Today's Agenda

Latest Developments
Loan Programs
Tax Provisions
CMS and Regulatory Changes
Health Care Workforce Assistance
Public Health & Social Services
Emergency Fund (PHSSEF)
FEMA and Other Grants
Looking Ahead
Q&A
As soon as this week, expect more funding for...

- Paycheck Protection Program
- SBA disaster loans
- Hospitals
- National testing
Paycheck Protection Program (PPP)

• Eligibility:
  • Companies with fewer than 500 employees, including C-Corp, S-Corp, LLC, Partnership, sole proprietors, self-employed individuals, or independent contractors
  • 501(c)(3) nonprofits, 501(c)(19) veterans organizations, Tribal businesses
  • State and local government entities are NOT eligible
• Apply through any existing SBA lender, using SBA form
• 2.5 times the amount of your average 2019 payroll, up to $10 million
• May use funds for: payroll costs, rent, utilities, and mortgage interest
• Two years, 1% interest, no payments for 6 months
• Visit www.sba.gov/coronavirus for more information
Requirements for PPP Loan Forgiveness

• During 8-week period following disbursal of loan: use at least 75% of the loan for payroll costs, don’t cut employee headcount, don’t reduce salaries by more than 20%

• Payroll costs under PPP include:
  ✓ Salary, wages, commissions, and tips
  ✓ Employer’s cost to provide benefits, including paid vacation time and employer’s costs for health insurance or other benefits
  ✓ State and local employer taxes

• Payroll costs under PPP do not include:
  ✓ Federal employer taxes, like FICA and Social Security
  ✓ More than $100,000 in annual salary per employee
Economic Injury Disaster Loans (EIDL)

• For businesses with 500 employees or fewer
• Up to $2 million, including $10,000 emergency grant
• Payments automatically deferred one year, can be deferred up to four years
• 3.75% interest rate, terms up to 30 years
• **Must** be repaid – no opportunity for forgiveness
• Rent, payroll, accounts payable, bills that could have been paid if no disaster
• Apply online [here](#)
• Visit [www.sba.gov/coronavirus](http://www.sba.gov/coronavirus) for more information
Main Street Lending Program

- Announced April 9, not yet operational
- Aimed at midsize businesses (those with up to 10,000 employees or $2.5 billion in 2019 revenues), but small businesses can participate
- Minimum loan amount is $1 million
- Two types of loans allowed:
  - New loans
  - Expand or “upsized” existing loans
• Higher charitable deduction limits for individuals
  • Eliminates deduction cap for charitable contributions

• Higher charitable deduction limit for corporations
  • 25% of corporation’s taxable income, up from 10%

• New individual deduction
  • Additional $300 per taxpayer ($600 per couple)

For 501(c)(3) ambulance services – time to ask your donors to give!

Incentives for Charitable Giving
**Employer Tax Provisions**

**Employee Retention Tax Credit (ERTC)**
- Fully refundable 50% tax credit applicable to the employer’s share of payroll taxes on wages up to $10,000 per employee

**Employer Payroll Tax Deferral**
- Defer payment of the employer share of SS tax due between now and January 1, 2021 to December 31, 2021 (50% due) and December 31, 2020 (remaining due)
Medicare and Medicaid

- **Medicare 20% add-on** to DRG for patients with COVID-19 (only inpatient hospitals)

- Temporarily lifts the Medicare sequester, which will reduce payments to providers by 2 percent, from **May 1, 2020 through December 31, 2020, and** extends the Medicare sequester by one year beyond current law.

- CMS Accelerated and Advanced Payments: Expands, for the duration of the COVID-19 emergency period, an existing **Medicare accelerated payment program**. Qualified facilities are able to request up to a six-month advanced lump sum or periodic payment.

- Temporarily increases the Federal Medical Assistance Percentage (FMAP) by 6.2 percent during the COVID-19 public emergency.

For more information: [COVID-19 FFS FAQ](#); [CMS Accelerated and Advanced Payments Fact Sheet](#); [Medicare Sequester Information](#).
Regulatory Changes for EMS

- **Hospitals Without Walls**: Allows ASCs to provide services typically provided by hospitals such as cancer procedures, trauma surgeries, and other essential surgeries; allow non-hospital buildings – such as hotels and dormitories – to be used for patient care and quarantine, as long as each state approves, and the safety of staff and patients is assured.

- **Ambulance transport**: Based on ET3 model, CMS will let ambulances transport patients to a wider range of locations, like Federally Qualified Health Centers, community mental health centers, doctors’ offices, urgent care facilities, ambulatory surgery centers and places furnishing dialysis aside from ESRD facilities, when other transportation isn’t appropriate.

- **Does not include treat-in-place provisions**

For more information: Ambulance Flexibilities to Fight COVID-19; ET3; COVID-19 FFS FAQ; CMS New Flexibilities Fact Sheet
New $100 billion program under ASPR to prevent, prepare for, and respond to coronavirus for public entities, Medicare- or Medicaid-enrolled suppliers and providers, and such for-profit and nonprofit entities as Secretary determines

- Round 1: April 10 CMS deposited initial $30 billion in funds via direct deposit
  - All providers that received Medicare FFS reimbursements in 2019 based on share of total Medicare FFS
  - These are payments, not loans, to healthcare providers, and will not need to be repaid
  - Providers must agree not to balance bill COVID-19 patients and accept terms and conditions.

- Round 2: CMS working on “targeted distributions” to focus on providers particularly impacted by COVID-19
  - With lower shares of Medicare reimbursement
  - Who predominantly serve Medicaid population; and
  - Who request reimbursement for the treatment of uninsured Americans.
**Healthcare Work Force**

**Childcare Assistance:** $3.5 billion in additional funding and state flexibility for Child Care Development Block Grant to provide childcare assistance to health care sector employees, emergency responders, sanitation workers, and other workers deemed essential during the response to the coronavirus.

**Enhanced Safety Standards for Health Care Workers:** Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) issued an interim enforcement response plan on April 15, requiring employers within the health care sector or any other designated high-risk sector to develop and implement a comprehensive infectious disease exposure control plan – no funds attached.
FEMA Grants

Disaster Relief Fund Public Assistance Grants - $45 billion

- Reimbursable activities may include medical response, personal protective equipment, supplies, materials, overtime for budgeted employees, coordination of logistics, safety measures, and community services nationwide.

- Public Assistance cost share: 75% federal cost share and 25% applicant cost share

Visit http://www.fema.gov/disaster to determine the local agency responsible for working with applicants to submit grants to confirm Public Assistance Grant eligibility.
• **Assistance to Firefighter Grants (AFG)** – $100 million
  • Personal protective equipment, supplies, and reimbursements.
  • For more information visit [https://www.fema.gov/assistance-firefighters-grant](https://www.fema.gov/assistance-firefighters-grant)

• **Emergency Management Performance Grants** – $100 million
  • Focus Emergency Preparedness; to support coordination, communications, and logistics
  • [Notice of Funding Opportunity](https://www.fema.gov/)

• **Emergency Food and Shelter Program** – $200 million
  • Provides grants to private nonprofit organizations and local governments to provide shelter, food and supportive services through local service organizations to individuals and families who are homeless or experiencing economic emergencies
  • [Fact sheet](https://www.fema.gov/)

Visit [http://www.fema.gov/disaster](http://www.fema.gov/disaster) to determine eligibility and application process
Looking Ahead

Washington Update
Congressional Landscape
NAEMT’s Advocacy Efforts
NAEMT’s Priorities for “Phase Four” COVID-19 response

- Give all 9-1-1 medical responders a one-time opportunity to apply directly to FEMA for Public Assistance program grants

- Require CMS to reimburse all ground ambulance providers for performing protocol-driven treatments in place without transport during the COVID-19 pandemic response

- Protect paramedics and EMTs by providing them with higher priority access to PPE and COVID-19 testing, and include EMS personnel in hazard pay and other compensation for essential workers
Questions?

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