



MEDICAL TRANSPORTATION INFORMATION CHECKLIST - FOR CLIENTS

Under the BC Employment and Assistance Program, a medical transportation supplement can be provided for persons facing extraordinary travel costs associated with essential medical treatment. This supplement is available when no other financial resources are available to cover the cost.

Essential medical treatments are non-emergency, insured medical services covered by Medical Services Plan (MSP) or the *Hospital Insurance Act*.

The purpose of this checklist is to provide you with information on the procedures which must be followed to help determine your eligibility for a medical transportation supplement.

Local Non-Emergency Medical Transportation

If the essential medical treatment is provided locally and you require a medical transportation supplement, you must:

- Explore all options and resources (i.e. family, voluntary agencies). See list of potential resources on page 2.
- Submit a written verification from your physician that includes the following information:
 - Confirmation that the medical treatment is covered by MSP or the *Hospital Insurance Act*.
 - Number of appointments per week necessary for the treatment.
 - Expected duration of the treatment.
 - Specify whether an escort is medically required or not required. (only eligible if accompanying a patient who is 18 years of age and under or who is incapable of travelling independently due to medical reason)
 - Specific reason why you are unable to use public transportation, if you require a taxi on an ongoing basis.

Non-Local Non-Emergency Medical Transportation

If the essential medical treatment is provided outside your home community and you require a medical transportation supplement, you must:

- Explore all options and resources (i.e. family, voluntary agencies). See list of potential resources on page 2.
- Request a written verification with the same information listed above or the Travel Assistance Program (TAP) form from your physician. TAP is a program developed by the Ministry of Health with participating transportation partners to provide travel assistance to eligible BC residents who are required to travel outside their home community to obtain non-emergency, physician-referred

specialist medical care. For more information about the program, go to <https://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/health/accessing-health-care/tap-bc/travel-assistance-program-tap-bc?keyword=travel&keyword=assistance&keyword=program>

- If a TAP form is required, submit a copy of the TAP form with confirmation number.
- Please consult with your local office to determine which document (a written verification or a TAP form) is required.
- Fill out and submit a Non-Local Medical Transportation Request form (HR3320).
- If you must return to the specialist, hospital or specialty service as part of the same course of treatment, the destination specialist's office or specialty service can complete and sign or stamp another TAP form. A new TAP form should be issued for each subsequent visit at the time the next appointment is made and a copy should be submitted to an Employment and Assistance Office.

Your eligibility for a medical transportation supplement will be assessed once all requested information is provided and all other resources have been considered. The most affordable option will be considered.

Failure to provide the necessary information required to determine your eligibility may result in delays processing your request.

This ministry may verify the information provided and perform post audit verification to confirm that the funding was used for its intended purpose.

If you have any questions about this, please contact the Ministry of Social Development and Poverty Reduction at 1 866 866-0800.

Alternative resources (but not limited to) include:

BC Family Residence Program – subsidized accommodation and transportation for families whose child is receiving care at BC Children's Hospital in Vancouver
<http://www.bcfamilyresidence.gov.bc.ca/>

Gizeh Shriners of British Columbia and Yukon – transports seriously ill children and their parents when traveling for specialized medical treatment
<https://www.bcshriners.com/what-we-do/patient-services/>

Health Connections – subsidized transportation options for rural areas
<https://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/health/accessing-health-care/tap-bc/health-connections>

Medical Travel Accommodation Listing – discounted medical rates for hotel accommodation <http://csa.pss.gov.bc.ca/medicaltravel/>

Hope Air – charitable organization for free air transportation <https://hopeair.ca/>

Easter Seal House

<https://www.eastersealsbcy.ca/how-we-help/easter-seals-house/>

New Chelsea Society – accommodation for kidney patients

<http://www.newchelsea.ca/housing/chelsea-tower/>

Aboriginal Patient's Lodge – accommodation for Aboriginal patients

<http://lnhs.ca/aboriginal-health-wellness/>

The Victoria Heart House B&B – for cardiovascular corrective patients

<https://www.fohs.ca/victoria-heart-house>

Canadian Cancer Society – accommodation for cancer patients

<http://www.cancer.ca/en/support-and-services/support-services/travel-and-accommodations-bc/?region=bc>

Heather House Hostel Shaunessy Building – Provides accommodation for people from out-of-town who have a family member requiring medical care on the lower mainland

Phone: 604-875-2298

Fax: 604-875-2703

Mailing Address: 4500 Oak Street, Vancouver, BC V6H 3N1