



LHA COVID-19 ALERT



LHA COVID-19 Alert: April 10, 2020

HHS Begins Immediate Distribution of \$30 Billion of CARES Act Provider Relief Funding

Today, the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) [announced](#) that it is beginning the delivery of the initial \$30 billion in relief funding to providers in support of the national response to COVID-19 as part of the distribution of the \$100 billion provider relief fund provided for in the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act. According to HHS, the initial broad-based distribution of the relief funds will go to hospitals and providers that are enrolled in Medicare. Facilities and providers are allotted a portion of the \$30 billion based on their share of 2019 Medicare fee-for-service (FFS) reimbursements. These are payments, not loans, to healthcare providers, and will not need to be repaid. **Review HHS' [Relief Fund Payment Terms and Conditions document](#) for more details.**

According to a [distribution summary](#) released by the U.S. Committee on Ways and Means, 4,944 providers and systems in Louisiana will receive approximately \$474 million.

HHS is partnering with UnitedHealth Group (UHG) to deliver the initial \$30 billion. Providers will be paid via Automated Clearing House account information on file with UHG, UnitedHealthcare, or Optum Bank, or used for reimbursements from the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS). Providers that normally receive a paper check for reimbursement from CMS will receive a paper check in the mail for this payment as well, within the next few weeks.

Within 30 days of receiving the payment, providers must sign an attestation confirming receipt of the funds and agreeing to the terms and conditions of payment. The portal for signing the attestation will be open the week of April 13, 2020 and will be linked from <https://www.hhs.gov/provider-relief/index.html>.

HHS and the Administration are working rapidly on additional targeted funding distributions “that will focus on providers in areas particularly impacted by the COVID-19 outbreak, rural providers, and providers of services with lower shares of Medicare FFS reimbursement or who predominantly serve the Medicaid population. This supplemental funding will also be used to reimburse providers for COVID-19 care for uninsured Americans.”

Visit www.hhs.gov/provider-relief/index.html for additional information.

This and other local, state and national hospital-specific resources and guidance from trusted sources can be found on the LHA's COVID-19 [webpage](#).

Note: This Alert is being distributed to LHA hospital **member CEOs and CFOs** in the LHA database.