

## **CARES Act Provider Relief Fund**

The Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) has announced that monies from the Provider Relief Fund have begun to flow. These funds were part of the CARES Act, signed into law on March 27, 2020, and are intended to provide immediate financial relief to physicians and hospitals who are on the front lines treating Covid-19 patients. This funding will be used to support healthcare-related expenses or lost revenue attributable to COVID-19 and to ensure uninsured Americans can get testing and treatment for COVID-19. For additional details on the funding and eligibility, please visit the [Provider Relief Fund webpage](#). The funds have been allocated as follows:

- \$50 billion general allocation to Medicare facilities: Funds received will be based on eligible providers' 2018 net patient revenue, automatically distributed based on cost reports. Those without cost report data can use the new [Attestation Portal](#) established for this purpose. Eligibility for a portion of these funds is contingent on having received Medicare reimbursements in 2019.
- \$10 billion allocation to Covid-19 hotspots such as New York: Funds from this allocation are being made available to hospitals, and there are several submission requirements to obtain funds.
- An unspecified portion will be allocated for the treatment of individuals who are uninsured: This will provide reimbursement to physicians and health care providers at Medicare rates for Covid-19 related treatment of individuals who are uninsured. Every health care provider who has provided treatment for uninsured COVID-19 patients on or after February 4, 2020, can request claims reimbursement through the program and will be reimbursed at Medicare rates, subject to available funding. Physicians can find out more information, and register for the program [here](#) starting April 27. Claims can be submitted starting in May of 2020.
- \$10 billion for rural providers: These funds will go to rural health clinics and hospitals who often run on very thin financial margins.
- \$400 million to the Indian Health Service.
- Additional Allocations: These funds will be provided to other health care facilities and providers such as skilled nursing facilities, dentists, and providers who solely take Medicaid.

This information will be updated as AACAP learns more about the funding being made available to physicians and healthcare facilities.