

INFORMATIONAL LETTER NO. 2249-MC-FFS

DATE: August 2, 2021

TO: Iowa Medicaid Air Ambulance Providers and Managed Care Organizations (MCOs)

APPLIES TO: Managed Care (MC) and Fee-for-Service (FFS)

FROM: Iowa Department of Human Services (DHS), Iowa Medicaid Enterprise (IME)

RE: Air Ambulance Reimbursement Rates

EFFECTIVE: July 1, 2021

Provisions of the 2021 Iowa Acts, House File 891, Section 31, required DHS to implement an increase in air ambulance reimbursement rates effective July 1, 2021.

Medicaid air ambulance providers are reimbursed a fee schedule rate.

Air ambulance rates increased to \$550.00 per one-way trip for dates of service beginning July 1, 2021.

Procedure Code	Services Description	Rate in effect July 1, 2021
A0430	Ambulance Service, Conventional One-Way, Fixed Wing	\$550.00
A0431	Ambulance Service, Conventional One-Way, Rotary Wing	\$550.00

For updated Iowa Administrative Code (IAC) rules regarding payment methodologies, please refer to IAC 441-79.1(2) at <https://www.legis.iowa.gov/DOCS/ACO/IAC/LINC/Chapter.441.79.pdf>¹.

The ambulance fee schedule will be updated to reflect the new reimbursement rates for air ambulance services. Fee schedules may be accessed on the IME fee schedule website at <https://dhs.iowa.gov/ime/providers/csrp/fee-schedule>².

¹ <https://www.legis.iowa.gov/DOCS/ACO/IAC/LINC/Chapter.441.79.pdf>

² <https://dhs.iowa.gov/ime/providers/csrp/fee-schedule>

Please note: Due to the provider challenges related to the COVID-19 Public Health Emergency, the Department has made an exception to our normal process in allowing provider rate increases prior to approval from the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) and State Plan Amendment (SPA) submission.

The IME appreciates your partnership as we work together to serve the needs of Iowa Medicaid members. If you have any questions, please contact the IME Provider Services Unit at 1-800-338-7909, locally at 515-256-4609, or by email at imeproviderservices@dhs.state.ia.us.