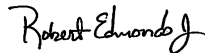


TO: Alpena County Administrator Osmer and  
Alpena County Courts & Public Safety Committee

CC: City Manager Smolinski and, Clerk/Treasurer/Finance Director Soik

FROM: Fire Chief Rob Edmonds 

SUBJECT: 2025 Ambulance Fee Schedule

Revisions DATE: November 18, 2024

In discussing our ambulance fee schedule with our contracted EMS billing provider, Mobile Health Resources (MHR), it was suggested we review and update our current fee schedule for the ambulance services we provide to remain current with allowable and approved fees. The new approved rates were just provided to us at the end of October due to a new revised timeline by BCBS and CMS. In the past, this adjustment has been requested to coincide with the City’s fiscal year as the newly published approved rates were not available until the new calendar year.

Third party insurers like Medicare, Medicaid and Blue Cross establish allowable fees for ambulance services and publish those revisions annually as they change. By not adjusting our rates and underbilling, we are essentially using tax money to subsidize commercial insurers’ profits and leaves us with less revenue to operate from. Any allowable increase assists in our long-term sustainability to provide key essential EMS services to the community for the future.

Based on the annual revisions to allowable fees, I will be recommending the following ambulance rate increases for approval by the City Council to be effective January 1, 2025:

Service	Current	Proposed	Difference	% Change
Mileage per mile	\$15.04	\$15.49	\$0.45	2.90%
Advanced Life Support 1 (ALS1)	\$668.44	\$668.49	\$0.05	0.007%
Advanced Life Support 2 (ALS2)	\$858.40	\$884.15	\$25.75	2.99%
BLS Emergent and Non-emergent	\$525.00	\$540.12	\$15.12	2.88%
SCT (MICU)	\$1000.00	\$1044.89	\$44.89	4.48%



Our interlocal ambulance agreement with Alpena County requires that we secure Alpena Counties approval to raise ambulance fees by more than 5%. As none of these rate increases exceed the 5% allowable, I do not need to present the fee schedule to the full board of the Alpena County Commissioners for approval before the effective implementation date.

This document serves as notification that this proposed 2025 Ambulance Fee Schedule will be presented for approval to go into effect January 1, 2025, at the Alpena City Council's December 2, 2024, meeting.

Ambulance

Basic Life Support Base Rate (1)	\$ 540.12
Mileage per mile (2)	\$ 15.49
Patient Assist	\$ 175.00
Advanced Life Support 1 (ALS1) Base Rate (1)	\$ 668.49
Advanced Life Support 2 (ALS2) Base Rate (1)	\$ 884.15
Mobile Intensive Care Unit (MICU/SCT) (1)	\$ 1044.89
Intercept	\$ 350.00
Nursing Assist (per hour)	\$ 40.00
Ambulance standby, for-profit events (per hour)	\$ 125.00
Ambulance standby, for mutual aid fires (per hour)	\$ 00.00
ACSD Inmate Transport to MidMichigan Alpena	\$ 250.00
Treat No-Transport	\$ 250.00

(1) \$200 discount on rates for county residents.

Up to \$200.00 discount on rates for county residents, applied to any outstanding balance after insurance payments with a limit of one (1) discount applied per household per year. If the balance is less than \$200.00, the discount will be equal to the outstanding balance. If the balance is more than \$200.00, the full \$200.00 discount will be applied, and the resident is responsible for the remainder of the bill. Discounts do not apply for Patient Assist and Treat-No Transport.

(2) Per mile transport, one-way, origin to destination.

Per the ambulance agreement with Alpena County, "If current Medicare, Medicaid, Blue Cross/Blue Shield or third-party private payer (accept assignment) reimbursement programs are changed so as to affect those agencies' payment program for services which affects the Ambulance Fee Schedule, then both parties agree to amend the Ambulance Fee Schedule for ambulance services to reflect those changes, so that the prevailing ambulance fees shall be maintained. The City shall notify the County of any changes of ambulance fees. If the increase in fees is greater than five (5) percent, the County shall respond within 30 days. If no response, those changes in fees shall be adopted."

Oxygen

\$ 40.00