

## Rule-Making Fact Sheet

**AGENCY:** Department of Health and Human Services, Office for Family Independence

**AGENCY CONTACT PERSON:**

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**CHAPTER NUMBER AND RULE TITLE:**

10-144 C.M.R. Chapter 330; Higher Opportunity for Pathways to Employment (HOPE) Program Rules  
HOPE Rule #103 - Mileage Reimbursement Update

**TYPE OF RULE** (*check one*):     Routine Technical         Major Substantive

**STATUTORY AUTHORITY:** 22 M.R.S. §§ 42(1) and (8); 3790-A(6)

**PUBLIC HEARING:** None scheduled.

**COMMENT DEADLINE:** Monday, April 8, 2024 at 5:00 p.m. E.T.

Written public comments may be submitted via the link at

<https://www.maine.gov/dhhs/about/rulemaking>.

**PRINCIPAL REASON(S) OR PURPOSE FOR PROPOSING THIS RULE:** The proposed rule change would update Section 4(B)(3) – Transportation to be consistent with the rate afforded to those covered under the Maine Service Employees Association (MSEA) contract. The proposed rule change would refer readers to the MSEA rate found at <https://www.maine.gov/osc/travel/mileage-other-info>.

The proposed rule change would be effective retroactive to March 1, 2024. Retroactive rulemaking is permissible under 22 M.R.S. § 42(8) as this update provides a benefit to HOPE recipients or beneficiaries and does not adversely impact applicants, participants, beneficiaries, or providers.

**IS MATERIAL INCORPORATED BY REFERENCE IN THE RULE?** Mileage reimbursement rate:

<https://www.maine.gov/osc/travel/mileage-other-info>

**ANALYSIS AND EXPECTED OPERATION OF THE RULE:** The proposed rule change would align Transportation – Mileage Reimbursement with the MSEA rate.

**BRIEF SUMMARY OF RELEVANT INFORMATION CONSIDERED DURING**

**DEVELOPMENT OF THE RULE:** The Department considered the recent update to the MSEA mileage reimbursement rate for the development of this rule.

**ESTIMATED FISCAL IMPACT OF THE RULE:** The HOPE Program limits total mileage reimbursement at one hundred forty dollars (\$140) weekly for transportation necessary for Participants to engage in Training or Education activities or a combination of Training or Education and employment activities. This rule does not change that weekly limit. The proposed rule change will have no financial impact on the amount of HOPE benefits issued.

***FOR EXISTING RULES WITH FISCAL IMPACT OF \$1 MILLION OR MORE, ALSO  
INCLUDE:***

ECONOMIC IMPACT, WHETHER OR NOT QUANTIFIABLE IN MONETARY TERMS:

INDIVIDUALS, MAJOR INTEREST GROUPS AND TYPES OF BUSINESSES AFFECTED AND  
HOW THEY WILL BE AFFECTED:

BENEFITS OF THE RULE:

*Note: If necessary, additional pages may be used.*