

RURAL & REGIONAL PRACTICE COMMITTEE

RURAL & REGIONAL TRAVEL FUND

DESCRIPTION

The Rural & Regional Travel Fund is provided through an agreement between the Saskatchewan Medical Association and the Government of Saskatchewan. Claims for reimbursement should be submitted at the end of each month.

All eligible physicians are encouraged to access the Fund. Program guidelines are provided below.

GUIDELINES

The Fund is designed to facilitate cooperation and provide support to physicians in rural and regional Saskatchewan. It is hoped that there may be improved communication amongst rural and regional physicians to help maintain the quality of care being provided to rural and regional persons.

The program is **NOT** designed to replace travel subsidies that are already in place. (Presently, federal and provincial governments and the Saskatchewan Health Authority provide mileage allowances for certain travel.) Where other travel subsidies are available, this program does not apply.

Mileage is reimbursed at the same rate as the Emergency Room Coverage Program. Currently, the reimbursement rate is \$0.5724 per kilometre plus \$50 per 100 kilometers. Physicians may claim reimbursement for the following types of services provided in neighbouring communities:

1. Anesthesia,
2. Surgical Assistance,
3. Consultations, and
4. Practice coverage for a neighbouring physician – for call coverage, in-patient coverage, long-term care coverage, office coverage, shared call or other,
5. Satellite Clinics.

The Fund is NOT designed to reimburse urban physicians traveling from urban centers to rural Saskatchewan to provide services.

Claims must be submitted for payment within 6 months of travel being incurred. Physicians may receive up to \$5,200 per year, including for expenses for travel to satellite clinic, provided they are not receiving reimbursements for these same expenses from other sources (For example, *The Saskatchewan Health Authority, provincial or federal governments*).

For further information or to submit an application, please contact:

Saskatchewan Medical Association
201 – 2174 Airport Drive, Saskatoon, SK S7L 6M6
Phone: 306-244-2196 or 1-800-667-3781.
Fax: 306-653-1631
rsprograms@sma.sk.ca

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