

**Queensland**



**Subordinate Legislation 2003 No. 148**

*Ambulance Service Act 1991*

**AMBULANCE SERVICE REGULATION 2003**

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## **1 Short title**

This regulation may be cited as the *Ambulance Service Regulation 2003*.

## **2 Commencement**

This regulation commences on 1 July 2003.

## **3 Definitions**

The dictionary in the schedule defines particular words used in this regulation.

## **4 Transport by ambulance**

(1) If a person is involved in an accident or emergency and is transported by ambulance, the person may be taken to—

- (a) the nearest public hospital; or
- (b) another public hospital that the chief executive of the department in which the *Health Services Act 1991* is administered has decided is appropriate for the treatment of the person; or
- (c) if transport to a hospital mentioned in paragraph (a) or (b) is not practicable—a private hospital; or
- (d) if arrangements have been made with a doctor—the doctor's surgery; or
- (e) at the request of the person or the person's parent or guardian—
  - (i) the accident and emergency department of a local private hospital; or
  - (ii) if a local doctor's surgery or office has the facilities to receive and treat the person—the surgery or office.

(2) If a person in need of ambulance transport has been seen by a doctor, the person may be transported to a place nominated by the doctor.

(3) Ambulance transport of a person from a hospital or a doctor's surgery to another place of medical care or a private residence may be provided only on the written request of a doctor.

(4) A doctor must not make a nomination under subsection (2) or a request under subsection (3) unless the doctor is satisfied that the person can not safely, or reasonably, travel by an alternative form of transport.

(5) The commissioner may—

- (a) divert an ambulance to the scene of an accident or emergency; or
- (b) allow more than 1 person to be transported in an ambulance; or
- (c) limit the amount of baggage and the number of persons accompanying a person being transported in an ambulance.

(6) Despite subsections (1), (2) and (5)(a), an ambulance officer may transport a person to any place where medical treatment is provided if the officer believes the person needs urgent medical treatment.

## **5 Fees for ambulance services**

(1) The fees payable by a non-exempt person to the Queensland Ambulance Service for ambulance services provided to the person are as follows—

- (a) for emergency transport—\$781;
- (b) for non-emergency transport—
  - (i) if the ambulance does not travel more than 50 km—\$291; or
  - (ii) otherwise—\$291 plus \$1.25 for each kilometre or part of a kilometre over 50 km travelled by the ambulance;
- (c) for ambulance attendance if ambulance transport is refused or not required and an ambulance officer examines the person or provides the person with first aid or emergency treatment—the greater of—
  - (i) \$82; or
  - (ii) \$11.30 for each kilometre or part of a kilometre travelled by the ambulance, to a maximum of \$781;
- (d) for the treatment of the person at an ambulance casualty centre—\$14.20;

- (e) for transport by aerial ambulance, the greater of—
  - (i) \$5.75 for each kilometre or part of a kilometre of the flight from, and return to, the airport where the aerial ambulance is normally based; or
  - (ii) \$269.

(2) If the Queensland Ambulance Service receives an amount from the Motor Accident Insurance Fund for providing an ambulance service to the person, a fee is not payable under this section by the person for the service.

(3) For subsection (1)(b) and (c), the distance travelled by the ambulance is taken—

- (a) to begin at the ambulance station nearest the place of attendance on the person; and
- (b) to finish at that station.

(4) If more than 1 non-exempt person is transported in an ambulance at the one time, the prescribed fee is payable by each person.

(5) Despite subsection (4), a fee is not payable by a non-exempt person who is merely accompanying a person being transported in an ambulance.

(6) Despite subsection (1), for a person under a disability, the fee is payable by the person's parent or guardian, manager or legal representative, as the case may be.

(7) This section does not apply to the special use of ambulance services and vehicles for which the chief executive has set fees under section 54(4) of the Act.

## **6 Repeal of Ambulance Service Regulation 1991**

The Ambulance Service Regulation 1991 is repealed.

## SCHEDULE

### DICTIONARY

section 3

**“emergency transport”** means transport provided by the service in response to a request for urgent help.

**“estate under management”** see the *Public Trustee Act 1978*, section 64.

**“guardian”** means a person who is recognised in law as having all the duties, powers, responsibilities and authority that, by law, parents have in relation to their children.

**“non-emergency transport”** means transport provided by the service other than emergency transport.

**“non-exempt person”** means a person other than a person who, under section 53B(1)<sup>1</sup> of the Act, is not liable to pay a charge under the Act for the use of an ambulance service.

**“person under a disability”** means a non-exempt person who is—

- (a) a dependent minor; or
- (b) a person whose estate is an estate under management; or
- (c) a person otherwise legally incapable of managing the person’s estate.

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#### ENDNOTES

1. Made by the Governor in Council on 26 June 2003.
2. Notified in the gazette on 27 June 2003.
3. Laid before the Legislative Assembly on . . .
4. The administering agency is the Department of Emergency Services.

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1 Section 53B (Exemption from payment for ambulance service) of the Act

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