



NC DEPARTMENT OF
**HEALTH AND
HUMAN SERVICES**

ROY COOPER • Governor

MANDY COHEN, MD, MPH • Secretary

JOYCE MASSEY-SMITH, MPA

Director, Division of Aging and Adult Services

December 18, 2020

Dear Owners/Operators of Facilities Licensed to Accept Special Assistance Payments

Subject: One-Time Payment for Facilities Licensed to Accept Special Assistance (SA) Payments for the Period of December 1, 2020 through December 18, 2020 for each recipient. House Bill 1043 and House Bill 1105, two individual Bills, to be entitled an Act to Provide Federal Coronavirus Relief Funds to North Carolinians in Response to the Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19).

I. Background and Introduction

House Bill 1043, Section 3.3.(30) directed the Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS), Division of Social Services to implement “a one-time payment to facilities who accept State-County Special Assistance to offset the increased costs of serving residents during the COVID-19 emergency.”

House Bill 1105, Section 3.3.(30a) directed the DHHS, Division of Social Services to implement a monthly payment for facilities licensed to accept State-County Special Assistance. These funds shall be used to provide temporary financial assistance in the form of a monthly payment to these facilities to offset the increased costs of serving residents who are recipients of State-County Special Assistance during the COVID-19 emergency.

Nothing in this subdivision shall be construed as an obligation by the General Assembly to appropriate funds for the purpose of this subdivision or as an entitlement by any facility, resident of a facility, or other person to receive financial assistance under this subdivision. The following definitions apply in this subdivision:

- a. Facility licensed to accept State-County Special Assistance payments. – Any residential care facility that is (i) licensed by the DHHS and (ii) authorized to accept State-County SA payments from its residents.
- b. State-County Special Assistance – The program authorized by 42 G.S. 108A-40.

Facilities licensed to accept State-County SA payments received Coronavirus Relief Funds as appropriated by the NC General Assembly in HB 1043 and HB 1105 to offset the increased costs of servicing State and County SA residents during the COVID-19 emergency.

NC DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES • DIVISION OF AGING AND ADULT SERVICES

LOCATION: 693 Palmer Drive, Taylor Hall, Raleigh, NC 27603

MAILING ADDRESS: 2101 Mail Service Center, Raleigh, NC 27699-2101

www.ncdhhs.gov • TEL: 919-855-3400 • FAX: 919-733-0443

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These Coronavirus Relief Funds were granted to State of North Carolina by the Federal CARES Act enacted March 27, 2020 (CFDA# 21.019). The CARES Act requires that the payments from the Coronavirus Relief Fund only be used to cover expenses that

1. are necessary expenditures incurred due to the public health emergency with respect to the COVID-19;
2. were not accounted for in the budget most recently approved as of March 27, 2020 (the date of enactment of the CARES Act) for the State or government; and
3. were incurred during the period that begins on March 1, 2020 and ends on December 30, 2020.

House Bill 1043 and 1105 have been successfully implemented, with excess Coronavirus Relief Funds available. The excess funding will be directed as a one-time payment to facilities who accept State-County SA to offset the increased costs of serving residents during the COVID-19 emergency for the period of December 1, 2020 through December 18, 2020.

II. How the One-time Payment Will Be Administered

A. Facilities will be paid **\$333.90** for each SA resident identified by NC FAST as both eligible for SA, residing in the facility during the period of December 1, 2020 through December 18, 2020, **and** have completed the North Carolina Accounting System (NCAS) registration information with the Office of Controller. Any SA application that is not approved by December 18, 2020 will not be eligible to receive a payment. This one-time payment will be issued on or before December 30, 2020. **No facility payments for the two identified House Bills will issue after December 30, 2020.**

B. Facilities will be paid directly through the NCAS either by an electronic transfer to an operating account or a paper check. Only facilities who are active and registered in NCAS at the Office of Controller will receive a payment.

C. Facilities will receive a one-time reimbursement for all SA recipients residing in a facility between the period of December 1, 2020 through December 18, 2020. A ledger will be provided listing the SA recipients affiliated with each reimbursement. The ledger will be an e-mail or fax if payments are received electronically or included as an insert with the paper check.

D. If an individual has moved into or out of the facility after the first day of December 2020, between the period of December 1, 2020 through December 18, 2020, there will be no adjusted or prorated payment. The facility where the SA recipient resides on the first day of December 2020, during the period of December 1, 2020 through December 18, 2020, is the basis for determining which facility receives the monthly payments.

E. The legislation does not allow payments for individuals whose applications for SA are pending.

III. Situations That May Arise Regarding One-Time Payment

When a facility receives the one-time monthly payment for an SA recipient who is deceased, returned to a private living setting, or his or her whereabouts are unknown prior to the December 2020, for the period of December 1, 2020 through December 18, 2020, return the

one-time payment and the SA payment to the county DSS indicating the SA recipient's name, the amount of the payment, and the amount of the SA payment. This is the same process that is followed to return SA payments.

IV. Notification When a Resident Moves In or Out of the Facility

When a SA recipient moves out of the facility, as always, the facility representative must notify DSS so the change can be made in the SA case via NC FAST. Changes should be reported to the county DSS caseworker as soon as the change occurs. As a reminder, all changes must be reported no later than 5 calendar days from the date of change.

V. Conclusion

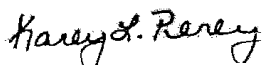
You have received Coronavirus Relief Funds as appropriated by the NC General Assembly to offset the increased costs of servicing State and County SA residents during the COVID-19 emergency.

If your company received \$50,000 or more in Coronavirus Relief Funds, we are required to report your information in the Federal System for Award Management. We are required to provide the following information: legal name, address, city, state, zip code, country, and organization type. This information will be taken from your W-9 that is on file in NCAS.

We hope this information is helpful in order to facilitate the receipt of the one-time payment to provide aid in response to the COVID-19 pandemic for facilities licensed to accept State-County SA for the period of December 1, 2020 through December 18, 2020.

If you have questions about the information in this letter, please submit them to the Division of Aging and Adult Services listserv at tempfacpay@dhhs.nc.gov.

Sincerely,



Karey Perez
Adult Services Section Chief
Division of Aging and Adult Services

KP/abp

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Cc: DSS Directors