State of California—Health and Human Services Agency
Department of Health Services

California Department of Health Services
SANDRA SHEWRY
Director

ARNOLD SCHWARZENEGGER
Governor

August 21, 2006

TO: MATERNAL, CHILD AND ADOLESCENT HEALTH (MCAH) DIRECTORS
BLACK INFANT HEALTH (BIH) COORDINATORS
ADOLESCENT FAMILY LIFE PROGRAM (AFLP) DIRECTORS

SUBJECT: TRAVEL MILEAGE REIMBURSEMENT RATE CHANGE
PROGRAM POLICY ALERT #2006/07-01

The MCAH Branch has received a revised "Travel Reimbursement Information" document from the California Department of Health Services; Contract Management Unit that affects all MCAH funded Agreements. Effective July 1, 2006, the Department of Personnel Administration (DPA) adopted the current federal mileage reimbursement rate of forty-four and a half (**44.5**) cents per mile, formerly thirty-four (34) cents per mile.

Even though all other travel per diem amounts remain the same, please read this document thoroughly. All MCAH programs must adhere to the requirements set forth in this document and are responsible for keeping adequate records to support any travel costs reimbursed with state or federal funds.

A copy of the revised Travel Reimbursement Information document is attached for audit and administrative purposes. It is also available for downloading at the MCAH website at: http://www.mch.dhs.ca.gov/administration/afa.htm under forms. Should you have any questions or concerns regarding this information, please contact your Contract Manager.

Sincerely,

Susan Lyle, Chief
Allocation & Matched Funding Unit
Maternal, Child and Adolescent Health/
Office of Family Planning Branch

Enclosure

Travel Reimbursement Information

(Mileage Reimbursement Rate Change Effective 7-1-06)

1. The following rate policy is to be applied for reimbursing the travel expenses of persons under contract. The terms "contract" and/or "subcontract" have the same meaning as "grantee" and/or "subgrantee" where applicable.

   a. Reimbursement for travel and/or per diem shall be at the rates established for nonrepresented/excluded state employees. Exceptions to Department of Personnel Administration (DPA) lodging rates may be approved by CDHS upon the receipt of a statement on/with an invoice indicating that such rates are not available.

   b. Short Term Travel is defined as a 24-hour period, and less than 31 consecutive days, and is at least 50 miles from the main office, headquarters or primary residence. Starting time is whenever a contract *or* subcontract employee leaves his or her home or headquarters. "Headquarters" is defined as the place where the contracted personnel spends the largest portion of their working time and returns to upon the completion of assignments. Headquarters may be individually established for each traveler and approved verbally or in writing by the program funding the agreement. Verbal approval shall be followed up in writing or email.

   c. Contractors on travel status for more than one 24-hour period and less than 31 consecutive days may claim a fractional part of a period of more than 24 hours. Consult the chart appearing on Page 2 of this exhibit to determine the reimbursement allowance. All lodging reimbursement claims must be supported by a receipt*. If a contractor does not or cannot present receipts, lodging expenses will not be reimbursed.

      (1) Lodging (with receipts*):

Travel Location / Area	Reimbursement Rate
Statewide (excluding the counties identified below)	$ 84.00 plus tax
Counties of Los Angeles and San Diego	$110.00 plus tax
Counties of Alameda, San Francisco, San Mateo, and Santa Clara	$140.00 plus tax

      Reimbursement for actual lodging expenses that exceed the above amounts may be allowed with the advance approval of the Deputy Director of the *California* Department of Health Service or his or her designee. Receipts are required.

      *Receipts from Internet lodging reservation services such as Priceline.com which require prepayment for that service, ARE NOT ACCEPTABLE LODGING RECEIPTS and are not reimbursable without a valid lodging receipt from a lodging establishment.

      (2) Meal/Supplemental Expenses (with or without receipts): With receipts, the contractor will be reimbursed actual amounts spent up to the maximum for each full 24-hour period of travel.

Meal / Expense	Reimbursement Rate
Breakfast	$ 6.00
Lunch	$ 10.00
Dinner	$ 18.00
Incidental expenses	$ 6.00

   d. Out-of-state travel may only be reimbursed if such travel is necessitated by the scope or statement of work and has been approved in advance by the program with which the contract is held. For out-of-state travel, contractors may be reimbursed actual lodging expenses, supported by a receipt, and may be reimbursed for meals and supplemental expenses for each 24-hour period computed at the rates listed in c. (2) above. For all out-of-state travel, contractors/subcontractors must have prior CDHS written or verbal approval. Verbal approval shall be confirmed in writing (email or memo).

   e. In computing allowances for continuous periods of travel of less than 24 hours, consult the chart appearing on Page 2 of this exhibit.

   f. No meal or lodging expenses will be reimbursed for any period of travel that occurs within normal working hours, unless expenses are incurred at least 50 miles from headquarters.

2. If any of the reimbursement rates stated herein is changed by DPA, no formal contract amendment will be required to incorporate the new rates. However, CDHS shall inform the contractor, in writing, of the revised travel reimbursement rates and the applicable effective date of any rate change.

   At CDHS' discretion, changes or revisions made by CDHS to this exhibit, excluding travel reimbursement policies established by DPA may be applied retroactively to any agreement to which a Travel Reimbursement Information exhibit is attached, incorporated by reference, or applied by CDHS program policy. Changes to the travel reimbursement rates stated herein may not be applied earlier than the date a rate change was approved by DPA.

3. For transportation expenses, the contractor must retain receipts for parking; taxi, airline, bus, or rail tickets; car rental; or any other travel receipts pertaining to each trip for attachment to an invoice as substantiation for reimbursement. Reimbursement may be requested for commercial carrier fares; private car mileage; parking fees; bridge tolls; taxi, bus, or streetcar fares; and auto rental fees when substantiated by a receipt.

4. **Note on use of autos:** If a contractor uses his/her or a company car for transportation, the rate of reimbursement will be ***44.5 cents*** maximum per mile. If a contractor uses his/her or a company car "in lieu of" airfare, the air coach fare will be the maximum paid by the State. The contractor must provide a cost comparison upon request by the State. Gasoline and routine automobile repair expenses are not reimbursable.

5. The contractor is required to furnish details surrounding each period of travel. Travel expense reimbursement detail may include, but not be limited to: purpose of travel, departure and return times, destination points, miles driven, mode of transportation, etc. Reimbursement for travel expenses may be withheld pending receipt of adequate travel documentation.

6. Contractors are to consult with the program with which the contract is held to obtain specific invoicing procedures.

Per Diem Reimbursement Guide

Length of travel period	This condition exists...	Allowable Meal(s)
Less than 24 hours	Travel begins at 6:00 a.m. or earlier and continues until 9:00 a.m. or later.	Breakfast
Less than 24 hours	• Travel period ends at least one hour after the regularly scheduled workday ends, or • Travel period begins prior to or at 4:00 p.m. and continues beyond 7:00 p.m.	Dinner
24 hours	Travel period is a full 24-hour period determined by the time that the travel period begins and ends.	Breakfast, lunch, and dinner
Last fractional part of more than 24 hours	Travel period is more than 24 hours and traveler returns at or after 8:00 a.m.	Breakfast
	Travel period is more than 24 hours and traveler returns at or after 2:00 p.m.	Lunch
	Travel period is more than 24 hours and traveler returns at or after 7:00 p.m.	Dinner