

# **Ambulance Services Benefits to Change for the CSHCN Services Program**

Information posted December 13, 2013

Effective for dates of service on or after February 1, 2014, benefit criteria for ambulance services will change for the Children with Special Health Care Needs (CSHCN) Services Program.

## **Level of Service Changes**

The level of service definitions for basic life support (BLS) and advanced life support (ALS) will be revised as defined by the Texas Health and Safety Code, and specialty care transport (SCT) will be revised as defined by Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS).

- BLS is emergency pre-hospital care that uses noninvasive medical acts.
- ALS is emergency pre-hospital care that uses invasive medical acts.
- SCT is the interfacility transportation of a critically injured or ill client by a ground ambulance vehicle, including the provision of medically necessary supplies and services, at a level of service beyond the scope of the emergency medical technician (EMT) paramedic. SCT is necessary when a client's condition requires ongoing care that must be furnished by one or more health professionals in an appropriate specialty area, for example, emergency or critical care nursing, emergency medicine, respiratory care, cardiovascular care, or a paramedic with additional training.

## **Mileage**

Claims for ground ambulance transports procedure codes A0426, A0427, A0428, A0429, A0433, A0434, and A0999 must be submitted with mileage procedure code A0425.

Mileage reported on the claim must be the actual number of miles traveled. Providers must calculate the number of miles traveled by using the ambulance vehicle odometer reading or an Internet mapping tool.

## **Multiple Client Transports**

Multiple client transports are those in which more than one client is transported in the same vehicle at the same time. Claims for each CSHCN Services Program client must be submitted with the transport procedure code and the mileage procedure code with the GM modifier that indicates multiple client transport. Claims must include the names and CSHCN Services Program numbers of other CSHCN Services Program clients who shared the transfer or indicate "Not a CSHCN Services Program client."

For more information, call the TMHP-CSHCN Services Program Contact Center at 1-800-568-2413.