

Notice of
Rulemaking Hearing

Tennessee Department of Finance and Administration
Bureau of TennCare

There will be a hearing before the Commissioner to consider the promulgation of amendments of rules pursuant to Tennessee Code Annotated, 71-5-105 and 71-5-109. The hearing will be conducted in the manner prescribed by the Uniform Administrative Procedures Act, Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 4-5-204 and will take place in the Bureau of TennCare, 1st Floor East Conference Room, 310 Great Circle Road, Nashville, Tennessee 37243 at 9:00 a.m. C.S.T. on the 16th day April 2008.

Any individuals with disabilities who wish to participate in these proceedings (to review these filings) should contact the Department of Finance and Administration, Bureau of TennCare, to discuss any auxiliary aids or services needed to facilitate such participation. Such initial contact may be made no less than ten (10) days prior to the scheduled meeting date (the date the party intends to review such filings) to allow time for the Bureau of TennCare to determine how it may reasonably provide such aid or service. Initial contact may be made with the Bureau of TennCare's ADA Coordinator by mail at the Bureau of TennCare, 310 Great Circle Road, Nashville, Tennessee 37243 or by telephone at (615) 507-6474 or 1-800-342-3145.

For a copy of this notice of rulemaking hearing, contact George Woods at the Bureau of TennCare, 310 Great Circle Road, Nashville, Tennessee 37243 or call (615) 507-6446.

Substance of Proposed Rule

Part 21. of subparagraph (b) of paragraph (1) of rule 1200-13-14-.04 Covered Services is amended by deleting the sixth paragraph in the "Benefit for Persons Under Age 21" column and deleting the third paragraph in the "Benefit for Persons Age 21 and Over" column and replacing them with a new sixth and third paragraph respectively and by deleting the "(34)" in the last sentence of the last paragraph in each respective column so as amended part 21. shall read as follows:

SERVICE	BENEFIT FOR PERSONS UNDER AGE 21	BENEFIT FOR PERSONS AGE 21 AND OVER
<p>21. Non-Emergency Transportation [defined at 42 CFR §440.170(a)(1) and (3)].</p>	<p>Covered as necessary for enrollees lacking accessible transportation for covered services. Emphasis shall be placed on the utilization of fixed route and/or public transportation where appropriate and available.</p> <p>The travel to access primary care and dental services must meet the requirements of the TennCare demonstration project terms and conditions. The availability of specialty services as related to travel distance should meet the usual and customary standards for the community. However, in the event the MCC is unable to negotiate such an arrangement for an enrollee, transportation must be provided regardless of whether the enrollee has access to transportation.</p> <p>If the enrollee is a minor child, transportation must be provided for the child and an accompanying adult. However, transportation for a minor child shall not be denied pursuant to any policy which poses a blanket restriction due to enrollee's age or lack of parental accompaniment. Any decision to deny transportation of a minor child due to an enrollee's age or lack of parental accompaniment must be made on a case-by-case basis and must be based on the individual facts surrounding the request. As with any denial, all notices and actions must be in accordance with the appeals process.</p> <p>Tennessee recognizes the "mature minor exception" to permission for medical treatment.</p> <p>The provision of transportation to and from covered dental services is the responsibility of the MCO.</p>	<p>Covered as necessary for enrollees lacking accessible transportation for covered services. Emphasis shall be placed on the utilization of fixed route and/or public transportation where appropriate and available.</p> <p>The travel to access primary care and dental services must meet the requirements of the TennCare demonstration project terms and conditions. The availability of specialty services as related to travel distance should meet the usual and customary standards for the community. However, in the event the MCC is unable to negotiate such an arrangement for an enrollee, transportation must be provided regardless of whether the enrollee has access to transportation.</p> <p>For persons dually eligible for Medicare and Medicaid, non-emergency transportation to access medical services covered by Medicare is provided, as long as these services would be covered by TennCare for the enrollee if he did not have Medicare. The Medicare provider of the medical service does not have to participate in TennCare. Transportation to these medical services is covered within the same access standards as those applicable for TennCare enrollees who are not also Medicare beneficiaries.</p> <p>One escort is allowed per enrollee if the enrollee requires assistance. Assistance is defined for purposes of this rule as help provided to the enrollee</p>

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Statutory Authority: T.C.A. 4-5-202, 4-5-203, 71-5-105, 71-5-109, Executive Order No. 23.

The notice of rulemaking set out herein was properly filed in the Department of State on the 21st day of February, 2008. (FS 02-17-08; DBID 821)