



# COUNTY OF ORANGE HEALTH CARE AGENCY

## HEALTH DISASTER MANAGEMENT EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES

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March 28, 2014

To: Orange County City Managers  
Orange County Fire Chiefs  
Orange County Ambulance Providers

From: Tammi McConnell, RN, MSN, EMS Administrator

Subject: Proposed Fiscal Year 2014-2015 Ground Emergency Ambulance Service Rates Adjustment

In accordance with Orange County Emergency Medical Services Policy 720.00, Section 314, *Orange County Ambulance Rules and Regulations Related to Ground Emergency Ambulance Service Rates Adjustment*, you are being notified of the proposed adjustment in the maximum allowable 911 emergency ground ambulance rate for Basic Life Support (BLS) services chargeable to a patient transported at the request of a public safety employee, by Orange County ambulance service providers for 2014.

The proposed rate increase (attachment) is based on the methodology used by the Board of Supervisors when rates were last adjusted on September 10, 2013. Specifically, the method calculates the percentage difference in the prior year's LA-Riverside-Orange County "all items" Consumer Price Index (CPI) rounded to the nearest tenth. The methodology also adjusts the maximum advanced life support (ALS) Paramedic Assessment and Transportation rate for Orange County Fire Authority (OCFA) jurisdictional areas (excepting San Clemente, Westminster and Buena Park). The proposed rate increase is attached.

The rate adjustment has been placed on the April 25, 2014 EMCC agenda for review and comment and will be placed on the next regularly scheduled EMCC agenda for additional comment and action on Friday, June 27, 2014.

- Meeting: Emergency Medical Care Committee
- Date / Time: Friday, April 25, 2014 and Friday, June 27, 2014 at 9:00 a.m.
- Location: Commission Hearing Room (333 W. Santa Ana Blvd., Santa Ana, CA 92701)

Any written comments on the proposed rate increase should be directed to my attention. Comments received prior to either meeting will be provided to the Emergency Medical Care Committee (EMCC) and forwarded to the Board of Supervisors. You are welcome to attend the EMCC meetings and address this agenda item if you so desire.

TM:ee:1985

Attachment: Proposed FY 14-15 Ground Emergency Ambulance Rates Table

**PROPOSED FY 2014-15 RATES FOR  
 ORANGE COUNTY AMBULANCE PROVIDERS  
 CALCULATED RATE ADJUSTMENT**

Type of Charge	Basis for Charge	Current Rate	Proposed Rate	\$ change 1.1%
<b>Emergency BLS (Basic Life Support) Base Rate</b>	Applicable for urgent or Code III response at the request of a public safety employee.	\$731.41	\$739.46	\$8.04
<b>Mileage</b>	Per patient mile or fraction thereof.	\$16.87	\$17.06	\$0.19
<b>Oxygen (includes mask or cannula)</b>	Applicable when administered.	\$82.74	\$83.65	\$0.91
<b>Standby</b>	Per 15 minutes after the first 15 minutes and any fraction thereof.	\$40.83	\$41.28	\$0.45
<b>Expendable medical supplies</b>	Maximum per response or fair market value, whichever is least.	\$32.66	\$33.02	\$0.36
<b>OCFA Jurisdictional Areas Only: Emergency ALS (Advanced Life Support) Base Rate</b>	Applicable for patients who have received ALS assessment by paramedics and who are transported via BLS or ALS.	\$387.35	\$391.61	\$4.26

Consumer Price Index – “All Items” Los Angeles – Riverside – Orange County  
<http://www.bls.gov/data>

2012 Annual: 236.648

2013 Annual: 239.207

1.0814% rounded to nearest tenth = ↑ 1.1%