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## APG COVID-19 MEMBER UPDATE



# APG COVID-19 Urgent Alert April 22, 2020

## Additional Allocations of Provider Relief Funds Announced

Earlier today, the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) [announced](#) its newest allocation of funds from the Public Health and Social Services Emergency Fund (PHSSEF) for healthcare providers to provide reimbursement for COVID-19 related expenses and lost revenue from the pandemic. **Four separate allocations of direct interest for our members will be distributed as described below:**

### **1. General Allocations**

- \$20 billion will be distributed to facilities and providers impacted by COVID-19, based on eligible providers' 2018 net patient revenue from all payor sources.
- A portion of providers will automatically be sent an advanced payment based off the revenue data they submit in Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) cost reports
  - These providers will still need to submit their 2018 net patient revenue information through a [portal](#) opening this week so that it may be verified

- **Other providers (like practices) without cost report data on file will need to submit their 2018 net patient revenue information to the [portal](#)**
- Payments will go out weekly on a rolling basis with the first wave being delivered Friday, April 24
- Providers who receive funds must also sign an [attestation](#) confirming receipt of funds, agree to the terms and conditions of payment, and confirm the CMS cost report
- Surprise billing for presumptive and actual patients that is greater than what the patient would have otherwise been required to pay if the care had been provided by an in-network provider is prohibited

## **2. Targeted Allocations**

- \$10 billion will be distributed for targeted distribution to hospitals and providers in hot spots that have been particularly impacted by the COVID-19 outbreak. Initially, the fund was for just hospitals but through APG advocacy efforts practices will now be able to access a portion of this fund
- Hospitals should apply for a portion of the funds by providing the following four pieces of information via the live [authentication portal](#) **before 12:00 am PDT, Thursday April 23** so that HHS can better informed where to target funds:
  - Tax Identification Number
  - National Provider Identifier
  - Total number of Intensive Care Unit beds as of April 10, 2020
  - Total number of admissions with a positive diagnosis for COVID-19 from January 1, 2020 to April 10, 2020
- Hospitals have already been contacted directly to provide this information

APG is currently working with HHS to obtain more information on what practices must submit in order to received funds from the targeted allocations. Stay tuned for more info.

## **3. Allocation for Rural Providers**

- \$10 billion will be allocated for rural health clinics and facilities

- Funds will be distributed as early as next week on the basis of operating expenses, proportionately to each facility and clinic

APG is awaiting further details on how these funds will be allocated.

#### ***4. Allocation for Care for the Uninsured***

- Providers who have provided treatment for uninsured COVID-19 patients on or after February 4, 2020 can request claims reimbursement and will be reimbursed at Medicare rates, subject to available funding
- In order to receive funds, providers must follow the steps below:
  - Enroll as a provider participant
  - Checking patient eligibility and benefits
  - Submit patient information
  - Submit claims
  - Receive payment via direct deposit
- Providers may [register](#) for the program on April 27, 2020 and begin submitting claims in early May 2020. Due to the limitation on these funds, we would recommend that you submit ASAP.

APG will continue to advocate for the adequate and complete funding for providers throughout this process and keep you up to date as the COVID-19 pandemic continues to unfold. Please [email us](#) with any questions.

We are here to serve as a resource for you. Please don't hesitate to contact me [here](#) with any questions you may have or any situations within your practice that you want me to be aware of.

You can find more resources on our [COVID-19 web page](#). As always, please know that we are in constant contact with federal and agency officials and will share any additional news with you as soon as possible.

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