

MEDICAL ASSISTANCE TRANSPORTATION PROGRAM (MATP)

MATP BASICS

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The MATP in Pennsylvania is governed by:

- State Plan under Title XIX of the Social Security Act
- Public Welfare Code (62 P.S. §§ 202 & 403)
- 55 Pa. Code § 2070, Eligibility for Services Funded Through the Public Assistance Transportation Block Grant
- MATP Standards and Guidelines (S & G)

What is MATP?

The MATP is designed to provide:

- Access to MA compensable medical and pharmacy services
- Access to ongoing treatment of chronic diseases and care management
- Access to care with individual medical practices excluding the Emergency Room or Urgent Care facilities
- Access to preventative care (equates to fewer and shorter hospital stays)

Transportation Providers

- County Government
- Sub-Contracted Entities of County Government
- Transportation Brokerage Agencies
- Local Transit Agencies

Available Modes of Transportation

- Mass transit (buses, trains, subways etc..)
- Mileage Reimbursement
- Paratransit (includes multi-modal and taxi)
- Volunteers

Accessing MATP Services

To begin the registration process, the consumer should contact the MATP agency in their county in order to determine and complete the following:

- Eligibility
 - 75% of all Category/Code combinations are eligible for the MATP
 - Consumers 65 years of age, are referred to the Shared Ride 65+ Program
 - Shared Ride pays 85% of the fare
 - MATP pays 15% of the fare
- Application
- Needs Assessment
- Determination of Mode

Covered Services

- Grantee is required to provide transportation to all MA covered services.
- Examples of covered services:
 - Physician's Office
 - Pharmacy
 - Methadone Clinic
 - Urgent Care Trip (Although not to an Urgent Care Center)
 - Dialysis
 - Behavioral Health
 - PT, OT, Rehab
- Grantee must ensure transportation is only to and from qualified MA-enrolled providers of their choice.

Non-Covered Services

Examples of non-covered services:

- Transportation to any service not MA compensable
- Transportation to non-medical services
- Transportation for those requiring a stretcher or those who are technologically dependent (Ventilators)
- Transportation to adult day programs
- Transportation to urgent care centers or Emergency rooms

The Provision of Services

- If necessary, the Grantee must allow one (1) escort to accompany a consumer depending on verifiable medical support, supervision, or translation needs.
- Depending on the circumstances and known factors, the Grantee may provide an attendant on the trip.
- In order to ensure that services are cost efficient and appropriate, the Grantee may sometimes request a waiver of a MATP requirement.

The Provision of Services

- Any issue brought to the attention of the Grantee by a consumer, guardian, advocate or agency for the purpose of assistance or resolution is considered a “complaint.”
- There are times when the Grantee may, deny, reduce or terminate a consumer’s request for transportation.

The Provision of Services Continued

- If a transportation request is outside the scope of MATP, the request is referred to either the HealthChoices Managed Care Organization, Community HealthChoices (CHC), or County Assistance Office (CAO) for consideration.
- MATP provides non-emergency medical transportation to CHC consumers and the application and access procedures are according to individual county policy.
- All exceptional transportation needs are referred to the County Assistance Office (CAO) as appropriate.

MATP Updates

A summary of the efforts put forth by the Medical Assistance Transportation Program Stakeholder Input and Options Analysis Workgroup (the Workgroup) was issued in February 2022. The report included recommendations by the Workgroup to enhance the MATP. The Workgroup recommended the following:

- **MATP Collaboration** – Human Services Transportation (HST) organizations work together within counties to create a shared vision and achieve common goals.
- **MATP/Shared-Ride Coordination** – Increase coordination between MATP and shared-ride coordinators in counties where they are different.
- **MATP/HST Coordination** – Relevant state agencies coordinate with each other before making decisions that have the potential to significantly impact HST.
- **Statewide Standards** - Review and develop statewide service standards with the goal of streamlining functions across the state while enhancing consumer and stakeholder experiences where possible.

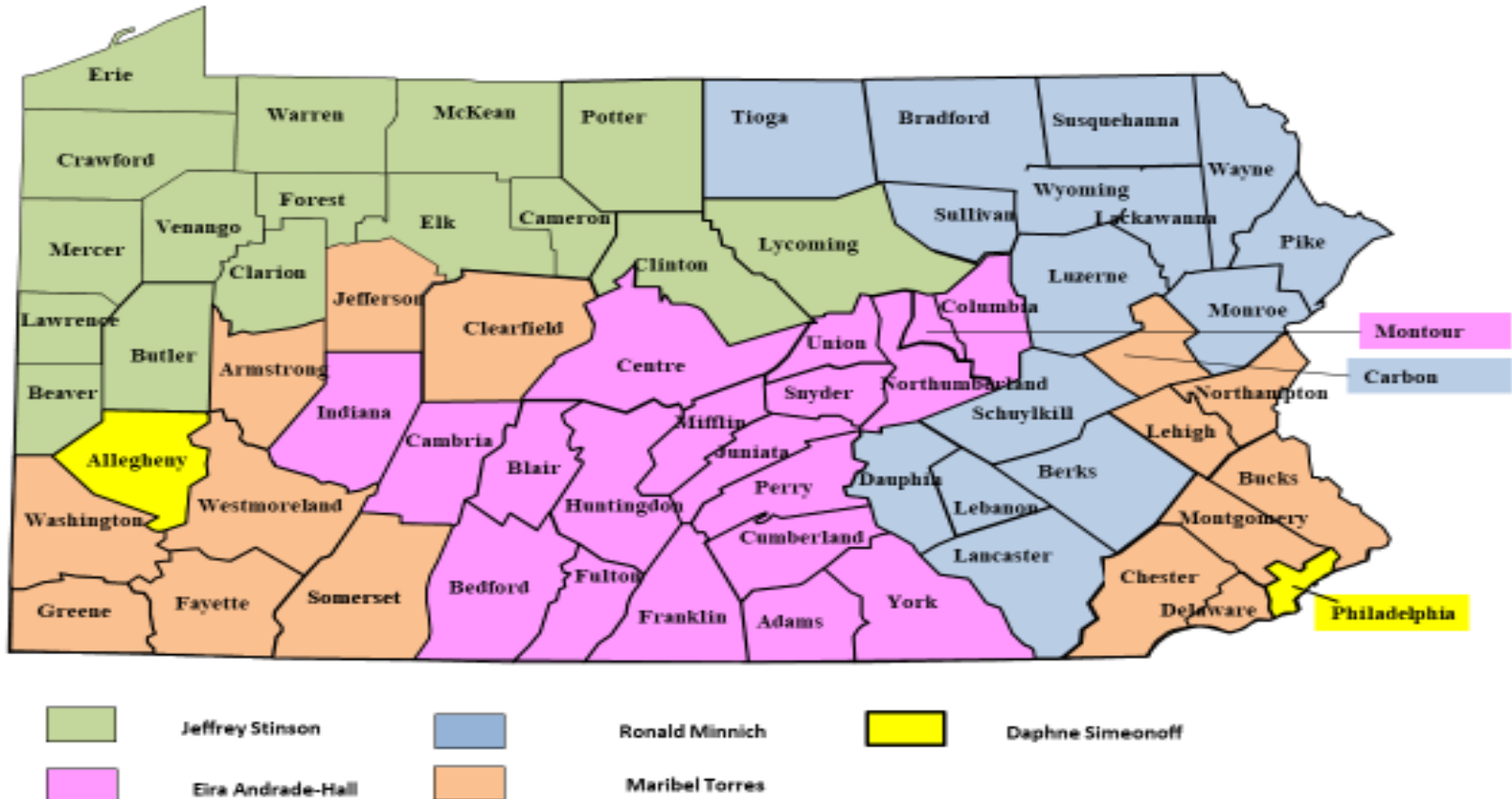
MATP Updates

Continued:

- **Standardize Processes** – Standardize MATP processes, such as the application, needs assessment, verification, scheduling, vehicle tracking, and data collection across the state.
- **Technology** – Review and address the technology needs of MATP providers, develop technology-related goals, and create a plan to achieve these goals.
- **Communication** – Continue to enhance and increase communication with MATP providers, stakeholders, and consumers. Feedback from a recent county survey and listening sessions showed appreciation for the opportunity to provide input about the MATP.

Program Staff Assignments

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Thank you!

For more information, please visit

www.matp.pa.gov