

NEW YORK CITY FIRE DEPARTMENT

Notice of Adoption of Amendments to Fire Department Rule 3 RCNY §8400-02, entitled “Schedule of Charges for Fire Department Ambulance Treatment and Transport Services”

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN PURSUANT TO THE AUTHORITY VESTED in the Fire Commissioner of the City of New York pursuant to Section 487(f) of the New York City Charter, and in accordance with the requirements of Section 1043 of the New York City Charter, that the New York City Fire Department has adopted the above final rule.

The proposed rule was published in the City Record on April 15, 2026. The public hearing was held on May 15, 2026. The final rule shall take effect on July 1, 2026.

The Notice of Adoption, final rule and the Statement of Basis and Purpose of Rule will be available on the Fire Department’s website (www.nyc.gov/fdny) and NYC RULES (www.nyc.gov/NYCRules).

Statement of Basis and Purpose of Rule

The Fire Department is revising the amounts it charges patients and insurers for Emergency Medical Service (EMS) ambulance treatment and/or transport service provided through the New York City 911 System because of increased costs and to help offset the City’s cost of providing these services.

The charges for ambulance service were last increased more than three years ago, on May 1, 2023. The new rates reflect increases in personal services (PS) costs and other than personal service (OTPS) costs required to provide emergency ambulance services and have been calculated to reduce the portion of such costs that is currently borne by City taxpayers.

The rates are partially based on the established civilian collective bargaining pattern (16.21%). Because there is currently no settled EMS labor contract, the Fire Department is relying on the civilian collective bargaining pattern to adjust current PS costs to more accurately reflect the cost of EMS services.

The revised schedule of charges sets forth a single rate for Basic Life Support (BLS) service, and separate rates for Advanced Life Support (ALS) levels of service (ALS1 and ALS2). The definition of BLS, ALS1 and ALS2 are determined by the Federal Department of Health and Human Services’ Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services.

The revised schedule clarifies the fees for BLS and ALS “treatment in place,” *i.e.*, the administration of emergency medical services in the absence of transportation.

The rates set forth in the schedule of charges are the amounts that the Fire Department would bill for EMS ambulance treatment and transport service. The rates do not necessarily reflect the amounts accepted by the Fire Department as payment for ambulance treatment and transport services from government and private health insurance plans.

Public Comment

The Fire Department received six comments from members of the public. Public commentary expressed concerns about affordability and the impact on the uninsured. In response, the Fire Department notes that the impact of these rate increases on the public will be mitigated for persons with Medicare, Medicaid, or private health insurance, which typically cover emergency ambulance services. The vast majority of Fire Department transports are for insured patients, and it is expected that this rate increase will primarily impact commercial insurance companies. For uninsured patients, the Fire Department offers several programs to address affordability concerns, including a charity care program, payment plans, and settlement options. Additional information on such programs is available by calling the phone number listed on the ambulance bill, as well as on the Fire Department's website: <https://www.nyc.gov/site/fdny/about/resources/policy-and-agreements/charitable-care-policy.page>.

New material is underlined.

[Deleted material is in brackets.]

Section 1. Section 8400-02 of chapter 84 of Title 3 of the Rules of the City of New York is amended to read as follows:

§ 8400-02 Schedule of Charges for Fire Department Ambulance Treatment and Transport Service.

- (a) Scope. This section sets forth the charges for Fire Department ambulance treatment and transport service.
- (b) Effective [May 1, 2023] July 1, 2026, the charges for Fire Department ambulance treatment and transport service are as follows:

<u>Type of Service</u>	<u>Charge</u>
Basic Life Support Ambulance	[\$1,385.00] <u>\$1,793.00</u>
Basic Life Support Ambulance <u>Treatment in Place or</u> Facilitation of Treatment in Place	[\$630.00] <u>\$896.00</u>
Advanced Life Support Ambulance Service Level 1 (ALS1)	[\$1,680.00] <u>\$2,196.00</u>
Advanced Life Support Ambulance Service Level 2 (ALS2)	[\$1,692.00] <u>\$2,212.00</u>

Advanced Life Support Ambulance <u>Treatment</u> <u>in Place or</u> Facilitation of Treatment in Place	[\$1,050.00] <u>\$1,098.00</u>
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Additional Charges:

– Mileage (distance traveled to hospital or medical facility with patient)	\$20.00/mile
– Provision of Oxygen (as applicable)	\$66.00

Note: **Highlighted** text is existing underlined text. Retain underlining in publication of final rule.