

IHA COVID Resources and Advocacy

June 11, 2020

The latest about COVID-19 from IHA

Further fund dispersals announced by HHS

The US Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) has announced additional distributions through the provider relief fund:

Hospitals serving high numbers of Medicaid and uninsured patients – HHS will distribute \$10 billion from the Public Health and Social Services Emergency Fund to hospitals that serve a disproportionate number of Medicaid patients or provide large amounts of uncompensated care. Eligible hospitals are those with:

- A Medicare disproportionate payment percentage of 20.2% or greater.
- Average uncompensated care per bed of \$25,000 or more. For example, a hospital with 100 beds would need to provide \$2.5 million in uncompensated care in a year.
- Profitability of 3% or less, as reported to the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services in the most-recently filed cost report.

Medicaid and CHIP providers – HHS expects to distribute approximately \$15 billion to eligible providers that participate in state Medicaid and CHIP programs and have not received a payment from the provider relief fund general distribution. An enhanced provider relief fund payment portal allows eligible Medicaid and CHIP providers to report annual patient revenue, to be used as a factor in determining payments. The payment to each provider will be at least 2% of reported gross revenue from patient care; the final amount each provider receives will be determined after the data is submitted, including information about the number of Medicaid patients served.

The initial general distribution provided payments to approximately 62% of providers participating in state Medicaid and CHIP programs. The Medicaid- and CHIP-targeted distribution will make the Provider Relief Fund available to the remaining 38%. HHS has already provided relief funding to more than 1 million providers, and today's announcement is expected to reach several hundred thousand more providers.

Clinicians who participate in state Medicaid and CHIP programs and/or Medicaid and CHIP managed-care organizations and have not yet received general distribution funding may submit their annual patient revenue information to the enhanced provider relief fund portal to receive a distribution equal to at least 2% of reported gross revenues from patient care. This funding will supply relief to Medicaid and CHIP providers experiencing lost revenues or increased expenses because of COVID-19. Examples of providers serving Medicaid/CHIP beneficiaries possibly eligible for this funding include pediatricians, obstetrician-gynecologists, dentists, opioid treatment and behavioral health providers, assisted-living facilities, and other home- and community-based services providers.

To be eligible for this funding, health care providers must not have received payments from the \$50 billion provider relief fund general distribution and either have directly billed their state Medicaid/CHIP programs or Medicaid managed-care plans for

health care-related services between Jan. 1, 2018 and May 31, 2020.

More information about eligibility and the application process is available [here](#).

Additional data needed for funds distribution – To inform how these funds are distributed, HHS is asking each hospital with a Medicare tax identification number to provide its total number of COVID-19 positive inpatient admissions from Jan. 1 through June 10. **Submissions must be made by 8 p.m. Monday, June 15.** [FAQs](#) (beginning on page 26) answer a number of questions about the funding, including how it differs from the initial distribution, whether hospitals can apply for funding if an application was submitted for the first round of funding and whether emergency department admissions count as positive inpatient admissions. This information must be provided through the TeleTracking authentication portal. Hospital systems with more than one facility under a common tax identification number must report the number of admissions per facility.

Med/surg and ICU bed reserve requirement reduced

Gov. Kim Reynolds today updated the nonessential or elective surgeries and procedures order to reduce the percentage of medical-surgical and intensive care unit beds a hospital must reserve for COVID-19 patients from 30% to 10%.

CEO update call

The next CEO update call is scheduled from **1-2 pm Wednesday, June 17**. Register [here](#).

Free webinar opportunities

- 10:30-11 am Thursday, June 11, **Joint Commission Update: Surveys in the Age of COVID**. The Joint Commission recently resumed its surveys with conditions in place. Gail Weinberger, director of The Joint Commission's Stakeholder Relations, Accreditation and Certification Operations, will provide the latest updates on the survey process. Register [here](#).
- 8:30-9:30 am Tuesday, June 16, **Coding, Documentation and Compliance Issues for COVID-19 Services**. Presented by Healthcare Coding and Consulting Services, this webinar will discuss COVID-19 coding, documentation and compliance issues, including appropriate telehealth coding and revenue recovery from Medicare's waiver of cost sharing for testing. Register [here](#).
- 2-3 pm Tuesday, June 23, **Cultivating Good Health Through Personal Vitality Series**. We are living in a time in which good health is defined as much by our resiliency and vitality as it is by physical measurements. This webinar focuses on living a vibrant life, even when dealing with anxiety, depression, pain or stress. Register [here](#).

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