

From the Family Works Handbook:

Transportation Support

Transporting children to and from appointments is expected of FW parents as a part of their agreement to provide for the child's customary needs. However, FW parents may receive a subsidy of \$.20/mile for transportation related to doctor and therapy appointments not covered by Medical Assistance (see below for explanation of M.A. travel reimbursement), home visits, respite, court appearances, and team meetings.

Families may collect reimbursement by submitting an appropriate FW form. Without this completed form, we will not be able to provide transportation assistance. Families must request reimbursement during the first 5 days of the month after the transportation was provided. You will receive payment in full on the 10th of the following month. (Claims received after the 5th of the month will be paid on the 10th of the following month.) Remember, if you file a claim in March for transporting a child in January, you have waited too long and will not be eligible for reimbursement.

FW will *not* pay for transportation to school, employment, extra-curricular activities, haircut appointments, shopping, or similar activities. Travel to cluster meetings and other training is also not reimbursable.

Travel Reimbursement Through Medical Assistance

As you know, all children placed with Family Works are eligible for the state Medical Assistance (M.A.) program. One provision of that program (under HFS 107.23 of the state administrative code) authorizes payment to parents or foster parents for transportation to and from appointments covered by medical assistance. Most commonly, these are doctor, dental, and psychotherapy appointments. Counties do not all run their programs exactly the same.

We suggest that you follow the steps below in seeking reimbursement through this program.

- Call your county department of social (or human) services and ask for the person who is responsible for the M.A. program that pays mileage for transporting kids to M.A. reimbursable services. Say that you are a foster parent and be prepared to tell them the kind of appointments involved.
- They should supply you with a form on which you can list (in advance) the appointments for that month. They may ask for a signature from the medical people to verify the service.
- The reimbursement rate authorized by the state is \$.24 per mile for personal vehicles (your car).
- If you have difficulty, talk with your social worker or call our main office.

Remember, Family Works will not pay any support costs for travel to M.A. appointments unless you can show us that the county is unwilling to pay through the M.A. plan.