

# **Provider update**

# Applications for COVID-19 provider relief funds

Starting September 29, 2021, healthcare providers will be able to apply for \$25.5 billion in relief funds, including \$8.5 billion in American Rescue Plan (ARP) resources for providers who serve rural patients, and \$17 billion for Provider Relief Fund (PRF) Phase 4 for a broad range of providers who can document revenue loss and expenses associated with the pandemic.

Funds are available to a wide variety of providers including nursing homes, home health agencies, and assisted living facilities.

## What is the Provider Relief Fund?

Oualified providers of healthcare, services, and support may receive Provider Relief Fund payments for healthcare-related expenses or lost revenues due to coronavirus. These distributions do not need to be repaid to the U.S. government, assuming providers comply with the terms and conditions.

### What is ARP Rural?

ARP Rural is intended to help address the disproportionate impact that COVID-19 has had on rural communities and rural healthcare providers, and funding will be available to providers who serve patients in these communities. ARP Rural payments are administered jointly with the Provider Relief Fund, and eligible rural providers have the opportunity to be simultaneously considered for both Provider Relief Fund Phase 4 and ARP Rural payments.

#### How do I apply?

In order to streamline the application process and minimize administrative burdens, you can apply for both programs in a single application and the Health Resources & Services Administration (HRSA) will use existing Medicaid/CHIP and Medicare claims data in calculating portions of these payments.

For more specific details on the programs and the application process, go to the HRSA website at https://www.hrsa.gov/provider-relief/future-payments.