

**MEDI-CAL GROUND EMERGENCY MEDICAL TRANSPORTATION SERVICES (GEMT)
SUPPLEMENTAL REIMBURSEMENT PROGRAM
PROVIDER PARTICIPATION AGREEMENT**

Name of Provider: Santa Barbara County Fire Dept. Provider # GEMT000093

ARTICLE 1 – STATEMENT OF INTENT

The purpose of this Agreement is to allow participation in the Ground Emergency Medical Transportation Supplemental Reimbursement Program (GEMT program) by the governmentally owned or operated provider, named above and hereinafter referred to as Provider, subject to Provider's compliance with the responsibilities set forth in this Agreement with the California Department of Health Care Services (DHCS), hereinafter referred to as the State or DHCS, as authorized in State law pursuant to section 14105.94 of the California Welfare and Institutions Code.

ARTICLE 2 – TERM OF AGREEMENT

- A. This Agreement begins on January 30, 2010, and stays in effect until this Agreement is terminated or the GEMT program ends pursuant to the repeal of State or federal statutory authority to make payments or claim federal reimbursement.
- B. Either party may terminate this Agreement, without cause, by delivering written notice of termination to the other party at least thirty (30) days prior to the effective date of termination.
- C. Failure by Provider to comply with Provider's responsibilities under Article 3 shall constitute a material breach of this Agreement, which shall result in termination by Provider pursuant to Paragraph B. Provider may prevent the termination of this Agreement pursuant to this Paragraph by curing any material breach prior to termination of this Agreement, unless actions giving rise to the material breach result from not complying with Paragraphs K, L, M, or N of Article 3.
- D. Failure by Provider to comply with Provider's responsibilities under Paragraph O of Article 3 shall result in an immediate suspension of this Agreement and initiate termination pursuant to Paragraph B. Upon suspension, the Provider may not participate in the GEMT program, Provider's claims identified in Article 4 shall not be reimbursed, and DHCS is no longer subject to its obligations in Article 4. Provider may reverse the suspension and prevent termination by complying with Paragraph O of Article 3 in its entirety.

ARTICLE 3 – GEMT PROVIDER RESPONSIBILITIES

By entering into this Agreement, the Provider agrees to:

- A. Comply with Title XIX of the Social Security Act, as periodically amended; Titles 42 and 45 of the Code of Federal Regulations (CFR), as periodically amended; The California Medicaid State Plan, as periodically amended; Chapter 7 (commencing with Section 14000) of the California Welfare and Institutions (W&I) Code, as periodically amended; Division 3 of Title 22 of the California Code of Regulations (CCR) (commencing with Section 50000), as periodically amended; State issued policy directives, including Policy and Procedure Letters, as periodically amended; and federal Office of Management and Budget (OMB) Circular A-87, as periodically amended.
- B. Ensure all applicable State and federal requirements, as identified in Paragraph A of Article 3, are met in rendering services under this Agreement. It is understood and agreed that failure by the Provider to ensure all applicable State and federal requirements are met in rendering services subject to supplemental reimbursement under this Agreement shall be sufficient cause for the State to deny or recoup payments to the Provider as well as termination of this Agreement.
- C. Submit an annual participation survey to DHCS by July 1 of each state fiscal year to:

Regular U.S. Postal Service Mail:

Department of Health Care Services
Safety Net Financing, GEMT Program
P.O. Box 997436, MS 4504
Sacramento, CA 95899-7436

Overnight or Express Mail:

Department of Health Care Services
Safety Net Financing, GEMT Program
1501 Capitol Ave, MS 4504
Sacramento, CA 95814

- D. Comply with the following Expense Allowability and Fiscal Documentation requirements:
 - 1) Provider cost report and claim form that are accepted or submitted for payment by the State shall not be deemed evidence of allowable Agreement costs.
 - 2) Provider shall maintain for review and audit and supply to the State, upon request, auditable documentation of all amounts claimed pursuant to this Agreement to permit a determination of expense allowability.
 - 3) If the allowability or appropriateness of an expense cannot be determined by the State because invoice detail, fiscal records, or backup documentation is nonexistent or inadequate, according to generally accepted accounting principles or practices, all questionable costs may be disallowed and payment may be withheld by the State. Upon receipt of adequate documentation supporting a disallowed or questionable expense, reimbursement may resume for the amount substantiated and deemed allowable.

- E. By November 30 of each year:
- 1) Submit a signed electronic PDF copy of the annual GEMT Cost Report for the prior fiscal year ending June 30, to: GEMTSubmissions@dhcs.ca.gov
- F. Accept payment in full the reimbursement received for services subject to supplemental reimbursement pursuant to this Agreement.
- G. Comply with confidentiality requirements as specified in paragraph (7) of subsection (a) of section 1396a of Title 42 of the United States Code, 42 CFR 431.300, W&I Code sections 14100.2 and 14132.47, and 22 CCR Section 51009.
- H. Submit claims in accordance with 42 CFR 433.51.
- I. Retain all necessary records for a minimum of three (3) years after the end of the quarter in which the provider submitted its cost reports to DHCS. If an audit is in progress, all records relevant to the audit shall be retained until the completion of the audit or the final resolution of all audit exceptions, deferrals, and/or disallowances. Records must fully disclose the name and Medi-Cal number or beneficiary identification code (BIC) of the person receiving the services, the name of the provider agency and person providing the service, the date and place of service delivery, and the nature and extent of the service provided. The Provider shall furnish said records and any other information regarding expenditures and revenues for providing services, upon request, to the State and to the federal government.
- J. Be responsible for the acts or omissions of its employees and/or subcontractors.
- K. Comply with the following requirements pertaining to exclusions. The conviction of an employee or subcontractor of the Provider, or of an employee of a subcontractor, of any felony or of a misdemeanor involving fraud, abuse of any Medi-Cal beneficiary, or abuse of the Medi-Cal program, shall result in the exclusion of that employee or subcontractor, or employee of a subcontractor, from participation in the GEMT Program. Failure to exclude a convicted individual from participation in the GEMT Program shall constitute a breach of this Agreement.
- L. Comply with the following requirements pertaining to exclusions. Exclusion after conviction shall result regardless of any subsequent order under section 1203.4 of the Penal Code allowing a person to withdraw his or her plea of guilty and to enter a plea of not guilty, or setting aside the verdict of guilty, or dismissing the accusation, information, or indictment.
- M. Comply with the following requirements pertaining to exclusions. Suspension or exclusion of an employee or a subcontractor, or of an employee of a subcontractor, from participation in the Medi-Cal program, the Medicaid program, or the Medicare program, shall result in the exclusion of that employee or subcontractor, or employee of

a subcontractor, from participation in the GEMT program. Failure to exclude a suspended or excluded individual from participation in the GEMT program shall constitute a breach of this Agreement.

- N. Comply with the following requirements pertaining to exclusions. Revocation, suspension, or restriction of the license, certificate, or registration of any employee, subcontractor, or employee of a subcontractor, shall result in exclusion from the GEMT program, when such license, certificate, or registration is required for the provision of services. Failure to exclude an individual whose license, certificate, or registration has been revoked, suspended, or restricted from the provision of services may constitute a breach of this Agreement.
- O. Enter into a separate agreement with a host entity in order to satisfy the requirements in subdivision (d) of section 14105.94 of the W&I Code where the host entity will collect the payments from Provider in order to pay DHCS for its administrative costs, which are the costs incurred by DHCS pursuant to its responsibilities described in Article 4. If Provider is the host entity, then it shall enter into a separate agreement with DHCS to pay the administrative costs incurred in processing the claims of the GEMT program invoiced through the separate agreement. If Provider is the host entity and contracts with at least one other provider for purposes of participating in the GEMT program, then it shall enter into an agreement with other such providers participating in the GEMT program to collect payments from the other providers for DHCS's administrative costs incurred in processing the other provider's claims under the GEMT program.

ARTICLE 4 – STATE RESPONSIBILITIES

By entering into this Agreement, the State agrees to:

- A. Lead the development, implementation, and administration for the GEMT program and ensure compliance with the provisions set forth in the California Medicaid State Plan.
- B. Submit claims for federal financial participation (FFP) based on expenditures for GEMT services that are allowable expenditures under federal law.
- C. On an annual basis, submit any necessary materials to the federal government to provide assurances that claims for FFP will include only those expenditures that are allowable under federal law.
- D. Reconcile certified public expenditure (CPE) invoices with supplemental reimbursement payments and ensure that the total Medi-Cal reimbursement provided to eligible GEMT providers will not exceed applicable federal upper payment limit as described in 42 C.F.R. 447-Payments For Services.

- E. Complete the audit and settlement process of the interim reconciliations for the claiming period within three (3) years of the postmark date of the cost report and conduct on-site audits as necessary.
- F. Calculate the actual costs for administrative accounting, policy development, and data processing maintenance activities, including the indirect costs related to the GEMT program provided by its staff based upon a cost accounting system which is in accordance with the provisions of Office of Management and Budget Circular A-87 and 45 CFR Parts 74 and 95.
- G. Maintain accounting records to a level of detail which identifies the actual expenditures incurred for personnel services which includes salary/wages, benefits, travel and overhead costs for Contractor’s staff, as well as equipment and all related operating expenses applicable to these positions to include, but not limited to, general expense, rent and supplies, and travel cost for identified staff and managerial staff working specifically on activities or assignments directly related to the GEMT program. Accounting records shall include continuous time logs for identified staff that record time spent in the following areas: the GEMT program, general administration.
- H. Ensure that an appropriate audit trail exists within Contractor records and accounting system and maintain expenditure data as indicated in this Agreement.
- I. Designate a person to act as liaison with Provider in regard to issues concerning this Agreement. This person shall be identified to Provider’s contact person for this Agreement.
- J. Provide a written response by email or mail to Provider’s contact person within thirty (30) days of receiving a written request for information related to the GEMT program.
- K. Provide program technical assistance and training related to the GEMT program to Provider personnel after receiving a written request from Provider contact person.

ARTICLE 5 –PROJECT REPRESENTATIVES

A. The project representatives during the term of this Agreement will be:

<p>Department of Health Care Services Name: Faye Borton Unit: Quality Assurance Fee Telephone: (916) 552-9113 Fax: (916) 552-8651 Email: GEMT@dhcs.ca.gov</p>	<p>Provider Name: Telephone: Fax: Email:</p>
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B. Direct all inquiries to:

<p>Department of Health Care Services Section: Medi-Cal Supplemental Payments Unit: Quality Assurance Fee Attention: GEMT Supplemental Reimbursement Program Address: 1501 Capitol Avenue, MS 4504 P.O. Box 997436 Sacramento, CA 95899-7436 Telephone: (916) 552-9113 Fax: (916) 552-8651 Email: GEMT@dhcs.ca.gov</p>	<p>Provider Telephone: Fax: Email:</p>
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- C. Either party may make changes to the information above by giving written notice to the other party. Said changes shall not require an amendment to this agreement.

ARTICLE 6 – GENERAL PROVISIONS

- A. This document constitutes the entire Agreement between the parties. Any condition, provision, agreement or understanding not stated in this Agreement shall not affect any rights, duties, or privileges in connection with this Agreement.
- B. The term “days” as used in this Agreement shall mean calendar days unless specified otherwise.
- C. The State shall have the right to access, examine, monitor, and audit all records, documents, conditions, and activities of the Provider and its subcontractor related to the services provided pursuant to this Agreement.
- D. No covenant, condition, duty, obligation, or undertaking made a part of this Agreement shall be waived except by amendment of the Agreement by the parties hereto, and forbearance or indulgence in any other form or manner by either party in any regard whatsoever shall not constitute a waiver of the covenant, condition, duty, obligation, or undertaking to be kept, performed, or discharged by the party to which the same may apply; and, until performance or satisfaction of all covenants, duties, obligations, or undertakings is complete, the other party shall have the right to invoke any remedy available under this Agreement, or under law, notwithstanding such forbearance or indulgence.
- E. None of the provisions of this Agreement are or shall be construed as for the benefit of, or enforceable by, any person not a party to this Agreement.

ARTICLE 7 – AMENDMENT PROCESS

Should either party, during the term of this Agreement, desire a change or amendment to the terms of this Agreement, such changes or amendments shall be proposed in writing to the other party, who will respond in writing as to whether the proposed amendments are accepted or rejected. If accepted and after negotiations are concluded, the agreed upon changes shall be made through a process that is mutually agreeable to both the State and the Provider. No amendment will be considered binding on either party until it is approved in writing by both parties. Replacing the Project Representative does not require an amendment to this agreement and may be updated with written notice sent to the other party. Written notice may include email.

ARTICLE 8 – AVOIDANCE OF CONFLICTS OF INTEREST BY THE PROVIDER

- A. The State intends to avoid any real or apparent conflict of interest on the part of the Provider, subcontractors, or employees, officers, and directors of the Provider or subcontractors. Thus, the State reserves the right to determine, at its sole discretion, whether any information, assertion, or claim received from any source indicates the existence of a real or apparent conflict of interest; and, if a conflict is found to exist, to require the Provider to submit additional information or a plan for resolving the conflict, subject to the State's review and prior approval.
- B. Conflicts of interest include, but are not limited to:
- 1) An instance where the Provider or any of its subcontractors, or any employee, officer, or director of the Provider or any subcontractor has an interest, financial or otherwise, whereby the use or disclosure of information obtained while performing services under the contract would allow for private or personal benefit or for any purpose that is contrary to the goals and objectives of the contract.
 - 2) An instance where the Provider's or any subcontractor's employees, officers, or directors use their positions for purposes that are, or give the appearance of being, motivated by a desire for private gain for themselves or others, such as those with whom they have family, business or other ties.
- C. If the State is or becomes aware of a known or suspected conflict of interest, the Provider will be given an opportunity to submit additional information or to resolve the conflict. A Provider with a suspected conflict of interest will have five (5) working days from the date of notification of the conflict by the State to provide complete information regarding the suspected conflict. If a conflict of interest is determined to exist by the State and cannot be resolved to the satisfaction of the State, the conflict will be grounds for terminating the contract. The State may, at its discretion upon receipt of a written request from the Provider, authorize an extension of the timeline indicated herein.

ARTICLE 9 – FISCAL PROVISIONS

Reimbursement under this Agreement shall be made in the following manner:

- A. Upon the Provider's compliance with all provisions pursuant to W&I Code section 14105.94 and this Agreement, and upon the submission of a cost report and claim form based on valid and substantiated information, the State agrees to process the cost report and claim form for reimbursement.
- B. Transfer of funds is contingent upon the availability of federal financial participation. If, in the event federal financial participation funds for a service period are not available for all of the supplemental amounts payable to GEMT providers due to the application of a federal limit or for any other reason, both of the following shall apply:
 - 1) The total amounts payable to GEMT providers for the service period shall be reduced to reflect the amounts for which federal financial participation is available.
 - 2) The amounts payable to each GEMT provider for the service period shall be equal to the amounts computed under Article 3 multiplied by the ratio of the total amounts for which federal financial participation is available.
- C. Provider shall certify the certified public expenditure from the Provider's General Fund, or from any other funds allowed under federal law and regulation, for Title XIX funds claimed for reimbursement pursuant to W&I Code section 14105.94. The State shall deny payment of any invoice submitted under this Agreement, if it determines that the certification is not adequately supported for purposes of FFP. The following certification statement shall be made on each Summary Invoice submitted to the State for payment for the performance of services:

"I, certify under penalty of perjury as follows: Public funds for services provided have been expended as necessary for federal financial participation, pursuant to the requirements of Section 1903(w) of the Social Security Act and 42 C.F.R. § 433.50, *et seq.* for allowable costs. The expenditures claimed have not previously been, nor will be, claimed at any other time to receive federal funds under Medicaid or any other program. The provider acknowledges that the information is to be used for claiming federal funds and understands that misrepresentation of information constitutes a violation of federal and State law. The provider acknowledges that all funds expended pursuant to W&I Code section 14105.94 are subject to review and audit by the Department of Health Care Services. The provider acknowledges that it understands that DHCS must deny payments for any claim submitted under W&I Code section 14105.94, if it determines that the certification is not adequately supported for purposes of federal financial participation. That I am the responsible person of the subject fire department / agency and am duly authorized to sign this certification and that, to the best of my knowledge and information, each statement and amount

in the accompanying schedules are to be true, correct, and in compliance with section 14105.94 of the California Welfare and Institutions Code.”

ARTICLE 10 – RECOVERY OF OVERPAYMENTS

- A. Provider agrees that when it is established upon audit that an overpayment has been made, the Department shall recover such overpayment in accordance with section 51047 of Title 22 of the California Code of Regulations.
- B. The State reserves the right to select the method to be employed for the recovery of an overpayment.
- C. Overpayments may be assessed interest charges, and may be assessed penalties, in accordance with W&I Code Sections 14171(h) and 14171.5.

ARTICLE 11 – BUDGET CONTINGENCY CLAUSE

- A. It is mutually agreed that if the State Budget Act of the current year and/or any subsequent years covered under this Agreement does not appropriate sufficient funds for the GEMT program, this Agreement shall be of no further force and effect. In this event, the State shall have no liability to pay any funds whatsoever to Provider or to furnish any other considerations under this Agreement and Provider shall not be obligated to perform any provisions of this Agreement.
- B. If funding for any state fiscal year is reduced or deleted by the State Budget Act for purposes of this GEMT program, the State shall have the option to either cancel this Agreement, with no liability occurring to the State, or offer an agreement amendment to Provider to reflect the reduced amount.

ARTICLE 12 – LIMITATION OF STATE LIABILITY

- A. Notwithstanding any other provision of this Agreement, the State shall be held harmless from any federal audit disallowance and interest resulting from payments made by the federal Medicaid program as reimbursement for claims providing services pursuant to W&I Code section 14105.94, for the disallowed claim, less the amounts already remitted to the State pursuant to W&I Code section 14105.94.
- B. To the extent that a federal audit disallowance and interest results from a claim or claims for which the Provider has received reimbursement for services, the State shall recoup from the Provider, upon written notice, amounts equal to the amount of the disallowance and interest in that fiscal year for the disallowed claim. All subsequent claims submitted to the State applicable to any previously disallowed claim, may be held in abeyance, with no payment made, until the federal disallowance issue is

resolved, less the amounts already remitted to the State pursuant to W&I Code section 14105.94.

- C. Notwithstanding Paragraphs A and B above, to the extent that a federal audit disallowance and interest results from a claim or claims for which the Provider has received reimbursement for services provided by a nongovernmental entity under contract with, and on behalf of, the Provider, the State shall be held harmless by the Provider for one-hundred percent (100%) of the amount of any such federal audit disallowance and interest, for the disallowed claim, less the amounts already remitted to the State pursuant to W & I Code section 14105.94.

ARTICLE 13 – AGREEMENT EXECUTION

The undersigned hereby warrants that s/he has the requisite authority to enter into this Agreement on behalf of _____ (Provider) and thereby bind the above named provider to the terms and conditions of the same.

Provider Authorized Representative's Signature

Print Name

Title

Address

Date

Department of Health Care Services
Authorized Representative's Signature

Print Name

Title

Name of Department

Address

Date