

Hospice and Palliative Care Resources for the Coronavirus Disease (COVID-19)



NHPCO COVID-19 Update – 09/21/20

NHPCO has created this update for hospice and palliative care providers to share recent news and helpful links. Please note, these Updates are published when there is helpful news to share.

*"Opportunities to find deeper powers within ourselves come when life seems most challenging."
—Joseph Campbell*

Policy Update

HHS Announces Reporting Requirements for Provider Relief Funds

On September 19, 2020, [HHS announced long-awaited reporting requirements](#) for providers who have received Provider Relief Funds (PRF). Additional information is still needed for clarity. Recipients will report their use of PRF payments by submitting the following information:

1. Healthcare related expenses attributable to coronavirus that another source has not reimbursed and is not obligated to reimburse, which may include General and Administrative (G&A) or healthcare related operating expenses (further defined within the data elements section below).
2. PRF payment amounts not fully expended on healthcare related expenses attributable to coronavirus are then applied to lost revenues, represented as a negative change in year-over-year net patient care operating income (i.e., patient care revenue less patient care related expenses for the Reporting Entity, defined below, that received funding), net of the healthcare related expenses attributable to coronavirus 2 calculated under step 1.

Recipients may apply PRF payments toward lost revenue, up to the amount of their 2019 net gain from healthcare related sources. Recipients that reported negative net operating income from patient care in 2019 may apply PRF amounts to lost revenues up to a net zero gain/loss in 2020. If recipients do not expend PRF funds in full by the end of calendar year 2020, they will have an additional six months in which to use remaining amounts toward expenses attributable to coronavirus but not reimbursed by other sources, or to apply toward lost revenues in an amount not to exceed the 2019 net gain. For example, the reporting period January – June 2021 will be compared to the same period in 2019.

Data elements to be included (refer to the link for more details):

1. Demographic information
2. Expenses Attributable to Coronavirus Not Reimbursed by Other Sources (2020 only)
 - a. General and Administrative Expenses Attributable to Coronavirus
 - b. Healthcare Related Expenses Attributable to Coronavirus
3. Lost Revenues Attributable to Coronavirus
4. Additional non-financial data will also be collected (per quarter)

NHPCO continues to advocate for detailed reporting information from HHS that will enable providers to accurately report their use of the Provider Relief Funds and will hold a government funding reporting webinar when more details are released.