



Relief payments under the CARES Act begin today for ambulance services



Ambulance service suppliers will begin seeing their portion of \$30 billion under the CARES Act today. This represents only part of the \$100 billion in total that is available under the Act, the remaining \$70 billion to be distributed at a later time.

These funds will come to you in the same manner as other Medicare funds, either by check or direct deposit with the note "US HHS Stimulus".

You can verify that your payment is correct by dividing your 2019 traditional Medicare payments by \$484,000,000,000, and then multiplying that number by \$30,000,000,000.

For example: If you received \$1,000,000 in Medicare reimbursement in 2019, your payment should be $1,000,000 / 484,000,000 \times 30,000,000 = \$61,983.47$

This money is NOT a loan and is completely separate from other available relief including the Medicare advance payment program and the small business loan program. However, while this money does not have to be repaid, there are some requirements that you have to follow if you are a recipient of these funds.

First, you have to accept the terms and conditions listed [here](#). You should also be receiving an email from HHS that outlines the distribution of these funds

and the action you must take if you wish to keep them.

Some of these terms and conditions include:

- The funds must be used only for COVID-19 related expenses or losses
- If you receive more than \$150,000 in relief, you must file quarterly reports that outline how the funds were expended
- You will not seek to collect from any possible or actual COVID-19 patient an amount greater than what the patient would have been required to pay if they had been in-network (this applies to all patients- not just Medicare/Medicaid)

Opportunities to Help You Survive This Crisis

We are hearing from clients across the country that COVID-19 is in fact creating losses for ambulance services, specifically losses caused by reduced transport volumes. We are actively working with CMS and other agencies to create alternative revenue streams for EMS, including payment for treatment in place and telehealth related services. While this stimulus money is a welcomed and much-needed boost for ambulance services, it will only help to cover part of the excess expenses and reimbursement losses caused by COVID-19. PWW will continue to advocate for other payment models and a fair distribution of the remaining \$70 billion available under the CARES Act.