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**SPECIALIZED MEDICAL SERVICES  
EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES**

April 1, 2026

**TO:** Orange County Fire Chiefs  
Orange County City Managers  
Orange County Ambulance Service Providers

**FROM:** Daniel McDonnell, EMS Director 

**SUBJECT: REVISION TO MAXIMUM EMERGENCY GROUND AMBULANCE RATES  
EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026**

On December 20, 2022, the Orange County Board of Supervisors adopted Board Resolution 22-163, changing the methodologies for adjusting the maximum Basic Life Support (BLS) and maximum Advanced Life Support (ALS) ground emergency ambulance rates by using the percentage change in the transportation portion of the Consumer Price Index for all Urban Consumers, Western Region as compiled and reported by the Bureau of Labor Statistics for the 12-month period ending with the last day of the prior month, February.

In addition, the Health Care Agency Director or designee is authorized to make an annual adjustment to the above maximum rates, effective July 1 of each year, by multiplying the rates by the percentage change in the aforementioned index and timeframe. As such, effective July 1, 2026, the **Maximum Emergency Ground Ambulance Rates** are adopted as follows and are included in OCEMS Policy 714.00 (attached).

Type of Charge	Basis for Charge	Effective 7/1/2025	Effective 7/1/2026
Emergency Basic Life Support (BLS) Base Rate <sup>1,2</sup>	Applicable for urgent or Code 3 response at the request of a public safety employee	\$2,413.51	\$2,517.29
Emergency Advanced Life support (ALS) Base Rate <sup>1,2</sup>	Applicable for urgent or Code 3 response at the request of a public safety employee	\$2,923.74	\$3,049.46
Mileage	Per patient mile or fraction thereof.	\$25.10	\$26.17
Standby time	Per 30 minutes after the first 30 minutes.	\$169.93	\$177.23

<sup>1</sup> BLS & ALS Base Rates apply in Orange county Fire Authority Jurisdictional areas (except for Buena Park, San Clemente and Westminster)

<sup>2</sup> Oxygen & medical supplies included in base rates

If you have any questions, please contact Adrian Rodriguez at (714) 834-2171.