

CARES Act Provider Relief Fund: Action Required

Dear valued provider:

Thank you for your tireless efforts during this critical time. President Trump is providing support to healthcare providers fighting the COVID-19 pandemic. The President signed the bipartisan CARES legislation that provides \$100 billion in relief funds to hospitals and other healthcare providers on the front lines of the coronavirus response. Recognizing the importance of delivering funds in a fast and transparent manner, the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) is distributing \$30 billion of the relief funds immediately. **These are payments to healthcare providers, not loans, and will not need to be repaid.**

Who is eligible for funds from the initial \$30 billion?

Billing entities who received Medicare fee-for-service (FFS) reimbursements in 2019 are eligible for this initial rapid distribution. **Your organization qualifies and you will automatically receive payment soon.**

How are payment amounts determined?

Providers will receive a portion of the initial \$30 billion distribution based on their share of total Medicare FFS reimbursements in 2019. Providers can obtain their 2019 Medicare FFS billings from their organization's revenue management system.

How will payments be distributed?

HHS is partnering with UnitedHealth Group to deliver funds. You will receive payment within two weeks via Automated Clearing House (ACH). The automatic payments will come via Optum Bank with "HHSPAYMENT" as the payment description. Payments to practices that are part of larger medical groups will be sent to the group's central billing office. All relief payments are made to provider billing organizations based on their Taxpayer Identification Numbers (TINs).

What action should I take?

Within 30 days of receiving the payment, **you must sign an attestation** confirming receipt of the funds and agreeing to the terms and conditions of payment. Terms and conditions can be found on hhs.gov/providerrelief. The CARES Provider Relief Payment Portal for signing the attestation will be open the week of April 13, 2020, and will be linked from hhs.gov/providerrelief.

Whom can I contact for more information?

For additional information, please visit hhs.gov/providerrelief or call the CARES Provider Relief line at (866) 569-3522.

Thank you for all you are doing to support and protect the American people during this difficult time.

Eric D. Hargan
Deputy Secretary
United States Department of Health and Human Services