

COVID-19: What we know today

HHS announces Medicaid-only Provider Relief Fund tranche.

Medicaid-only providers are officially in line for funding from the Provider Relief Fund under the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act. According to [a news release](#) (linked below) from the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS), the agency will open a portal on 6/10/20 through which Medicaid providers can apply for a portion of the \$15 billion that HHS set aside for them. (As of 2:30 pm it was not yet in evidence on their website.) HHS does not list all Medicaid-only providers who can participate. Instead, they are defined simply by having billed Medicaid or Medicaid managed care between January 1, 2018, and May 31, 2020, and not receiving a payment under the General Distribution. Those payments were limited to Medicare providers. HHS provides some non-exclusive examples of providers who will receive payments; although not specifically listed, ICFs/IID clearly meet the general definition of Medicaid-only providers.

HHS indicates they will use the portal to gather information needed to make payments to eligible providers. HHS suggests the payments will be at least 2% of each provider's annual patient revenue, but leaves room for adjustments to that formula. The release does not specify how long after a provider enters data into the portal their payment will be made.

<https://www.hhs.gov/about/news/2020/06/09/hhs-announces-enhanced-provider-portal-relief-fund-payments-for-safety-net-hospitals-medicare-chip-providers.html>

DODD Updated Guidance for Onboarding DSPs

Previous guidance issued by the Ohio Department of Developmental Disabilities (DODD), in response to the coronavirus (COVID-19), from March 31 allowed for the relaxation of many requirements regarding the onboarding and training of Direct Support Professionals (DSPs) through June 1. This included the allowance of a condensed training for new DSPs (the condensed training referenced in the Resources for Onboarding DSPs guidance is acceptable); online CPR/First Aid certification; and the ability for a provider to employ an applicant while having 10 calendar days to initiate the BCII and/or FBI criminal record check. These accommodations will continue to be in place until further notice.

DODD Fiscal Year-End to Delay Provider Payment

Please note that as the Fiscal Year ends and another one begins, there will be a delay in DODD payments. There will be no payments made to providers or county boards the week of June 28 - to July 4, 2020, due to fiscal end of year processing.

The JUN20D bill cycle payment that would normally be paid out on Thursday, July 2, will be delayed and it will be paid out in the following week. Barring any unforeseen circumstances, the JUN20d bill cycle payment will be made prior to the next scheduled pay out for JUL20A payments on July 9, 2020.

PPP Flexibility Act Signed Into Law

On Friday, June 5, President Trump signed the 'PPPFA' a bill modifying aspects of the Paycheck Protection Program, relaxing several of the factors impacting how the loan is forgiven.

Provisions include extended loan time-frames, a decrease in the amount of funds needed to be

spent on payroll, and a safe harbor for based on employee availability. An analysis of the bill's provisions can be found here: <https://www.vorys.com/publications-2679.html>