

**876—8.1(85) Transportation expense.** Transportation expense as provided in Iowa Code sections 85.27 and 85.39 shall include but not be limited to the following:

1. The cost of public transportation if tendered by the employer or insurance carrier.
2. All mileage incident to the use of a private auto. The per-mile rate for use of a private auto from August 1, 2005, through June 30, 2006, shall be 40.5 cents. For annual periods beginning July 1, 2006, and thereafter, the per-mile rate shall be the rate allowed by the Internal Revenue Service for the business standard mileage rate in effect on July 1 of each year.
3. Meals and lodging if reasonably incident to the examination.
4. Taxi fares or other forms of local transportation if incident to the use of public transportation.
5. Ambulance service or other special means of transportation if deemed necessary by competent medical evidence or by agreement of the parties.

Transportation expense in the form of reimbursement for mileage which is incurred in the course of treatment or an examination, except under Iowa Code section 85.39, shall be payable at such time as 50 miles or more have accumulated or upon completion of medical care, whichever occurs first. Reimbursement for mileage incurred under Iowa Code section 85.39 shall be paid within a reasonable time after the examination.

The workers' compensation commissioner or a deputy commissioner may order transportation expense to be paid in advance of an examination or treatment. The parties may agree to the advance payment of transportation expense.

This rule is intended to implement Iowa Code sections 85.27 and 85.39.