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*Wednesday, Sept. 1, 2021*

### **HRSA releases fact sheet about provider relief fund uses for personnel costs**

The Health Resources and Services Administration has released a [fact sheet](#) outlining the various personnel-related costs that can be covered by provider relief fund dollars. Specifically, it says provider relief fund “payments can be used for a wide variety of direct and indirect costs of recruiting and retaining personnel during the pandemic.”

The fact sheet provides many examples of acceptable costs:

- Child care assistance.
- Incentive pay.
- Overtime pay.
- Retention and hiring bonuses.
- Salaries for new or temporary staff.
- Temporary housing.

The fact sheet also says allowable uses “for personnel costs are broad and flexible” and apply to many types of personnel, including not only physicians and nurses, but also respiratory therapists and lab technicians.

### **Reminder: Provider relief fund reporting deadlines**

In July, the Health Resources and Services Administration opened the provider relief fund reporting portal for providers to begin reporting to the government whether they used federal emergency relief funds for health care-related expenses or lost revenues attributable to COVID-19.

Providers that received payments from April 10, 2020, through June 30, 2020, have until Sept. 30, 2021, to submit the required information. Hospitals and other health care providers that received money after June 30, 2020, will need to report about the use of the funds at later dates as outlined in the [June 11 update on provider relief fund requirements](#). Click [HERE](#) for more information.

### **IDPH releases updated vaccine information**

The Iowa Department of Public Health recently posted updated COVID-19 vaccine information briefs (8.27.21 and 8.31.21) to their web page, under the [COVID-19 Vaccine Information for Providers link](#). Health care provider questions about COVID-19 vaccine can be directed to the COVID-19 Vaccine Call Center at 800-831-6293, ext. 1, or emailed to [COVID19Vaccine@idph.iowa.gov](mailto:COVID19Vaccine@idph.iowa.gov).

### Educational opportunity

- [A Path Forward: Thriving in Rural Health Care After COVID-19](#), 11 am-Noon, Thursday, Sept. 16. Tying community engagement to diversity and health equity, this webinar explores true stories of the amazing resiliency of rural communities amid the formidable challenges of a pandemic.

A banner with a background of colorful, abstract shapes. On the left, the text "Click here for the latest COVID-19 Resources" is displayed in bold black font. On the right, the Iowa Hospital Association logo is shown, featuring a stylized 'H' with red and white stripes, and the text "IOWA HOSPITAL ASSOCIATION" and "We care about Iowa's health" below it.

Click here for the latest  
**COVID-19**  
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