



Burleson Fire & EMS

01/22/2024

Update to Emergency Medical
and Ambulance Service Fees



Discussion Objectives:

- Define ALS and BLS Non-Emergency Transports
- Number of Non-Emergency Transports: October – November 2023
- Current Fee Schedule
- Additions to the Fee Schedule
- Fee Schedule Comparison

General definitions for ground ambulance transports:

- **Emergency transport:** The most common type of transport for ambulance services and occurs when a life-threatening situation occurs where immediate medical attention is needed. Some examples of patients needing emergency transportation are heart attacks, strokes, severe injuries from trauma, serious impairment to bodily functions and serious dysfunction of any bodily organ or part. Facility-to-facility transports are appropriate as emergencies if the required treatment for the emergency medical condition is not available at the first facility.
- **Non-Emergency Transport:** Transports that occur when the patient's needs are not immediate. Some examples include transporting a patient to or from a scheduled medical appointment, to or from another licensed facility for treatment, or to the recipient's home after discharge from a hospital. Generally, non-emergency transports are arranged in advance and may include dates, times, and pick-up and drop-off locations.

Number of Non-Emergency Transports: October – December 2023

October: 21 non-emergent transports (5 ALS Non-Emergent & 16 BLS Non-Emergent)

November: 0 non-emergent transports

December: 2 non-emergent transports (2 BLS Non-Emergent)

Total:23

The policy of Burleson Fire/EMS, is that non-emergency inter-facility transports are delegated to CareFlite.

In situations involving increased call volume or when a transport is reclassified as non-emergency during billing processing, Burleson Fire/EMS may, on occasion, manage these transports. In such cases, the establishment of a fee schedule becomes crucial for the purpose of collecting fees associated with these transports. At present, there is no existing fee schedule to account for these transports, rendering them unbillable.

Current Fee Schedule

Description	Fee	Description
ALS-E - A0427	\$1,600.00	A patient is in more critical condition, and a paramedic is required to assist in the treatment of the patient.
ALS 2 - A0433	\$1,750.00	ALS-E combined with specific medication or interventions delivered.
BLS - E - A0429	\$1,400.00	An emergency transport provided by certified Emergency Medical Technicians (EMTs)
SCT - A0434	\$2,200.00	Interfacility transport of a critically ill patient, which requires specially trained paramedics
ALS Disp - A0398	\$400.00	A bundled fee designed to cover supplies used during ALS-E or ALS 2 transports
BLS Disp - A0382	\$350.00	A bundled fee designed to cover supplies used during BLS-E transports
O2 - A0422	\$150.00	A fee for oxygen
Mileage - A0425	\$24.00	A fee per mile of transport
TNT - A0998	\$175.00	A fee that can be assessed when specific interventions are performed, but the patient is not transported

Proposed Fee Schedule Additions

The proposed additions to the fee schedule were recommended by Emergicon. It is crucial to emphasize that the work involved in a non-emergency transport is just as intricate as that required for an emergent transport. In fact, non-emergency transports often entail more extensive paperwork to establish medical necessity and demand a greater investment of time. Our rationale for maintaining a consistent fee schedule for both types of transports, despite differences in complexity, is grounded in the fact that they necessitate the same level of service and utilize the same Basic Life Support (BLS) or Advanced Life Support (ALS) resources.

Description	Fee	Description
ALS Non-Emergent A0426	\$1,600.00	Transportation by ground ambulance vehicle and the provision of medically necessary supplies and services including the provision of at least one ALS intervention by ALS personnel trained to the level of the EMT-Intermediate or paramedic.
BLS Non-Emergent A0428	\$1,400.00	Transportation by ground ambulance vehicle as defined by the state. The ambulance must be staffed by an individual who is qualified as an EMT-Basic per state guidelines

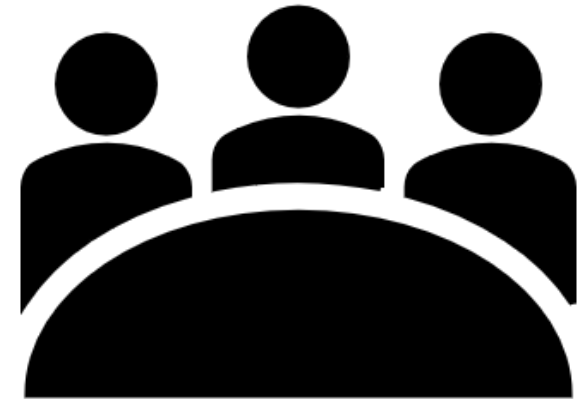
Non-Emergency Fee Schedule Comparisons

Non-Emergency Fee Schedule Comparisons

EMS Organization	Burleson Proposed	Crowley	Midlothian	Pecan Plantation	Mexia	Parker Co.	Medstar
ALS-Non	\$1,600.00	\$1,700.00	\$1,400.00	\$1,585.80	\$1,675.00	\$1,500.00	\$1,011.00
BLS-Non	\$1,400.00	\$1,400.00	\$1,300.00	\$1,176.20	\$1,675.00	\$1,350.00	\$1,011.00

Action Item

Staff recommends: Council approve the amended fee schedule for ambulance and EMS fees as presented



Questions / Comments
