

## COVID-19 Healthcare Funding Opportunities

### Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS)

#### Provider Relief Fund

The CARES Act created the Provider Relief Fund, allocating \$100 billion in relief funds to hospitals and other healthcare providers on the front lines of the coronavirus response. This funding will be used to support healthcare-related expenses or lost revenue attributable to COVID-19 and to ensure uninsured Americans can get testing and treatment for COVID-19. These funds are payments, not loans.

\$50 billion of the Provider Relief Fund is allocated for general distribution to Medicare facilities and providers impacted by COVID-19, based on eligible providers' 2018 net patient revenue. The initial \$30 billion was distributed between April 10 and April 17. All facilities and providers that received Medicare fee-for-service (FFS) reimbursements in 2019 are eligible for this initial rapid distribution. The remaining \$20 billion is being distributed to Medicare Advantage and Medicaid providers beginning Friday, April 24. **Providers who have received funds must sign the attestation form, which can be found [here](#).**

The remaining funds will be distributed through targeted allocations:

*High Impact Areas:* \$10 billion will be allocated for a targeted distribution to hospitals in areas that have been particularly impacted by the COVID-19 outbreak. Hospitals should apply for a portion of the funds by providing four simple pieces of information (TIN, etc.) via an authentication portal before midnight PT, Thursday April 23. This portal is live, and hospitals have already been contacted directly to provide this information.

*Uninsured:* Every health care provider who has provided treatment for uninsured COVID-19 patients on or after February 4, 2020, can request claims reimbursement through the program and will be reimbursed at Medicare rates, subject to available funding. Providers can register for the program on April 27, 2020, and begin submitting claims in early May 2020. For more information, click [here](#).

*Rural Areas:* \$10 billion will be allocated for rural health clinics and hospitals. The money will be distributed as early as next week on the basis of operating expenses.

*Indian Health Services:* \$400 million will be allocated for Indian Health Service facilities. Money will be distributed as early as next week on the basis of operating expenses for facilities.

Click [here](#) for additional information on the Provider Relief Fund

#### Advanced Payments

In order to increase cash flow to providers of services and suppliers impacted by the 2019 Novel Coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic, CMS has expanded the Accelerated and Advance Payment Program to a broader group of Medicare Part A providers and Part B suppliers. An accelerated/advance payment is a payment intended to provide necessary funds when there is a disruption in claims submission and/or claims processing. **This is separate from the funds provided by the CARES Act, advanced payments must be repaid.**

To submit a request for accelerated payments, providers must go through their region's designated MAC. Qualified providers must request a specific payment amount; most providers will receive 100% of this amount. Repayment has been extended to begin 120 days after the date of issuance.

Click [here](#) for details and eligibility requirements.

Click [here](#) to find your region's designated MAC.

## **Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA)**

### *Rural Tribal COVID-19 Response Program (RTCR)*

The CARES Act allocated \$15M to HRSA to allocate to tribes, tribal organizations, urban Indian health organizations, and health service providers to tribes. Eligible entities can receive grants up to \$300,000. Applicants can reach out to [RuralCOVIDNOFO@hrsa.gov](mailto:RuralCOVIDNOFO@hrsa.gov) with any questions or concerns regarding their submission.

HRSA will hold a technical assistance webinar on April 24th from 4:00-5:30pm EDT to outline how tribes can request their specific activities that may include, but is not limited to: purchase of test kits, PPE, supporting the workforce and telehealth related activities.

Click [here](#) to view the RTCR page on grants.gov

### *Telehealth Network Grant Program*

The funding opportunity is aimed towards promoting rural Tele-emergency services with an emphasis on tele-stroke, tele-behavioral health, and Tele-Emergency Medical Services (Tele-EMS). This will be achieved by enhancing telehealth networks to deliver 24-hour Emergency Department (ED) consultation services via telehealth to rural providers without emergency care specialists. Applications are due on June 15, 2020.

Click [here](#) for additional information

## **Federal Communications Commission**

### *COVID-19 Telehealth Program*

The CARES Act allocated \$200 million to FCC to help health care providers provide connected care services to patients at their homes or mobile locations in response to the novel Coronavirus 2019 disease (COVID-19) pandemic. This is NOT a grant – to receive disbursements, providers must submit invoicing forms and supporting documents for eligible expenses and services. Providers must register for an FCC Registration Number with [CORES](#). There is no application deadline at this time.

The Program will provide immediate support to eligible health care providers responding to the COVID-19 pandemic by fully funding their telecommunications services, information services, and devices necessary to provide critical connected care services until the program's funds have been expended or the COVID-19 pandemic has ended.

Click [here](#) for details, eligibility, and application requirements.

Click [here](#) for program FAQs.