



HHS Announces Additional Distributions from the Provider Relief Fund

On June 9, 2020, the Department of Health and Human Services announced additional distributions (\$25 billion) from the Provider Relief Fund to eligible Medicaid and Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP) providers that participate in state Medicaid and CHIP programs, as well as relief fund payments for safety net hospitals. The announcement also includes an enhanced Provider Relief Fund Payment Portal that will allow eligible Medicaid and CHIP providers to report their annual patient revenue, which will be used as a factor in determining their Provider Relief Fund payment.

The \$25 Billion in additional distributions is allocated as follows:

- \$15 billion to eligible providers that participate in state Medicaid and CHIP programs and have **NOT** received a payment from the Provider Relief Fund General Allocation.

Clinicians may submit their annual patient revenue information to the enhanced Provider Relief Fund Portal to receive a distribution equal to at least 2 percent of reported gross revenues from patient care.

To be eligible for this funding, health care providers must not have received payments from the \$50 billion Provider Relief Fund General Distribution and either have directly billed their state Medicaid/CHIP programs or Medicaid managed care plans for healthcare-related services between January 1, 2018, to May 31, 2020.

- \$10 billion in Provider Relief Funds to safety net hospitals. This payment is going to hospitals that serve a disproportionate number of Medicaid patients or provide large amounts of uncompensated care.

According to ACEP, **most Emergency Physicians will NOT qualify for these funds due to the stipulation that you cannot have received any funding thus far from the Provider Relief Fund.** ACEP fundamentally disagrees with HHS' decision to exclude emergency physicians from this targeted distribution, and they will continue to push HHS for more funding for emergency physicians. ACEP is also pursuing a concurrent legislative strategy asking for additional support for emergency physicians.

Gottlieb will continue to keep you updated on these ever-changing issues.