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**Provisions for Providing
Medical Assistance Transportation**

The Medical Assistance (MA) program attests that all the minimum requirements outlined in 1902 (a) (87) of the Act are met.

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Provisions for Providing
Medical Assistance Transportation

1902(a)(4) of the Social Security Act

The following provisions set forth the Department's policy concerning transportation services provided to Medical Assistance (MA) recipients for the purpose of obtaining necessary medical care and services which can be paid for under the MA program.

The MA program covers all modes of transportation, including, but not limited to: emergency ambulance and non-emergency modes of transportation.

New York State Department of Health (NYSDOH), in accordance with Section 1902(a)(4) of the Social Security Act provides Non-Emergency Medical Transportation (NEMT) to Medicaid beneficiaries through a statewide, contracted transportation broker. This includes coverage for transportation and travel expenses necessary to secure medical examinations and treatment.

New York Medicaid covers medically necessary NEMT services provided via non-emergency ambulance, ambulette, taxi, livery, public transit, personal vehicle, commercial travel (airplane, bus, train) and other modes as needed by the enrollee.

The contracted NEMT Broker:

- Is selected through a competitive bidding process based on NYSDOH's evaluation of the broker's experience, performance, references, resources, qualifications, and costs;
- Provides oversight procedures to monitor beneficiary access and complaints and ensure that transport personnel are licensed, qualified, competent, and courteous;
- Does not provide transportation and does not have any financial relationship with any transportation provider

A. Prior Authorization

Prior authorization (PA) means a prior authorization official's determination that a request for a specific mode of non-emergency medical transportation (NEMT) is essential in order for an MA recipient to obtain necessary medical care and services at the least costly and most appropriate mode of NEMT. There are no limitations to the number of prior authorizations the PA official may distribute.

Prior authorization official means the Department, the transportation manager or the transportation broker, or such other entity under contract with, or specifically permitted by, the Department of Health, as applicable.

1. Prior authorization is required for the following:
 - a. all transportation to obtain medical care and services, except emergency ambulance transportation or Medicare approved transportation by ambulance service provided to an MA-eligible person who is also eligible for Medicare Part B.
 - b. transportation expenses of an attendant for the MA recipient.
 - c. ancillary expenses associated with transportation to Medicaid covered services.

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