

IHA COVID Resources and Advocacy

May 5, 2020

The latest about COVID-19 from IHA

SBA updates paycheck protection program FAQ

Yesterday, the US Small Business Administration (SBA), in consultation with the US Department of the Treasury, released an updated [FAQ](#) that clarifies that public hospitals are eligible for the Paycheck Protection Program and do not need to have a 501(c)(3) designation.

Last week, the SBA's general counsel said that nonprofit organizations are not eligible for the program unless they have a 501(c)(3) designation. This rendered nearly all public hospitals ineligible.

But in response to question 42 of the FAQ, the SBA confirmed that any nonprofit hospital that is exempt from taxation under section 115 of the Internal Revenue Code is a "nonprofit organization" for the purposes of the CARES Act and is eligible for the program. Section 115 explains that gross income does not include "income derived from ... any essential governmental function and accruing to a State or any political subdivision thereof" or "income accruing to the government of any possession of the United States, or any political subdivision thereof." County and municipal hospitals perform essential government functions and those functions benefit counties and municipalities, which are political subdivisions of states. Thus, county and municipal hospitals are considered nonprofit organizations for the purposes of the CARES Act and the Paycheck Protection Program.

According to the FAQ, nonprofit organizations exempt under section 115 will be eligible if they can reasonably determine they are an organization described in section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code. Such organizations must keep records of this and will need it for the Paycheck Protection Program application. Such organizations need not account for the any of the conditions in section 501(r) when determining whether section 501(c)(3) describes their organization. IHA recommends that public hospitals reach out to their outside counsel or a CPA to obtain written confirmation that they are organizations described in section 501(c)(3).

Massachusetts General e-newsletter provides clinical COVID-19 updates

Mass General FLARE (Fast Literature Assessment and Review) is a collaborative e-newsletter by physicians in the medical center's Pulmonary and Critical Care Division and the Department of Medicine. The daily newsletter appraises the rapidly evolving literature on SARS-CoV-2 with a focus on critical care issues. Recent newsletter topics include:

- Stem cells and COVID-19.
- Superinfection in COVID-19.
- Surfactant and COVID-19.
- The interplay between diabetes and SARS-CoV-2.

Sign up to receive FLARE [here](#).

CEO update call

The next hospital CEO call is scheduled from 1-2 pm Wednesday, May 6. Click [here](#) to register.

Free webinar opportunities

- 1-2 pm Tuesday, May 5, **Mobilizing Telehealth During the COVID-19 Pandemic**. Presented by the Sepsis Alliance, this webinar will discuss telehealth with a team of physicians. Learn how to implement telemedicine at your organization and identify strategies for using telehealth to assess and care for patients with COVID-19 and other conditions that put them at risk for sepsis. Register [here](#).
- 10-11 am Wednesday, May 6, **Telehealth – During and After COVID-19**. This program is an overview of technological, legal, regulatory and liability aspects of telehealth in the context of the COVID-19 emergency. Updated with new regulatory information specific to the COVID-19 emergency declaration, this session is a general introduction to telehealth. It reviews technical, legal, ethical, regulatory and liability implications. It discusses platforms, consent, standards of care, security and documentation requirements and gives some approaches to evolving best practices. Register [here](#).
- Noon-1 pm Wednesday, May 6, **Inspiration Speakers Series: AmyK, Leading and Communicating in Turbulent Times**. A former executive of a billion-dollar global consumer products company and an award-winning international speaker, AmyK is a catalyst for producing sustainable solutions to a leader's most-pressing challenges. More than 50,000 executives in more than 10 countries have benefited from her keen insight and intuitive understanding of the issues leaders face. Register [here](#).
- 2-3 pm Wednesday, May 6, **Finding Meaning and Wellness During the Pandemic**. This webinar reviews the landscape of burnout that already affects physicians. The speaker will look at the unique challenges of COVID-19 and its impact on all health care staff. Participants will gain access to a toolkit developed specifically to deal with the COVID-19 pandemic. Register [here](#).
- 10-11 am Thursday, May 7, **COVID-19 Response Mobile Communication Apps**. During the webinar, Mobile Smith will share information about mobile apps designed to support hospitals and health systems in their responses to COVID-19. Register [here](#).
- Noon-1 pm Tuesday, May 12, **Planning for the Future With COVID-19**. Emergency plans tend to focus on events that might last 24-72 hours, not the months-long situation we have faced with COVID-19. This most-recent opportunity to use emergency plans has likely created some needs to improvise solutions. This webinar will help capture early lessons and provide a framework for shaping the future. Register [here](#).
- Noon-1 pm Wednesday, May 12, **Inspiration Speakers Series: Dr. Celina Peerman**. Dr. Peerman is an organizational behavior specialist with more than 25 years of experience from front-line to senior-level positions in a range of industries and organizations. She is passionate about engaging our human resources in new ways to achieve better organizational results. Register [here](#).

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