



Medical Transportation Assistance Program

MTAP–Hope Air Partnership

Pilot Program Operating Guidelines

As part of a pilot initiative, the Medical Transportation Assistance Program (MTAP) has partnered with **Hope Air**, a national charity that provides free travel arrangements for patients in financial need who must travel long distances for specialized insured medical services.

Who Is Eligible?

To qualify for coverage through the MTAP–Hope Air partnership, patients must:

- Be an MCP beneficiary
- Have a gross family income of \$70,000 or less
- Be required to travel more than 400 kilometres by air to access a specialized insured medical service not available in their home community
- Travel for services that meet MTAP's eligibility criteria (e.g., specialist physician appointments, chemotherapy, dialysis, radiation, nuclear medicine testing, etc.).

How It Works

- Patients apply directly to Hope Air for assistance at hopeair.ca.
- If approved, Hope Air will arrange and pay for the patient's required travel expenses upfront, which may include:
 - Flights
 - Accommodations
 - Meal per diems
 - Taxis to and from the airport, accommodations and medical appointments
- After travel, Hope Air will submit a claim to MTAP on behalf of the patient for assistance toward eligible costs under MTAP policy.
- Eligible MTAP assistance will be paid directly to Hope Air.

NOTE: You cannot submit a separate claim to MTAP if part or all of that trip was arranged or paid for by Hope Air.

Trips Longer Than 14 Days

If your trip lasts more than 14 consecutive days, you may apply to MTAP for additional eligible expenses starting on day 15. This is the only exception. You cannot claim expenses from days one to 14 if Hope Air arranged or paid for any part of your trip.

Starting on day 15, you may submit a claim to MTAP for eligible expenses, if they meet MTAP policy requirements and are not being claimed through Hope Air.

Making the Best Choice for Your Family

Patients are encouraged to consider both options – Hope Air and MTAP – and choose the one that is most economical and suitable for their family's needs. For example, patients who can afford to pay upfront, require a lengthy stay or prefer to claim reimbursement may choose MTAP, while those who need travel costs covered in advance may benefit from applying to Hope Air.

Not Eligible for the Partnership?

Patients who do not qualify for the MTAP–Hope Air partnership (e.g., due to income or travel method) may still be eligible for assistance directly through MTAP or Hope Air.

For further details, please visit [Hope Air](#) or [Medical Transportation Assistance Program \(MTAP\)](#).