

Pediatric Out-of-Province Travel Assistance Program (PTAP)

Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ)

What criteria is used to determine eligibility?

For the Ministry of Health to approve requests for financial assistance in relation to a pediatric out-of-province travel assistance request, the following criteria must be met:

1. The pediatric patient must be referred out-of-province by a Saskatchewan specialist for medically required services not provided in Saskatchewan.
2. The specialist needs to confirm what services or investigations are medically required and why they (or a service of equal nature) are not able to be provided in Saskatchewan.
3. The specialist must confirm the dates that services will be received and the anticipated length of treatment / hospitalization.

Travel will not be considered for coverage in relation to the below services:

- General practitioner appointments (scheduled or unscheduled)
- Emergency room visits
- When treatment is considered experimental or to participate in a clinical trial
- Services not covered under the patients Saskatchewan health card (i.e. massage therapy)

What is the age limit for patients under this program?

The program provides travel assistance for children 16 years of age and younger.

How long will it take for the travel assistance request to be reviewed?

Applications are reviewed within 30 days of being received by the Ministry of Health.

Who can claim expenses?

The eligible costs must be incurred by the child or their parent or guardian. Only one claim up to a maximum of \$2000 can be submitted per medical trip.

Can I be reimbursed for travel or accommodation expenses up front?

No, the Ministry of Health will only provide financial assistance after submission of the signed reimbursement form and original receipts.

I am not able to provide a receipt. Can I still receive travel assistance?

To claim reimbursement for accommodation, airfare and other commercial forms of travel the Ministry of Health requires copies of receipts. Receipts must show names, travel dates and amount paid.

Private vehicle mileage, daily per diems and the nightly rate of \$35 for staying in private accommodations do not require receipts but still need to be submitted to the Ministry of Health on the Pediatric Out-of-Travel reimbursement form indicating that you are requesting reimbursement of these expenses.

Do I need additional travel insurance?

Yes. You are strongly encouraged to obtain additional travel or health insurance to cover unforeseen costs when travelling outside the province. For instance, ground and air ambulance services can be quite expensive. Although these expenses can be requested for reimbursement, the cost for ambulance services can be substantially higher than the \$2000 maximum payment per trip.