



Air Ambulance Committee Rates Report, 2020

Air Ambulance Rates Report

The Utah Air Ambulance Committee and the Utah Department of Health are required by statute to issue a report for Utah licensed air ambulance providers. The requirement and information given in this report are for the calendar year 2020.

Statutory Requirement

Utah Code Annotated Title 26-8a-107(7) says the following:

- (7)
- (a) The committee shall prepare an annual report, using any data available to the department and in consultation with the Insurance Department, that includes the following information for each air medical transport provider that operates in the state:
 - (i) which health insurers in the state the air medical transport provider contracts with;
 - (ii) if sufficient data is available to the committee, the average charge for air medical transport services for a patient who is uninsured or out of network; and
 - (iii) whether the air medical transport provider balance bills a patient for any charge not paid by patient's health insurer.
 - (b) When calculating the average charge under Subsection (7)(a)(ii), the committee shall distinguish between:
 - (i) a rotary wing provider and a fixed wing provider; and
 - (ii) any other differences between air medical transport service providers that may substantially affect the cost of the air medical transport service, as determined by the committee.
 - (c) The department shall:
 - (i) post the committee's findings under Subsection (7)(a) on the department's website; and
 - (ii) send the committee's findings under Subsection (7)(a) to each emergency medical service provider, health care facility, and other entity that has regular contact with patients in need of medical transport provider services.

Requested Statistical Information

The Utah Air Ambulance Committee sent a voluntary questionnaire to the Utah licensed Air Ambulance Providers and a request to the State Insurance Department for insurance claims data in order to include the most correct data with this report. The following information was received from providers for calendar year 2020:

**Table 1
Voluntary Reported Air Ambulance Charges**

Provider	Provider submitted response	Rotary Wing Aircraft Rates	Fixed Wing Aircraft Rates	Contractual Insurance Agreements	Balance Billing for Patients
AirMed (University of Utah)	Self-reported	Base Rate: \$16,249.30 Mileage Rate: \$415.13	Base Rate: \$9,994.70 Mileage Rate: \$357.40	Aetna, Blue Cross Blue Shield, Blue Cross Blue Shield out of state, Cigna, Desert Benefit Mutual Association, Health Choice, Molina, PEHP, Tricare, United Health Care, University of Utah Health Care Plan	AirMed reports that it does not balance bill patients.
Life Flight (Intermountain Health Care)	Self-reported	Base Rate: \$15,744.69 Mileage Rate: \$211.70	Base Rate: \$11,264.29 Mileage Rate: \$70.50	Intermountain Life Flight ("ILF") is contracted with all traditional payers that have a significant presence in the Utah market. ILF is not contracted with the Medicaid ACO payers. Life Flight Services for Medicaid ACO enrollees are covered and paid through traditional Medicaid (paid by the State). ILF is not contracted with some payers that are minimally regulated relative to traditional payers.	LifeFlight reports that it does not balance bill patients.
Classic Air (Privately Owned and Operated)	Self-reported	Base rate: \$17,500 Mileage rate: \$150	Base rate: \$12,500 Mileage rate: \$60	First Health Group, HRG, Blue Cross Blue Shield of Wyoming, MPI, Blue Cross Blue Shield of Utah, I.H.S., Blue Cross Blue Shield of Idaho, Global Excel, PEHP, SelectHealth	Classic Air reports that it does not balance bill for its contracted payers but that it does balance bill non-contracted payers. Classic Air will not balance bill the patient if the patient is a member of its program which costs \$89.00 for a family, \$69.00 for an individual.
Guardian (Owned by Air Medical R Holdings)	Guardian submitted an official response that they will not submit requested information.	Not provided.	Not provided.	Not provided.	Not provided.
All Other Utah Based Licensed Air Ambulance Providers which make up 5% of the Utah market share.	No response was received from any of the remaining providers.	Not provided.	Not provided.	Not provided.	Not provided.

*The Utah Department of Health contacted the Insurance Department to inquire about related data for the report. The Insurance Department does not maintain information listed in Title 26-8a-107(7).