

NEMT Eligibility

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A Medicaid-eligible recipient may receive non-emergency medical transportation services (NEMT) if the recipient meets the following conditions:

The recipient is traveling to or from a Medicaid-covered service

The service is determined to be of medical necessity

Free transportation, which is appropriate for the recipient's medical needs, is not available, or use of an appropriate and operational household vehicle is not available

Medicaid NEMT Guidance

In general, non-emergency medical transportation (NEMT) will be covered by Medicaid if the following conditions are met:

The rider has a valid Kentucky Medicaid card

Transportation may only be provided to and from a Medicaid-related service

The individual must have an unmet transportation need

The Broker in each of Kentucky's 16 regional areas serves as the verification point for NEMT eligibility. The Broker will verify the valid Kentucky Medicaid card, review the trip purpose, and verify if public records indicate transportation is available within the household.

Auto Title Verification

The Broker will verify if a vehicle is registered to the applicant's household. If the individual or someone in the household owns a vehicle, NEMT rides will be denied.

Exceptions

Under some exceptions, individuals with a vehicle registered to their household will be eligible for NEMT.

Medical Exceptions

If a person can't drive or ride in a household vehicle due to a medical reason, an exception can be made. Get a statement signed by a doctor and provide this statement to the Broker.

Medical exceptions will need to be updated every 6 months to show continued eligibility.

Example: Shawn owns and drives his own car. Due to a medical condition, there are times when he cannot operate a vehicle. When Shawn applies for NEMT, he provides a statement from his doctor to state eligibility. This will need to be re-submitted in 6 months if services are still needed.

Work Exceptions

If the person in the household who provides transportation is not available because they are at work, a statement from the employer will grant NEMT eligibility.

Employer statements will need to be provided to the Broker every three months for eligibility.

Example: While James' mom works, she can't meet his transportation needs. The regional transportation Broker reviews the employer's statement they provide every 3 months. James is eligible for NEMT rides while his mom is at work.

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School Exceptions

If the person in the household who provides transportation is not available due to school, a statement from a school official will allow NEMT eligibility.

School exceptions will be valid during that semester only. Each semester, a new school statement would need to be submitted.

Example: Amari's father went back to school to complete a degree. While he is attending classes, Amari does not have transportation. Amari's father provides a statement from his educational program to the Broker. Amari is eligible for NEMT rides while her father attends classes.

Non-Working Vehicle Exceptions

If a vehicle registered to a household is not drivable, an exception can be made for 30 days.

A statement from a mechanic certifying the auto is not working must be provided to the Broker.

Up to three mechanic's statements per year may be presented per vehicle.

Example: Sherry's vehicle needs a new tire. She gets a letter signed by her mechanic to provide to the regional transportation Broker. Sherry is granted 30 days of NEMT eligibility so that she won't miss her Medicaid appointments.

County Clerk Document

A vehicle registered to the home address may be sold, junked, transferred, or cancelled out of the household through the local County Clerk's office. NEMT eligibility may be approved by providing a copy of the document to the Broker.

Example: Wanda found out through a NEMT denial that a vehicle was registered to her address. Wanda obtained a junked vehicle document from her County Clerk's office. She provided a copy to the Broker to establish eligibility for NEMT.