



Resources for Doctors

Business Loans

Economic Injury Disaster Loans

The Small Business Administration (SBA) designated COVID-19 as a qualifying event for Economic Injury Disaster Loans (EIDL). EIDL offers up to \$2M with up to a 30-year term and a flat interest rate of 3.75% or below. EIDL loans are processed on a first come first serve basis. Terms are determined on a case-by-case basis, based upon a borrower's ability to repay. SBA follows standards set by the North American Industry Classification System (NAICS) to determine small business status. EIDL loans are administered by the SBA.

- SBA COVID-19 Information: www.sba.gov/coronavirus
- EIDL Loan Applications: <https://disasterloan.sba.gov/ela/>
- SBA disaster assistance customer service center
 - Phone: 1-800-659-2955 (TTY: 1-800-877-8339)
 - E-mail: disastercustomerservice@sba.gov.

Paycheck Protection Program

Congress authorized a new Paycheck Protection Program to provide \$350 billion in 100% federally guaranteed loans for 8 weeks of assistance to small businesses.

Who is eligible for the Paycheck Protection Program?

- Small businesses and most private nonprofits with less than 500 employees;
- Sole-proprietorships;
- Independent contractors; and
- Self-employed individuals.

What are the benefits?

Entities can borrow up to 2.5 times the average monthly payroll based on last year's payroll, capped at \$10 million, with a 0.5% flat interest rate. When calculating the loan, payroll costs are capped at \$100,000 per employee and includes all wages, benefits, and taxes associated with their employment. All payments are deferred for 6 months and the loan is due within 2 years.

The Paycheck Protection Program loan is 100% forgivable if staff and payroll levels are maintained for eight weeks and at least 75% of the loan is used for payroll during that time. Entities can receive a Paycheck Protection Program loan AND an EIDL loan if they are used for different expenses. Entities should talk to their preferred SBA 7(a) financial lender, *not* the Small Business Administration in order to apply for the Payment Protection Program.



[Main Street Business Lending Program](#)

Practices with Fewer than 10,000 Employees May Qualify for the Main Street Business Lending Program. The Federal Reserve and the Department of the Treasury announced the establishment of the Main Street Business Lending Program on April 9, 2020.

Using funding from the CARES Act, Treasury will be making a \$75B equity investment to establish this program. It will enable up to \$600 billion in new financing for businesses with up to 10,000 employees or \$2.5 billion in 2019 annual revenue. Loans will have a 4-year term and payments are deferred for one year. Borrowers who have already received assistance through the SBA's PPP or EIDL programs can still access these loans.

Please check the [Federal Reserve website](#) for more information.

[\\$100 Billion Provider Relief Fund](#)

The CARES Act included \$100B for the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to deliver financial relief to providers.

[First \\$30B.](#)

The initial \$30B went live on Friday, April 10, 2020 in the form of direct payments to hospitals and other providers and is based upon each provider's share of total 2019 Medicare Fee-For-Service payments. Total 2019 Medicare Fee-For-Service payments totaled \$484B. **These are grants, not loans, so providers will not have to repay the amount they received. For more information, please visit the HHS Provider Relief Fund [webpage](#).**

What about Medicaid and Medicare Advantage? Congressman Burgess made it clear in direct conversations with HHS that the next waves must provide relief for providers that are dependent upon Medicaid and Medicare Advantage, not just Medicare Fee-For-Service. This will help hospitals, pediatricians, OB/GYNs, and others that do not rely heavily on Medicare Fee-For-Service dollars.

[How much money will you get? Here's the math.](#)

If providers want to know their exact payment, they can divide their 2019 Medicare Fee-For-Service payments by \$484B and multiply that number by \$30B.

As an example: A community hospital billed Medicare FFS \$121 million in 2019 would receive:
$$\$121,000,000 / \$484,000,000,000 \times \$30,000,000,000 = \$7,500,000$$

[HHS plans to allocate the rest of the \\$100 billion soon.](#)

According to HHS, the rest of the \$100 billion will focus on COVID-19 geographic hotspots, rural providers, and providers that rely more heavily on forms of payment other than Medicare Fee-for-Service, such as Medicaid. HHS will also reimburse providers for COVID-19 care given to uninsured patients.



Medicare Accelerated and Advance Payments

The Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services announced that Medicare participating health care providers and suppliers are eligible for accelerated and advance payments. This action will increase cash flow to Medicare participating physicians and other providers during the COVID-19 outbreak. Such payments may be helpful in making up for the payments lost due to having to cancel non-essential procedures. Eligible physicians can receive up to 100% of the Medicare payments they would have likely earned for a three-month period.

Who is eligible?

Providers and suppliers are eligible if they:

- Have billed Medicare within 180 days of requesting the payments;
- Are not bankrupt;
- Are not under active medical review or program integrity investigation; and
- Have no outstanding delinquent Medicare overpayments.

Providers can apply directly through their Medicare Administrative Contractor. For more information, please refer to the [CMS Fact Sheet](#).

Information Regarding Non-Elective Surgeries

The Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) issued [recommendations](#) regarding adult elective surgeries, non-essential medical, surgical, and dental procedures. The intention of these recommendations was to protect patients and physicians and to conserve personal protective equipment and other vital medical resources.

What qualifies as an [elective surgery](#)?

- This determination is made by individual physicians and health care organizations.
 - In general, if it is an emergency or has some urgency, meaning a condition may significantly worsen if surgery is not performed, it is not considered an elective surgery.

If your medical practice is in Texas, the Texas Medical Board's [Frequently Asked Questions document](#) provides important information. The Texas Medical Association's [white paper](#) may also provide helpful interpretation of what this means for your practice.



Congressional Support for Doctors

Legislation passed by Congress and signed by President Trump provided additional support and tools for physicians:

- Sequester Relief – The CARES Act included a physician payment bump by temporarily lifting the Medicare sequester, which reduced payments to providers by 2%. This bump will be in place May 1 through December 31, 2020.
- \$100B Provider Relief Fund – Certain providers will be eligible for this funding included in the CARES Act.
- Good Samaritan – The CARES Act ensures that health care professionals who volunteer during public health emergencies are immune from liability and able to care for patients.
- Title VII Physician Workforce Programs – The CARES Act reauthorized these programs through 2025 to maintain a robust health care workforce.

Other Helpful Resources

- April 7, 2020 CMS [Letter to Clinicians](#)
- [CMS COVID-19 Partner Toolkit](#)
- The American Medical Association's [COVID-19 Resource Center](#)