

We, at Change Healthcare, EMS Billing Division, want to express our sincere thanks and appreciation to you, our clients, for all the hard work you are putting in on the frontlines at this time of national crisis. The Federal government has moved to put some funds in your accounts to assist with expenses or loss of revenue that you may be experiencing. These funds are being distributed as part of the CARES Act Provider Relief Fund.

When Will We Receive the Funds?

UHG on behalf of Health and Human Services began dispersing these funds to providers on Friday, April 10. If your agency receives Medicare payments via electronic funds transfer, the monies should be deposited into the account that receives those funds. They will be labeled as HHS Stimulus or HHS Payment. If your agency still receives payments by paper check, a paper check should arrive in the mail.

How Much Will We Receive?

HHS has determined the amount based on the amount of Medicare FFS (fee for service) payments that you received in 2019. The amounts are based on TIN (tax identification number) so if your county has a health department that bills under the same TIN as EMS, the monies could include payments for them as well.

How Can the Funds Be Used?

HHS has applied some stipulations to accepting the money. Primarily, you would agree to not balance bill any patient that is positive for COVID-19 any amounts in excess of what insurance pays. The monies also must *“be used to prevent, prepare for, and respond to coronavirus”*. If the agency receives more than \$150,000, they will be required to submit a report at the end of the quarter detailing how the funds were used. You should read the full

terms and conditions found at

<https://www.hhs.gov/sites/default/files/relief-fund-payment-terms-and-conditions-04132020.pdf>.

What Do We Need to Do?

Per the website <https://www.hhs.gov/provider-relief/index.html>, you are required to sign an attestation upon receipt of these funds. The portal for signing the attestation is supposed to open the week of April 13. Additionally the website states, *“HHS' payment of this initial tranche of funds is conditioned on the healthcare provider's acceptance of the Terms and Conditions - PDF, which acceptance must occur within 30 days of receipt of payment. Not returning the payment within 30 days of receipt will be viewed as acceptance of the Terms and Conditions. If a provider receives payment and does not wish to comply with these Terms and Conditions, the provider must do the following: contact HHS within 30 days of receipt of payment and then remit the full payment to HHS as instructed.”*

If you choose to keep the funds, please let your client manager know. CHC will put in place a mechanism to track transports that are Covid-19 related so that these patients do not receive any balance billing. If you choose not to keep the funds, you will need to send them back within the 30 days.