

CHAPTER 7.1

EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES

Art. I. Cost Reimbursement for Emergency Medical Transport;
§§7.1-1 – 7.1 – 130

ARTICLE I. COST REIMBURSEMENT FOR EMERGENCY MEDICAL TRANSPORT

SECTION 7.1-1. SERVICE FEES FOR EMERGENCY MEDICAL TRANSPORT

Reasonable fees shall be charged for emergency medical transport services provided by the City of Winchester Fire and Rescue Department. The schedule of rates for services shall be published herein as adopted by the Winchester Common Council. The funds received from the payment of this fee shall be maintained by the City in an account separate from any other City revenue and used exclusively in defraying the cost of providing EMS services and administration of the program. The Winchester Fire and Rescue Chief is authorized pursuant to this Section to issue a memorandum of understanding which may be renewed or revised every two (2) years detailing the use of disbursement of funds in accordance with this Section including, but not limited to the distribution of any portion of said funds to volunteer fire and rescue stations for the continued provision of services.

1. The City of Winchester service fees will be evaluated annually and established at a rate twenty-five percent (25%) greater than Center for Medicare and Medicaid Services allowable charges, rounded up to the nearest whole dollar for the following service levels:

Basic Life Support (BLS) Emergency and Non-Emergency
Advanced Life Support (ALS) 1 Emergency and Non-Emergency
Advanced Life Support (ALS) 2

Ground Transport Mileage will be established at \$10.00 per loaded mile.

The minimum service fees for any subsequent year pertaining to Emergency Medical Transports will not be lower than the service fees established based on the 2012 Center for Medicare and Medicaid Services allowable charges.

Editor's note: Ordinance No. 037-2005 adopted on December 13, 2005, enacted this chapter.

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2. No recipient of ambulance service who cannot afford to pay the ambulance transport fee will be required to do so.
3. This Ordinance shall be in full force and effect on and after August 1, 2012. (Ord. No. 2008-30, 06-10-08; Ord. No. 2012-22, 7-10-12)

State Law Reference -- Code of Virginia, §32.1-111.14

SECTION 7.1-2. DEFINITIONS

- (1) *Basic Life Support (BLS)*: Services shall be medical treatment or procedures to a patient as defined by the Department of Health and Human Services, Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services.
- (2) *Advanced life support, level 1 (ALS1)*: Services shall be medical treatment or procedures provided to a patient beyond the scope of an EMT-Basic as defined by the Department of Health and Human Services, Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services.
- (3) *Advanced life support, level 2 (ALS2)*: Services shall be defined as advanced life support services provided to a patient including one or more of the following medical procedures:
 - (i) Defibrillation/cardioversion;
 - (ii) Endotracheal intubation;
 - (iii) Cardiac pacing;
 - (iv) Chest decompression;
 - (v) Intraosseous line; and/or
 - (vi) The administration of three or more medications.
- (4) *Ground transport mileage (GTM)*: Mileage shall be assessed in statute miles from the location of the incident to a hospital or other facility where a patient is transported.

SECTION 7.1-3. AUTHORITY OF CHIEF OF FIRE AND RESCUE

The Chief of the City of Winchester Fire and Rescue Department, or his or her designee, is hereby authorized and directed to establish rules and regulations for the administration of the charges imposed by this Article, including, but not limited to, payment standards for those persons who demonstrate economic hardship, as permitted by applicable law.

SECTIONS 7.1-4 – 7.1-130. RESERVED.