

NHPCO COVID-19 Update – 04/22/20

NHPCO has created this update for hospice and palliative care providers to share recent news and helpful links.

"You are there for your community. NHPCO is there for you."

Policy Updates

HHS Announces Additional Allocations of CARES Act Provider Relief Fund

Today, the Department of Health and Human Services announced that additional \$20 billion in CARES Act provider relief payments to health care providers will be released at the end of this week. This \$20 billion of the general distribution will be proportional to providers' share of 2018 net patient Medicare revenue. This will bring the total grant funding from the Public Health and Social Services Emergency Fund allocated to date to \$50 billion. The CARES Act passed on March 27, 20202 and provided emergency funding to be distributed by the Administration to health care providers battling COVID-19.

In today's announcement HHS described a weekly payment process, on a rolling basis, "as the information is validated," with the first wave of the remaining \$20 billion being delivered at the end of this week (April 24, 2020). Hospice providers already received a portion of the first tranche of CARES Act money which totaled \$30 billion for all Medicare providers between April 10, 2020 when \$26 billion was deposited and April 17, 2020 when HHS deposited the remaining \$4 billion.

More information about the distribution of the funds is available on this fact sheet.

Resources

Hospice Foundation of America COVID-19 Resources

Several complimentary, on-demand courses addressing different aspects of care relating to COVID-19 have been made available by the Hospice Foundation of America. HFA is offering free CEs for a wide range of boards for all of the programs, details are available online. <u>Visit the HFA website</u> to view the list of on-demand programs.

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