

## **Memphis TGA Ryan White Part A and MAI Medical Transportation Policy**

The Shelby County Government Ryan White Program is the Recipient of Ryan White Part A and Minority AIDS Initiative (MAI) funding for the Memphis Transitional Grant Area (TGA). This area includes the following counties: Shelby, Tipton, and Fayette (TN); Crittenden (AR); and Desoto, Marshall, Tate, and Tunica (MS). The purpose of the Ryan White funding is to provide core medical and supportive services to people with HIV/AIDS who have no other means to pay for these services.

The Health Resources Services Administration (HRSA), the funding source for Ryan White, requires that all individuals who are provided services, including Medical Transportation, with Ryan White Part A and MAI funding meet eligibility criteria established in the Ryan White legislation and that documentation of client eligibility be maintained by the service providers. In addition, Ryan White legislation requires annual client eligibility recertification. The Memphis TGA requires an additional 6-month income verification as a part of client eligibility determination.

### Transportation Passes

Beginning March 1, 2016, the Medical Transportation Standards of Care for the Memphis TGA allow eligible people with HIV to access 30-day bus passes when, on average, they receive five (5) or more Ryan White funded services a month. Eligible people with HIV receiving less than an average of five (5) Ryan White funded services a month can receive one-day bus passes.

To ensure the most efficient use of available resources, 30-day bus passes should be distributed to eligible people with HIV by the organization that most recently performed the person's certification or recertification for Ryan White services. In the Memphis TGA, certification or re-certification is performed by Medical Case Managers.

No more than one 30-day bus pass should be given to an eligible person with HIV during a single 30-day period. If a monthly bus pass is lost or stolen, the eligible person with HIV can be given one-day bus passes until it is time for his/her/their next 30-day bus pass.

Providers of Medical Transportation services that do not perform certification or re-certification for Ryan White services are to continue issuing one-day bus passes to clients as needed.

### Rideshare Reimbursement

The use of rideshare services for medical transportation is permitted only when a business contract is in place between the rideshare company and Ryan White service provider. Rideshare rides for eligible people with HIV should be scheduled by the organization that most recently performed the person's certification or recertification for Ryan White services. In the Memphis TGA, certification or re-certification is performed by Medical Case Managers. No cash payments may be given to the eligible person with HIV.

### Taxicab Reimbursement

The use of taxicabs for medical transportation services is limited to those not physically capable of using mass transit services or when no other transit services are available. The Recipient's office may require proof of medical necessity. No cash payments may be given to the eligible person with HIV.

### Mileage Reimbursement

All mileage reimbursement is based on the current government rate. (As of January 1, 2023, the rate is \$0.655 per mile.) Mileage should be calculated from the eligible person with HIV's home address to the organization providing the Ryan White funded service. Monthly mileage reimbursement per eligible person with HIV cannot exceed \$125 unless access to a core medical service is needed. No cash payments may be given to the eligible person with HIV.

Each provider of Medical Transportation services is required to have a policy and procedure in place at their organization for the provision of these services. Medical Transportation service providers must, at a minimum, offer both transportation passes, if locally available, and mileage reimbursement as medical transportation options. Nothing in the organization's policy can contradict this policy or the Medical Transportation Standards of Care for the Memphis TGA.