



IHCP COVID-19 Response: August 12 is new deadline for HCBS wheelchair van and lift grant applications

As announced in *Indiana Health Coverage Programs (IHCP) Bulletin* [BT202245](#), the Office of Medicaid Policy and Planning (OMPP) is making a one-time, federally funded opportunity to cover the cost to purchase wheelchair vans at \$77,000 per grant and wheelchair lifts to be installed in existing fleet at \$9,000 per grant, aimed at increasing nonemergency medical transportation (NEMT) services. The deadline for submitting these grant applications has been extended to Friday, Aug. 12, 2022.

As part of FSSA's Home- and Community-Based Services (HCBS) Spend Plan, the OMPP is issuing grants to qualifying providers to cover the cost to purchase wheelchair vans and lifts. The funding for these grants was made available by Section 9817 of the *American Rescue Plan Act*. The purpose of these grants is to improve transportation services to members residing in their homes and needing nonemergent care and services within their community that require the use of a wheelchair-accessible vehicle.



To be eligible for an HCBS wheelchair van and lift grant, providers must meet the following criteria as of the date of grant application submission:

- Active IHCP transportation providers must be appropriately licensed to operate the vehicles and must be actively enrolled as a transportation provider in Indiana's statewide network for brokered NEMT services, currently administered by Southeastrans, Inc.
- New transportation provider applicants willing to join the above network that have completed both of the following:
 - Submitted a letter of intent.
 - Started the IHCP enrollment process and, if applicable by *Indiana Code*, have temporary motor carrier certification and started the permanent process or have permanent status.
- All applicants must be willing to pick up any member, not just members who are enrolled in the organization's programs, and cannot require members to participate in any additional services.
- All applicants must have an Indiana location and use the vehicles to transport Indiana residents.
- All applicants must submit a quarterly usage report and an annual impact report to the OMPP.
- All applicants must schedule and bill for services according to the federal, state and NEMT broker policies.

Applicants must submit a technical proposal, budget, and budget narrative as outlined in the Wheelchair Van and Lift Grant Program [RFF-2022-014](#) by 4:30 p.m. Eastern Time on Friday, Aug. 12, 2022. Questions about this funding or the application process may be directed to hcbs.spendplan@fssa.in.gov.

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