

Fact Sheet: Medical Assistance Transportation Program (MATP)

The Medical Assistance Transportation Program ("MATP") is available to any Medical Assistance ("MA") enrolled consumer who needs help with non-emergency transportation to and from MA-covered health care services or treatments. In Pennsylvania, the state pays each county to administer a county-based MATP program.

Where can I go with MATP?

You can use MATP to get to any MA-covered health care service or treatment. In general, depending on your MA coverage, that means you can use MATP to go to:

- appointments with your doctor, psychiatrist or psychologist;
- dental appointments;
- mental health or drug & alcohol treatment;
- the pharmacy to fill prescriptions;
- the hospital or another facility for tests or treatments;
- durable medical equipment suppliers.

Do I need to apply for MATP transportation?

Yes. You will need to fill out an application, sign it, and send it to your county's MATP. To get an application, contact your local MATP office. You can find a list of phone numbers for each county MATP office on Department of Human Services (DHS) MATP website, <u>matp.pa.gov</u>.

How Does MATP help with transportation?

MATP is required to provide the least costly and most appropriate form of transportation to meet your needs. This means:

• If you own a car or have a car available to you, MATP will usually reimburse you for your mileage to and from your medical appointments/other treatments. The mileage reimbursement rate is 12 cents per mile, plus the cost of parking and tolls.

- If you can ride the bus or use other public transportation to get to and from your medical appointments, then the MATP will provide you with tokens, with passes or will reimburse you for the fare.
- If you don't have a car, and public transportation is not available or accessible, then the MATP will provide a ride for you using shared-ride vans, taxis or other accessible vehicles for persons with disabilities.

Using MATP Services

If you need a ride to a medical appointment or to an MA-covered service, you must contact your local MATP in advance to schedule the ride. Most programs "group" rides and have a fixed route schedule to certain locations within the county (i.e., hospitals) and to destinations outside of the county. Consumers going to those locations generally must schedule their appointments to fit within the county's fixed route schedule. Other arrangements must be made available to those who cannot schedule an appointment within the county's group ride plan, or who have safety or security issues with waiting for a return ride back to their homes.

If you are seeking mileage reimbursement from MATP, each county has its own policies about verifying appointments and timelines for submitting reimbursement requests. Typically, consumers submit a form to their local program on a monthly basis documenting all trips for which mileage reimbursement is being requested. The county verifies the information and then sends a reimbursement check to the consumer.

How far can I go with MATP?

The MATP is responsible for helping you to get to and from the medical care and treatment that you need. However, there are limits depending on where you are going and how you receive your MA coverage.

- If you need a ride to the pharmacy, MATP will only take you to your choice of either the two pharmacies closest to your home or the two pharmacies closest to your prescribing doctor's office.
- If you need help with transportation to a methadone clinic, MATP will only take you (or reimburse you for mileage) to the methadone clinic closest to your home. *Note:* you can ask for an exception if you have a good cause reason for not going to the clinic closest to your home.
- If you need help with transportation to any other type of provider, and you are in a MA managed care plan, you can go to any provider that you choose within your plan's network.
- If you need help with transportation to any other type of provider, and you are in MA-FFS (using the ACCESS card as your insurance card), the MATP will only transport you to the provider closest to your home who can meet your medical

need. *Note:* You can be transported by MATP to a more distant provider if you prove a medical need to go further for your care.

Can kids under 18 use MATP services?

Yes, children under 18 on MA can use MATP services. If their parents need help with transportation costs and they are driving them to and from medical appointments, they can seek mileage reimbursement for those trips. If the parents don't have a car, and public transportation is not available or accessible, then the MATP will provide a ride for the child using shared-ride vans, taxis or other accessible vehicles. Children under 18 can be escorted by a parent or other relative/guardian on MATP trips.

Special Considerations for Seniors and Persons with Disabilities

If you cannot travel independently to and from medical appointments, the MATP will cover the costs of an escort to accompany you on MATP trips. The MATP typically provides "curb-to-curb" service. However, if you cannot safely get to and from the curb, the MATP must provide "door-to-door" service based on the level of service appropriate for your physical and/or mental abilities. *Note:* "door-through-door" is not an MATP covered service, so drivers cannot enter your home or the building you live in to assist you.

If you have Medicare and MA, i.e. you are a <u>dual eligible</u>, you can use MATP to go to any service paid for by Medicare as long as the service is with a provider who takes MA.

Each county must provide TTY and/or PA Telecommunications Relay Service upon request to communicate with consumers who are deaf or hard of hearing. The county must also provide information to consumers about how to access interpreter services.

What can I do if I am having problems with MATP services?

File a Complaint

If you are unhappy with how you are being treated by the MATP or with the services that are being provided to you, you can file a complaint with the program. Each county has a complaint process in place and must investigate all matters and respond within certain timeframes. If you are not satisfied with how your complaint is handled by your local program, you can complain further to DHS.

File an Appeal

If the county program denies, reduces or terminates your MATP services, you are entitled to receive a written notice that gives you the reasons for that decision along with information on how to appeal. This includes:

- If the county denies you a ride to a medical appointment or other MA-covered service;
- If the county denies you a mode of transportation (i.e., shared ride) that you need;

- If you requested door-to-door service and were denied;
- If you were denied mileage reimbursement;
- If you were denied a bus pass or reimbursement for the cost of using public transportation.

You can appeal and request a Fair Hearing with an Administrative Law Judge if you disagree with the county's action. If you are receiving MATP services that are being terminated, reduced or changed **and you appeal within 10 days of the date of the county's notice**, you have a right to continue to receive your current MATP services until the appeal is decided. For more information about MATP appeals, visit <u>matp.pa.gov/AppealFAQ.aspx</u>.

Where can I find more information about MATP?

For more information, <u>contact</u> your local MATP provider or go to <u>http://matp.pa.gov</u>. The MATP website contains information on state MATP <u>regulations and policies</u> as well as contact information for all county MATP offices. A listing of each county MATP provider is also included below (current as of the date of this publication).

This publication is intended to provide general legal information, not legal advice. Each person's situation is different. If you have questions about how the law applies to your situation, please consult a lawyer or call the Helpline at 1-800-274-3258.

County	Phone	Toll Free
Adams	717-846-RIDE (7433)	800-632-9063
Allegheny	412-350-4476	888-547-6287
Armstrong	724-548-3408	800-468-7771
Beaver	724-375-2895	800-262-0343
Bedford	814-623-9129	800-323-9997
Berks	610-921-2361	800-383-2278
Blair	814-695-3500	800-458-5552
Bradford	570-888-7330	800-242-3484
Bucks	215-794-5554	888-795-0740
Butler	724-431-3663	866-638-0598
Cambria	814-535-4630	888-647-4814
Cameron	866-282-4968	866-282-4968
Carbon	570-669-6380	Same as Local
Centre	814-355-6807	Same as Local
Chester	484-696-3854	877-873-8415
Clarion	814-226-7012	Same as Local
Clearfield	814-765-1551	800-822-2610
Clinton	570-323-7575	800-206-3006
Columbia	717-846-RIDE (7433)	800-632-9063
Crawford	814-333-7090	800-210-6226
Cumberland	717-846-RIDE (7433)	800-632-9063
Dauphin	717-232-9880	800-309-8905
Delaware	610-490-3960	866-450-3766
Elk	866-282-4968	866-282-4968
Erie	814-456-2299	Same as Local
Fayette	724-628-7433	800-321-7433
Forest	814-927-8266	800-222-1706
Franklin	717-846-RIDE (7433)	800-632-9063
Fulton	717-485-6767	888-329-2376
Greene	724-627-6778	877-360-7433
Huntingdon	814-641-6408	800-817-3383
Indiana	724-463-3235	888-526-6060
Jefferson	814-938-3302	877-411-0585
Juniata	717-242-2277	800-348-2277
Lackawanna	570-963-6482	Same as Local
Lancaster	717-291-1243	800-892-1122

MATP Phone Numbers by County

Lawrence	724-658-7258	888-252-5104
Lebanon	717-273-9328	Same as Local
Lehigh	610-253-8333	888-253-8333
Luzerne	570-288-8420	800-679-4135
Lycoming	570-323-7575	800-222-2468
McKean	866-282-4968	866-282-4968
Mercer	724-662-6222	Same as Local
Mifflin	717-242-2277	800-348-2277
Monroe	570-839-6282 ext 434	888-955-6282
Montgomery	215-542-7433	Same as Local
Montour	717-846-RIDE (7433)	800-632-9063
Northampton	610-253-8333	888-253-8333
Northumberland	717-846-RIDE (7433)	800-632-9063
Perry	717-846-RIDE (7433)	800-632-9063
Philadelphia	877-835-7412	877-835-7412
Pike	570-296-3408	866-681-4947
Potter	814-544-7315	800-800-2560
Schuylkill	570-628-1425	800-656-0700
Snyder	717-846-RIDE (7433)	800-632-9063
Somerset	814-701-3691	800-452-0241
Sullivan	570-888-7330	800-242-3484
Susquehanna	570-278-6140	800-278-9332
Tioga	570-888-7330	800-242-3484
Union	717-846-RIDE (7433)	800-632-9063
Venango	814-432-9767	
Warren	814-723-1874	Same as Local
Washington	724-223-8747	800-331-5058
Wayne	570-253-4280	800-662-0780
Westmoreland	724-832-2706	800-242-2706
Wyoming	570-278-6140	800-278-9332
York	717-846-RIDE (7433)	800-632-9063