

About Us

Situated in the beautiful Ozark Mountains of Southwest Missouri, the Taney County Ambulance District (TCAD) proudly serves the residents and visitors of Taney County. Formed in 1976, TCAD is a political subdivision of the state and is authorized by Missouri legislation called the Comprehensive Emergency Medical Services Systems Act" originally written in 1971.

TCAD responds to over 12,000 requests annually, providing emergency and non-emergency services. TCAD has been providing excellent EMS in Taney County since 1976. With a fleet 12 ambulances each day we staff to a peak of 6 ambulances on duty from multiple locations around the County. TCAD also heavily relies on Fly-car units which are fast (non-transport) response vehicles which can get to a call quickly, assess the situation, and cancel incoming units or provide additional resources at the scene. We consider ourselves very progressive and our mission, "We are a team of professionals taking mobile health to the next level" is taken very seriously.



Our Mission:

"We are a team of professionals taking mobile health to the next level"



Taney County Ambulance District

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Taney County Ambulance District



*Information on Non
-Emergent
Ambulance
Transportation in
Taney County*



“I want to be transported to another facility by ambulance. What do I need to know?”

Is it medically necessary?

Strict rules govern the use and reimbursement of an ambulance for transportation. Per Medicare, medical necessity is established when the patient's condition is such that use of any other method of transportation is contraindicated. In any case in which some means of transportation other than an ambulance could be used without endangering the individual's health, whether or not such other transportation is actually available. If medical necessity is not established Medicare, Medicaid and insurance companies will not pay for ambulance



We have determined it is medically necessary, what are my choices of ambulance services?

In this County, TCAD is responsible for all ambulance related transportation. The District was created in 1976 by the citizens of the County and exists to provide high quality emergent and non-emergent ambulance services to all areas of the County including the Cox Medical Center in Branson.

How much will this cost if the transport is for the patient/family convenience*?

Even if the transport is medically necessary you will be expected to pay for the services upfront because Medicare, Medicaid, and most insurance policies will not pay. The following are the rates for transport (see next pane):

**Convenience example: Patient/family desires to be transported a hospital in their own hometown.*

| Description | Rate |
|-------------|--------------|
| BLS | \$292.31 |
| ALS | \$350.79 |
| ALS 2 | \$796.04 |
| LDT Mileage | \$22.01/mile |

Definitions:

BLS – Basic Life Support, EMT level care. Generally, this means if you do not have an IV or need to have the airway controlled. A Missouri certified EMT should be sufficient.

ALS – Advanced Life Support, Paramedic level care. Generally, if the patient requires cardiac or IV monitoring, airway control, or administration/monitoring of medications.

ALS 2 – Advanced life support 2, is the transportation by ground ambulance vehicle and the provision of medically necessary supplies and services including (1) at least three separate administrations of one or more medications by intravenous push/bolus or by continuous infusion (excluding crystalloid fluids) or (2) ground ambulance transport, medically necessary supplies and services, and the provision of at least one of the ALS2 procedures (or monitoring of) listed: Manual defibrillation/cardioversion; Endotracheal intubation; Central venous line; Cardiac pacing; Chest decompression; Surgical airway; or Intraosseous line.

LDT Mileage—Long Distance Transport Mileage.

Who sets the rates?

TCAD's rates are set by the elected Board of Directors each year at the recommendation of the ambulance district's Chief. The charges approved by the Board of Directors ensure the District can pay all debts and offer high quality EMS at a reasonable cost.

What is considered a long distance transfer?

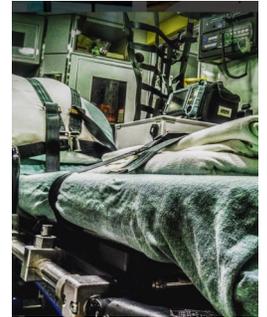
A long distance transfer is defined as a transport exceeding 79 miles.

How do I pay if the transport is for convenience?

Once the facility arranges the transport you can pay by credit card by calling the billing office at 1-855-978-6289 M-F 8:00 AM to 4:30 PM. After hours call TCAD Communications at 417-335-5312.

Why can't I call my own service from where I live to come get me?

In order to achieve financial stability the county and its citizens have given the ambulance district exclusivity for all ambulance transports through a local ordinance. Ambulance/EMS services vary greatly from area to area as do the fees. The fee charged will generally reflect the quality of service provided. Some ambulance services do not offer paramedic level care and are not required to carry special life-saving equipment should a medical incident arise enroute. The Taney County Ambulance District meets all Federal and State requirements for advanced life support and we are one of only two ambulance services in Missouri that are accredited. We carry advanced life-saving equipment on all ambulances and each unit is staffed with an EMT and a paramedic. Our personnel are highly trained and experienced and while not running non-emergency transfers our crews are busy responding to 911 calls.



What will Medicare/Medicaid pay for?

If you have Medicare/Medicaid, it will pay the base rate and the mileage to the nearest appropriate facility if the transfer is deemed medically necessary.

If it is determined that the transport is medically necessary, but the desired facility is beyond the nearest appropriate, then the patient will be responsible for all mileage charges beyond the nearest appropriate facility and will be expected to pay these costs up front.

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