

WAC 182-546-5200 Nonemergency transportation broker and provider requirements. (1) The medicaid agency requires:

(a) Brokers and subcontracted transportation providers to be licensed, equipped, and operated in accordance with applicable federal, state, and local laws, and the terms specified in their contracts;

(b) Brokers to:

(i) Screen their employees and subcontracted transportation providers and employees prior to hiring or contracting, and on an ongoing basis thereafter, to assure that employees and contractors are not excluded from receiving federal funds as required by 42 U.S.C. 1320a-7 and 42 U.S.C. 1320c-5; and

(ii) Report immediately to the agency any information discovered regarding an employee's or contractor's exclusion from receiving federal funds in accordance with 42 U.S.C. 1320a-7 and 42 U.S.C. 1320c-5.

(c) Drivers and passengers to comply with all applicable federal, state, and local laws and regulations during transport.

(2) Brokers:

(a) Must determine the level of assistance needed by the client (e.g., curb-to-curb, door-to-door, door-through-door, hand-to-hand) and the mode of transportation to be used for each authorized trip;

(b) Must select the lowest cost available mode or alternative that is both accessible to the client and appropriate to the client's medical condition and personal capabilities;

(c) Must have subcontracts with transportation providers in order for the providers to be paid by the broker;

(d) Must provide transportation services comparable to those available to the general public in the local community;

(e) May subcontract with licensed ambulance providers for non-emergency trips in licensed ground ambulance vehicles; and

(f) Must negotiate in good faith a contract with a federally recognized tribe that has all or part of its contract health service delivery area, as established by 42 C.F.R. Sec. 136.22, within the broker's service region, to provide transportation services when requested by that tribe. The contract must comply with federal and state requirements for contracts with tribes. When the agency approves the request of a tribe or a tribal agency to administer or provide transportation services under WAC 182-546-5100 through 182-546-6200, tribal members may obtain their transportation services from the tribe or tribal agency with coordination from and payment through the transportation broker.

(3) If the broker is not open for business and is unavailable to give advance approval for transportation to an urgent care appointment or after a hospital discharge, the subcontracted transportation provider must either:

(a) Provide the transportation in accordance with the broker's after-hours instructions and request a retroactive authorization from the broker within two business days of the transport; or

(b) Deny the transportation, if the requirements of this section cannot be met.

(4) If the subcontracted transportation provider provides transportation as described in subsection (3)(a) of this section, the broker may grant retroactive authorization and must document the reason in the client's trip record.

[Statutory Authority: RCW 41.05.021 and 41.05.160. WSR 16-12-022, § 182-546-5200, filed 5/20/16, effective 6/20/16; WSR 15-03-050, § 182-546-5200, filed 1/14/15, effective 2/14/15. WSR 11-17-032, recodi-

fied as § 182-546-5200, filed 8/9/11, effective 8/9/11. Statutory Authority: RCW 74.04.057, 74.08.090, and 74.09.500. WSR 11-15-029, § 388-546-5200, filed 7/12/11, effective 8/12/11. Statutory Authority: RCW 74.08.090, 74.09.500, 74.04.050, 74.04.055, and 74.04.057. WSR 01-06-029, § 388-546-5200, filed 3/2/01, effective 4/2/01.]