

ITEM #12

BOARD ORDER NO. 609
FINAL RESOLUTION OF THE
BOARD OF TRANSPORTATION COMMISSIONERS
CITY OF LOS ANGELES

WHEREAS, the Board and City Council have directed the Department to recommend an adjustment in rates for private ambulance service in the City of Los Angeles for 2021-22; and

WHEREAS, after considering evidence presented at a public hearing, together with the Department recommendations, the Board has determined that an adjustment in private ambulance rates is justified; and

WHEREAS, the Board has found and determined that the following rate schedule and conditions are just, reasonable, nondiscriminatory and non-preferential for all companies;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that Board Order No. 606 establishing rates to be charged by operators of private ambulance service is hereby rescinded;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the following rate schedule and conditions are hereby fixed and established as the legal rates to be charged by private ambulance service in the City of Los Angeles:

Base Rate

Response to call with equipment and personnel
at a basic life support (BLS) level.....\$1,305.00

Response to call with equipment and personnel for use of a paramedic
ambulance at an advanced life support (ALS) level when requested by
a patient or authorized representative.....\$1,852.00

Mileage Rate

Each mile or fraction thereof.....\$19.00

Time Rate

Waiting Time: Elapsed time other than standby time necessitated by conditions
beyond control of the operator at the loading and/or discharge points.

For each 15-minute period or major fraction
thereof after an initial 15-minute period.....\$61.50

Standby Time: Elapsed time an ambulance is hired to stand at a particular special event or other location for service as needed. For pre-scheduled special events, standby service is arranged at least twenty-four (24) hours in advance. Other standby service results from requests for an ambulance arising from unanticipated events. The “Standby Time” charge is the “Base Rate” (BLS or ALS) for the applicable level of service and, in addition, the following rate for each 15-minute period or major fraction thereof after the first 15 minutes of “Standby Time”:

Basic Ambulance (BLS).....	\$62.00
Paramedic Ambulance (ALS).....	\$62.00

Special Charges

- a. Night Service: Each patient provided service after 7 P.M. and before 7 A.M.\$25.25
- b. Individuals requiring oxygen shall be subject to a maximum charge of.....\$96.75
- c. An emergency call requiring an immediate response and the use of red lights and siren.....\$134.50
- d. Services of a Critical Care Nurse.....\$249.25/hr
- e. Services of a Respiratory Therapist.....\$784.50/3 hrs
and \$113.75 /hr after 3 hrs
- f. Use of a Pulse Oximeter.....\$60.00
- g. Use of a Volume Ventilator.....\$197.00
- h. Use of an Infusion Pump (per line).....\$95.25
- i. Medical Supplies.....Replacement Cost
- j. Where other special services are requested by a patient or his/her authorized representative, a reasonable charge commensurate with the cost of furnishing such special service may be made, provided that each permitted ambulance operator shall file with the Board a schedule of each special service proposed and the charge thereof; the schedule shall become effective upon approval by the Board or as modified or restricted by the Board; these special charges shall be itemized on each bill and statement rendered by the permittee. No special charge shall be made other than those filed with and approved by the Board. The Department shall not recommend to the Board any special charge for services which was included in the schedule of rates authorized in this ordinance.

Additional Patients

- a. Fifty percent of the "Base Rate", "Mileage Rate" and "Night Service" charge for one patient shall be added for each additional patient. Other "Special Charges" shall be made as authorized by this Board Order.
- b. For group loads from same origin to same destination, a single charge shall be made each for the "Base Rate", "Mileage Rate", "Waiting Time Rate" and "Night Service". The total of these rates and charges shall be divided equally among the patients. Other "Special Charges" shall be made as authorized by this Board Order.

Reduced Rates

Rates and charges 25 percent less than herein established shall be charged for ambulance service by any operator upon requisition stating the patient's name, and inability to pay established rates, and signed by the attending physician, social worker or authorized representative of hospital, charitable institution or clinic. Said requisitions, together with a record of charges computed under approved rates and charges actually made, shall be kept available and open for inspection at all times by representatives of the Board of Transportation Commissioners.

Rebates

It shall be unlawful for any ambulance operator to give directly or indirectly, or cause to be given, any rebates, commissions, reserve rebates, or any reduced rates or cash discounts to any person, or persons, or groups of any nature, except as provided herein or which may be authorized by the Board by regulation.

Total Charge

Non-Standby Service: The total charge shall be the sum of the appropriate "Base Rate" plus the "Mileage Rate" applied to the distance actually traveled with patient or patients, plus the "Waiting Time" rate applied to requested or necessary waiting time, plus any "Special Charges" which apply.

Standby Service: The total charge per ambulance shall be the sum of the appropriate "Base Rate" and "Standby Time" rate applied to the requested standby time, plus any "Special Charges" applied to any special services provided by the operator and requested by the person or organization hiring standby service. The "Standby Time Rate" shall be computed from 15 minutes after the time the ambulance arrives at the requested location or 15 minutes after the time standby service was requested to commence, whichever is later, until the time the ambulance leaves the standby location, with or without a patient, or until the ambulance is discharged by an authorized representative of the person or organization requesting standby service, whichever occurs first. In the event the ambulance is required to leave the standby location and returns to complete the standby service assignment at a later time, a second "Base Rate" charge shall not be made.

If a replacement ambulance is required to report because of transportation of a patient, the "Standby Time Rate" charge per 15 minutes shall not be interrupted and a second "Base Rate" charge shall not be made.

The charge for transportation of a patient from a standby location shall be separate from and in addition to the "Base Rate" and "Standby Time Rate" charges.

Applicability

The permittee shall not levy any rate or charge for private ambulance trips originating in the City of Los Angeles other than authorized herein.

The foregoing rates and charges shall comprise the total of the permittee's service authorized by permit granted by the City of Los Angeles.

Statement on Bills

Each bill for service rendered given to the customer shall contain a statement that complaints may be referred to the Department of Transportation, 100 S. Main St., 1st Floor, Los Angeles, California 90012, telephone (213) 928-9600.

I CERTIFY THAT the foregoing Resolution, designated as Final Board Order No. 609, was adopted by the Board of Transportation Commissioners at its meeting held April 7, 2022.


Dated at Los Angeles, California, this 7th day of April 2022.

BY ORDER OF THE BOARD.

ATTEST:

Jasmin San Luis, Commission Executive Assistant
Board of Transportation Commissioners
City of Los Angeles

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Approved: <u>4/7/2022</u>
Board of Transportation Commissioners

Commission Executive Assistant