

1. File number: 2. Disposition:

APD # 04-07-01

3. Issuance date: November 30, 2004 Read in conjunction with APD #85-07-01

4. Effective date:November 30, 2004

5. Program area:

Passenger Transportation Services

6. Origin:

Bureau Of Home and Community Based Services

7. Contact:

Consumer Community Support Services Division (717) 783-6207

AGING PROGRAM DIRECTIVE

SUBJECT: Payer of Last Resort Policy

COPIES FOR: Executive Staff

Area Agencies on Aging Administration on Aging (AoA)

PA Association of Area Agencies on Aging

Comptroller

PA Council on Aging

PennDOT, Bureau of Public

Transportation

Department of Public Welfare Office of Social Programs

Pennsylvania Public Transportation

Association

FROM:

Ivonne Gutiérrez Bucher

Director

Office of Community Services and Advocacy

LEGISLATIVE/ REGULATORY REFERENCE:

PURPOSE: The purpose of this Aging Program Directive (APD) is to set forth the

funding source that must be used to pay for the transportation costs for medical trips of older Medical Assistance (MA) eligible Pennsylvanians.

CONTENT:

Effective immediately, any individual age 60 and older who is also eligible for MA shall have their transportation trips to MA eligible medical destinations funded entirely through the Department of Public Welfare's Medical Assistance Transportation Program (MATP). Area Agencies on Aging (AAAs) shall not use Aging Services Block Grant (ASBG) funds to pay for any medical trip that could be funded through the MATP. AAAs can however, pay for non-medical trips for MA eligible individuals age 60 and older. Aging Services Block Grant funds are to be used as the payer of last resort. In the event that other funding sources are available such as the Medical Assistance Transportation Program, such funding sources are to be used first.

The same policy applies to consumers ages 65 and older who are funded through the Shared-Ride Program. If an individual is age 65 and older, the Shared-Ride Program administered by the Pennsylvania Department of Transportation, will pay 85% of the fare and the consumer or a third party such as the AAA will pay all or some portion of the remaining 15%. Any individual age 65 and older, who is also MA eligible, shall be funded with MATP funds if the individual's trip purpose is for MA eligible medical reasons. Shared-Ride funds cannot be used to fund the medical trip costs of MA eligible individuals who are ages 65 and older. Consequently, AAAs shall no longer pay any partial or full co-pay for MA eligible individuals ages 65 and older who are being transported to MA eligible medical destinations. It should be noted that AAAs could pay the co-pay for MA eligible individuals ages 65 and older who are being transported to non-medical destinations.