



**EMERGENCY  
AMBULANCE  
TRANSPORT  
BENEFIT**

**FOR CEPU MEMBERS**



**CEPU**

COMMUNICATIONS  
ELECTRICAL  
PLUMBING  
UNION



## A STRONG AND VIABLE UNION

Dear Member,

Over the last few years your Union has been working hard to ensure the delivery of the best industrial representation available for its members in the postal and telecommunications industry.

With our member's salaries alone the CEPU has achieved rises of up to 40% over the last eight years – that is around *double the average inflation rate over the same period.*

Industrially, we are at the forefront of defending and improving members' wages and conditions.

We are also committed to providing additional financial benefits to members where the strength in numbers of the Branch's membership allows.

As part of our commitment to our membership the Branch Committee of Management has decided to approve an Emergency Hospital Transport Benefit for members and their immediate families.

Thank you for your support and for helping to make the CEPU a strong and viable Union that protects workers in the Postal and Telecommunications Industries.

Yours faithfully

**Jim Metcher**  
Branch Secretary



# CEPU (NSW) POSTAL & TELECOMMUNICATIONS BRANCH

## ➔ FIRST TO THE EMERGENCY

When you need to get to a hospital in an emergency, the last thing you should have to worry about is how much it's going to cost. A short trip to a hospital in an ambulance can cost you \$143 – that's the standard charge for ambulance transport in NSW.

The CEPU (NSW) Postal and Telecommunications Branch is now providing its members with a benefit for transport to a hospital in an emergency. This benefit is available to all financial members at no additional cost.

It is similar to ambulance-only coverage that health insurers provide for around \$40 a year for singles and \$80 a year for families.

To qualify you must be a financial member of your Union. These and other Union member benefits are products of a viable financial Union membership.

**Medicare won't cover you, so your Union will.**



## ➔ YOUR QUESTIONS ANSWERED

### Q: What benefits am I entitled to?

A: The CEPU (NSW) P&T Branch will provide emergency transport benefits to all financial members and dependents normally living with the member. The benefit covers a married or defacto spouse and dependent children.

### Q: How do I qualify?

A: All you have to do is make sure that you pay your Union membership when it's due and we'll make sure that you have access to the Union's emergency ambulance transport benefit for yourself and your family in the future.

### Q: What is the benefit?

A: The benefit is for emergency transport from anywhere in Australia. The maximum amount payable is equivalent to two years membership dues – around \$600 for full-time members. The basic ambulance bill in NSW is \$143 but we have opted for a higher amount to provide additional assistance to members in regional areas and those who may need an ambulance when they are far from home.

### Q: Can I claim for transport when it isn't an emergency?

A: Normally, benefits will only apply to emergency transport. But you may be eligible in non-emergency cases where your doctor or hospital has requested ambulance transport because of your medical needs. Prior approval must be sought from the Branch Secretary for non-emergency cases.

When patients are being transported from one private home to another, from hospital to home and return or holiday leave, you are not covered unless approval is given by the CEPU.



## ➔ FOR MORE INFORMATION

To ensure that you are a financial member of the Union, contact Ms Jojie Vivar, CEPU *Emergency Ambulance Transport Administration* Officer on (02) 9893 7822.



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## CONDITIONS OF THE BENEFIT SCHEME

The CEPU (NSW) Postal and Telecommunications Branch will pay for all emergency transport benefits, except when any of the following apply:

1. Where responsibility of payment is ultimately transferred to a third party such as the Motor Accidents Authority, another statutory authority or where a member has existing cover from a separate insurance policy which insures against ambulance costs.
2. Where costs of emergency transport are payable or paid by the State of NSW or Commonwealth of Australia.
3. NSW residents who are holders of NSW issued DSS, Pensioners Concession, Health Care, Veterans Affairs, or specific Treatment Entitlement cards which already provide eligibility for free ambulance transport in Australia.
4. **Remember, you must be a financial Union member to receive this and other benefits.**

A member must have six months continuous financial membership with the NSW P&T Branch prior to the date of claim and must be financial at the time the claim is made.

5. A part-time or casual member will be covered for a pro-rata amount of the ambulance costs, based on their membership contributions.

These conditions are designed to eliminate exploitation of this new benefit and make it *available as fairly as possible to all members.*