



## Acceptance Criteria for Angel Flight West Missions

*The decision to accept a patient for referral to an Angel Flight West mission depends on a number of factors, including medical, financial, and other considerations. Following are the basic requirements. Each case will be considered individually, based on all information available from all sources.*

- + **Medical Status.** All patients must be medically stable.
- + **Mobility.** All patients must be ambulatory and able to board an aircraft with limited assistance. Some exceptions can be made for children in wheelchairs who can be readily transferred in and out of the aircraft. Acceptance is at the discretion of the Director of Mission Coordination and the mission pilot.
- + **Medical Release.** Prior to a patient's first mission, a medical release must be sent/faxed from the doctor or hospital to Angel Flight West stating that the patient is "medically stable and able to fly in a non-pressurized aircraft." The release is valid for up to one year or until medical circumstances change.
- + **Financial Need.** Patients must be financially needy, as verified by a social worker, discharge planner, doctor, clergyman, etc.; or live in a remote area without easy access to commercial airports; or be immunocompromised to an extent that disallows their being around large numbers of people.
- + **Origin of Requests.** The initial request for a mission must be received from a social worker, doctor, other medical personnel, or other individuals qualified to verify the health condition and economic need of the prospective patient/passenger. After a patient's first mission, he/she may request a flight directly. For patients needing ongoing treatment and flights, the office may request an updated status on the patient from the original requester.
- + **Transplant Patients.** Angel Flight West may be able to accommodate some patients needing transportation for transplant surgery. Patients awaiting notification of organ availability must pre-register with the Angel Flight West office.
- + **Combative Patients.** Patients who are known to be combative will not be transported.
- + **Undocumented Individuals.** Angel Flight West will not knowingly provide transportation for undocumented individuals.
- + **Service Area.** Missions flown by Angel Flight West will be confined to the states of California, Nevada, Arizona, Washington, Oregon, Idaho, Utah, New Mexico, Colorado, Montana and Wyoming. Requesters will be referred to other organizations if the transportation would involve travel outside this service area.
- + **Distance.** Maximum distance for a single-leg flight is approximately 500 miles. Longer distance requests within the region may be possible by linking flights.
- + **Advance Notice.** Angel Flight West asks that flight requests be submitted a minimum of five business days prior to the desired date of flight. Angel Flight West may be able to accommodate requests that are submitted with shorter notice, but a successful coordination of a flight is less likely.

### Angel Flight West

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Mission requests may also be submitted electronically at <http://www.angelflight.org>