average amount that the ambulance transportation service provider would have received from commercial insurers for those services. Emergency services paid on billing codes A0427, A0429, A0433, A0434, A0425, A0380, and A0390 are eligible for the program. Transport data used to determine the volume of services for payments is based on historical calendar year (CY) 2021 Medicaid claims activity and encounter data from the Medicaid coordinated care organizations. Commercial payer rates used for the basis of payments are based on information collected through provider surveys. The statewide average commercial payer rate was used for all codes for which at least three commercial payer rates were not reported by a provider.

The TREAT program has two components, including a Medicaid fee-for-service (FFS) supplemental upper payment limit (UPL) program and a Medicaid managed care directed payment program (DPP). Payments made under the DPP component are preliminary and will be reconciled to SFY 2023 Medicaid utilization in a future period.

Payments will be funded by an emergency ambulance transportation assessment and federal matching funds. The assessment fee is allocated across ground emergency ambulance transportation providers based on certain revenues, as reported on provider surveys. Fees will be invoiced and collected in advance of payments being made. Please see the “SFY 2023 TREAT Payments and Fees By Provider” for amounts specific to your ambulance service.

Information about this program is available on the DOM website at:

<https://medicaid.ms.gov/transforming-reimbursement-for-emergency-ambulance-transportation-treat/>