

Reimbursement for Emergency Expenses

Department of Human Services (DHS) Expedited Reimbursement for Nursing Facilities for COVID-19 COSTS

- Expedited reimbursement for costs related to COVID-19 MN is available to licensed Medicaid nursing facility (NF) providers for incremental increases in costs for staffing (e.g. hazard pay), PPE, and other necessary supplies.
- Information was sent to all MN Medicaid enrolled nursing facility providers in March 25 and March 31 emails.
- Online recording of DHS COVID-19 expedited reimbursement webinar for NF providers: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=OO_fHyNUTJk
- Application (COVID Form A-EZ) to request reimbursement and COVID FAQ document available online: <https://nfportal.dhs.state.mn.us/PortalLogin.aspx?ReturnUrl=%2f>
- Generally limited to one reimbursement application form submission per facility per month; invoices must be included with the provider's reimbursement request to DHS.
- Questions after reviewing the March emails, COVID FAQ document, Form A-EZ instructions and the YouTube webinar? Email DHS.NFRP.CostReport@state.mn.us

DHS COVID-19 Communicative Technology Grants for Virtual Social and Telehealth Visits

- Medicaid-certified nursing facilities are eligible to receive up to \$3,000 in Civil Money Penalty (CMP) funds to purchase communication technology. This technology is intended to enable residents to conduct "virtual" visits with family and friends and to participate in telehealth visits. This program was initiated in response to the restrictions placed on visitors to nursing homes, in order to prevent the spread of COVID-19.
- These funds may be used by nursing facilities to purchase tablets, iPads, and similar devices, as well as some types of accessories.
- Additional information about the grant is available in the [Frequently Asked Questions document \(PDF\)](#) prepared by CMS and the [Minnesota-Specific Instructions \(PDF\)](#).
- Qualified Minnesota nursing facilities that are interested in participating in this grant opportunity are asked to read the Minnesota-Specific Instructions and submit a completed [CMP COVID-19 Communicative Technology Application \(PDF\)](#) via email to DHS at: DHS.NFRP.CostReport@state.mn.us.
- Applications will be reviewed to verify they are complete and requests fall within the parameters established by CMS. Successful applicants will receive an approval letter from DHS with further instructions.
- Information on this funding opportunity and how to apply is online: <https://mn.gov/dhs/partners-and-providers/news-initiatives-reports-workgroups/nursing-homes/>

On the page, go to “Initiatives,” then click to expand the link entitled “Civil Monetary Penalty (CMP) Initiatives” to view the posting. The listing is mid-page, once you expand the link.

- For technical assistance with your application or questions regarding this funding opportunity or the MN CMP Program, please [contact DHS staff liaison](#).

Minnesota Department of Health COVID-19 Health Care Response Grant

- Total \$150 million for healthcare response expenses
- Rolling program
- Highly competitive
- Applications available at:
<https://www.health.state.mn.us/facilities/ruralhealth/funding/grants/covidlong.html>
- May be best for programmatic changes or longer term staffing and site expenses

FEMA Public Assistance

- Stafford Act Funds – 75% Federal and 25% State costshare
- Must be eligible non-profit (including healthcare entity) or public entity
- Homeland Security and Emergency Management (HSEM) will hold information sessions in early May
- Emergency expenses could be related to staffing, also pays for State-level actions such as National Guard activation, resource purchases, etc.
- More information on COVID-19 at: <https://www.fema.gov/public-assistance-policy-and-guidance>

CARES Act Provider Relief Fund

- From the federal government \$30 billion has been distributed to Medicare providers this month. \$26 billion of this was delivered to providers bank accounts on April 10, 2020. The remaining \$4 billion of the expedited \$30 billion distribution was sent on April 17.
- There was no application process for this; nearly all Medicare enrolled nursing facilities were eligible. Almost all nursing facilities in MN are Medicare providers and received these funds in April.
- The CARES Act Provider Relief Fund provides grants, not loans, so they do not need to be repaid.
- More details are available online: <https://www.hhs.gov/provider-relief/index.html>

Federal Provider Relief Fund Program

- Details are available online: <https://www.hhs.gov/sites/default/files/20200425-general-distribution-portal-faqs.pdf>

Economic Injury Disaster Loan

- Low interest loan with portions that may not need to be repaid.
- More information online: <https://www.msn.com/en-us/money/smallbusiness/ppp-loans-vs-eidl-which-is-right-for-your-small-business/ar-BB12ljg8>

Paycheck Protection Program

- Details available online: <https://home.treasury.gov/system/files/136/PPP--Fact-Sheet.pdf>

The Accelerated and Advance Payment Program

- The Accelerated and Advance Payment Program for financial hardship relief for Medicare providers during the COVID-19 pandemic.
- Link to the CMS Accelerated and Advance Payment Fact Sheet: <https://www.cms.gov/files/document/Accelerated-and-Advanced-Payments-Fact-Sheet.pdf>
- NF providers must apply via their Medicare Administrative Contractor (MAC). For most MN NF providers the MAC is National Government Services: [Accelerated Payments information](#)

Employee Retention Credit

- The refundable tax credit is 50% of up to \$10,000 in wages paid by an eligible employer whose business has been financially impacted by COVID-19.
- More information available online: [IRS: Employee Retention Credit available for many businesses financially impacted by COVID-19 | Internal Revenue Service](#)