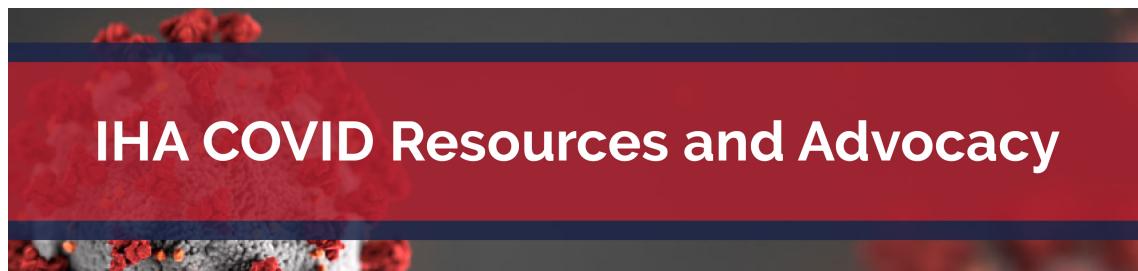


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Wednesday, Sept. 29, 2021

HRSA portal open to apply for phase four COVID-19 relief funds

The Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) has opened their online portal for health care providers to apply for funding from the provider relief fund phase four and American Rescue Plan rural distribution. Eligible health care providers can apply for \$25.5 billion in relief funds, including \$8.5 billion in rescue plan resources for providers who serve rural patients covered by Medicare, Medicaid or the Children's Health Insurance Program and \$17 billion for provider relief phase four funding for a range of providers with changes in operating revenues and expenses.

Providers must submit their completed applications by 10:59 pm Tuesday, Oct. 26. To expedite the application process and minimize administrative burdens, providers can apply for both programs in a single application. More information about the application portal, eligibility for provider relief funds and the methodologies can be found [HERE](#).

HRSA will host webinar sessions for phase four and American Rescue Plan rural applicants. The sessions will feature guidance about how to navigate the application portal.

Sessions:

- 2-3 pm Sept. 30, [register to attend](#).
- 2-3 pm Oct. 5, [register to attend](#).
- 2-3 pm Oct. 13, [register to attend](#).

HRSA also has published [detailed information](#) about how the phase three payments were calculated. Providers that believe their phase three payments were not calculated correctly according to this methodology can [submit the completed form online](#) by 10:59 pm Friday, Nov. 12. Applicants are encouraged to apply early to facilitate review and expedite revised payments made because of the reconsideration process.

IDPH establishes COVID-19 therapeutics call center, updates vaccine information brief with Pfizer booster recommendations

The Iowa Department of Public Health is now offering a call center for COVID-19

The Iowa Department of Public Health is now offering a call center for COVID-19 monoclonal antibodies communication. The intended audience for this call center is health care and monoclonal antibody treatment providers. Communication topics to send to the call center include:

- Allocation distribution and redistribution.
- Locating treatment sites in Iowa.
- Monoclonal antibody ordering and criteria eligibility.
- Additional resources (also found on the IDPH webpage).

Email the call center at C19Therapeutics@idph.iowa.gov or call 515-281-7317. IDPH also has updated their [COVID-19 vaccine information brief](#) to include important information about Pfizer's COVID-19 vaccine booster dose recommendations. The document also is posted to the HAN *3 COVID-19 vaccine folder. Call the COVID-19 Vaccine Call Center with questions at 800-831-6293, ext.1.

IDPH schedules monoclonal antibody treatments webinar

The Iowa Department of Public Health will host a webinar from 11 am-Noon Friday, Oct. 1, to review the allocation cadence of monoclonal antibody treatments to Iowa providers. Panelists also will review next steps to identify areas for patient prioritization. [Registration](#) is required to attend the webinar.

If you have questions to submit ahead of the webinar, please email them to C19Therapeutics@idph.iowa.gov.

DHS and IME release information about the COVID-19 mRNA vaccine third dose

The Iowa Department of Human Services (DHS) and Iowa Medicaid Enterprise (IME) have provided information about the third dose of the COVID-19 mRNA vaccine after an initial two-dose primary series of mRNA COVID-19 vaccine for certain immunocompromised patients. Specifically, the new information addresses billing and coding for administration fees. Click [HERE](#) to learn more.

CDC releases COVID-19 vaccination information for expectant mothers

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) is recommending urgent action to increase COVID-19 vaccination rates among people who are pregnant (including those who are lactating), trying to become pregnant or might become pregnant in the future. The CDC strongly recommends COVID-19 vaccination either before or during pregnancy because the benefits of vaccination outweigh known or potential risks. Click [HERE](#) to read more.

Educational opportunity

[Making Your HVAC Systems Pandemic Ready with Needlepoint Bipolar Ionization](#), 1:30-2:30 pm, Tuesday, Oct. 26. Needlepoint bipolar ionization reduces particles, kills mold and bacteria, and inactivates viruses. The system is also very effective at coil cleaning and odor/VOC mitigation by dissociating the compound into its component



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