



Provider Interim Payment Program

Fact Sheet May 2021

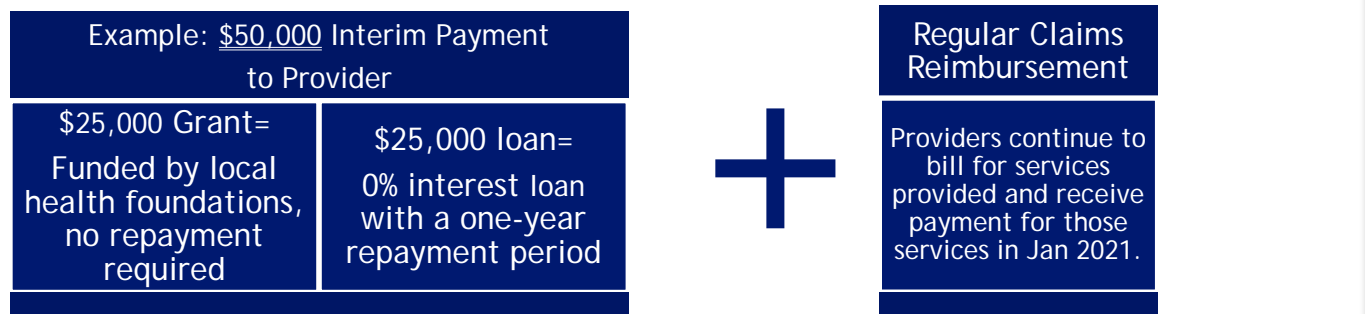
Overview

Through a unique public-private partnership with five local Colorado health foundations, the Department of Health Care Policy & Financing (the Department) is offering interim payments to primary care clinics statewide. With funding from the Colorado Health Foundation, Caring for Colorado Foundation, Rose Community Foundation, Delta Dental of Colorado Foundation, and the Rocky Mountain Health Foundation and matching federal funds, the Department has established the provider interim payment program to help stabilize Colorado’s safety net health system and preserve access to care across the state during the coronavirus pandemic (COVID-19).

The provider interim payment program will offer a lump sum interim payment to eligible primary care clinics in July 2021. In accordance with federal requirements, **half of the interim payment will need to be repaid by providers.** The other half of the interim payment will not need to be repaid. Regular reimbursement for the third quarter of 2021 will be paused for providers that receive the interim payments until the end of quarter 3 of 2021 (October), when the provider will receive regular reimbursement in full. Providers will have eight months repay half of the interim payment, with a 0% interest rate.

Interim Payment Example

Eligible providers will receive an interim payment equal to their average 2020 quarterly payment of Health First Colorado revenue.



The example demonstrates the value of a \$50k interim payment for a provider. Interim payment amounts will be based on the clinic’s average quarterly 2020 Health First Colorado fee for service revenues in 2020 (Q1+Q2+Q3+Q4/4=Interim Payment).



The Model

Payment

Primary care clinic sites that meet program requirements (see below) will be eligible for an interim, lump-sum payment. Providers will receive their interim payment through a Gainwell Technologies (formerly DXC) transmittal in July 2021 that acts as a 90-day payment of all Fee-for-service claims. Providers still need to submit claims during this period. Federal law requires that all regular claims reimbursement be halted during the interim payment period and regular reimbursement will resume in October 2021. **Providers will be reimbursed for all services provided to Health First Colorado in calendar year 2021.**

The example below demonstrates how an interim payment will work.

Provider Interim Payment Example		
Interim Payment distributed to providers in July 2021	Example: \$50,000 Lump Sum Interim Payment	Half of this amount is a grant, and half is a no-interest loan.
Provider bills normally from July-Sept. 2021, but payment will be held.	\$0 Claims Payment	Medicaid for FFS payments are held by the Department during this time, but payments from managed care payments will continue.
Held claims payment will be released October 2021.	\$40,000 FFS Claims Payment	Provider receives the payment held by the Department after the quarter closes. These are the Medicaid FFS payments that were not paid during the hold. The payment is made through the normal claims payment process.
Total Paid to Provider for July-Sept. 2021	\$90,000 Total Payments	Provider received July 2021 Interim Payment <u>plus</u> actual claims billed.
Repayment Process starts December 2021		
Amount provider received for claims	\$40,000 FFS Claims Amount Paid	The payment is made through the normal claims payment process in October 2021.
Amount provider receives as grant	\$25,000 Grant	Half of the July 2021 Interim Payment
Amount provider owes to HCPF	(\$25,000) Federal Loan	Starting December 2021, the provider will have multiple options for repayment as described in the next section. Full repayment is due August 2022.
Net Benefit for Q4 2020	\$65,000	Provider's Net is \$25,000 <i>more than</i> would have been paid that quarter without this program.

Repayment



To ease administrative burden for providers, the Department will be responsible for reconciling the federal portion of the interim payment and will work with the provider to ensure they understand and agree with the amount of their repayment obligation. The Department is currently working directly with primary care providers to develop an efficient and easy to understand reconciliation process.

Providers will select one of the following options to repay the federal portion of the loan:

- Accounts receivable balances can be deducted from the weekly claims payment displayed on the remittance advice between Dec. 2021-August 2022.
- Send a single check.
- Send four quarterly installments.

In December 2021, the Department will begin the repayment process based on the repayment option selected by the provider. The repayment process must be completed no later than August 31, 2022.

The reconciliation process will take into consideration the federal funds paid through the July 2021 Interim Payment calculated at Colorado's State Plan Rate, excluding any enhanced federal fund match authorized through the Family First Act, and the federal match rate that should have been paid based on the patient's eligibility category.

Who is Eligible?

Over the last decade, the Department and the Colorado philanthropic community have invested significantly in supporting integrated care with a focus on behavioral health and dental care in primary care settings. To build upon this investment in whole person care, the interim payment program will be available to primary care providers who had Health First Colorado member attribution in FY20-21 *and* who provided integrated health services. Due to limited funding available for interim provider payments, the Department and the philanthropic community have prioritized providers that meet and agree to the following requirements:

- Be a contracted Health First Colorado provider;
- Be a contracted Primary Care Medical Provider with at least one Regional Accountable Entity (RAE);
- Billed less than \$100,000 in Fee-for-service in Calendar Year 2020.
 - Individual clinic sites affiliated with larger providers may apply if the clinic site has a Medicaid Provider Identifier (MPI) that is unique from the affiliated large provider;
- Serve a high percentage of individuals enrolled in Health First Colorado, Child Health Plan *Plus* or uninsured their clinic site, defined as at least 40% of the patient mix in an urban area, and 30% in rural areas;



- Agree to continue serving at least the same number of Health First Colorado members that were served in calendar year 2019 at that physical location;
- Attest that their Federal COVID-19 relief received does not exceed **expected** revenue for the period of July 1-Sept. 30, 2021;
- Attest that the clinic site is not filing for bankruptcy, will not lay off staff or change wages during the interim payment period, and will repay the federal share by August 31, 2022.
- Attest that they provide integrated care (Behavioral Health and/or dental care) on site
- Apply for interim payments that includes all the required information and attestations described above.
- Have not previously received a Provider Interim Payment through this program.

Where to Apply

<https://forms.gle/JPzs395boCHoZ1d58>

Deadline to apply is 5pm MT June 3, 2021.

Timeline

Below is the estimated timeline for key decisions and actions. The application is now open.

What	By When
Deadline for providers to submit applications for interim payments	June 3, 2021
Awards designated*	June 18, 2021
Providers continue to submit claims as usual, but payment will be held	July 2021-Sept. 30, 2021
Funds distributed	No earlier than July 2, 2021
End of claims hold	Sept. 30, 2021
Payments for claims 7/2/2020-9/30/2021 will be processed (in addition to the interim payment- providers will receive claims payment)	By Oct. 20, 2021
The Dept. completes the reconciliation process	Oct. 31, 2021
Providers will receive notice of owed amount and will have 30 days to appeal	Nov. 30, 2021
Collection of loan of federal portion will begin	Dec. 2021
All federal funds will be recouped and returned to CMS	Aug. 31, 2022

Frequently Asked Questions

1. What can these funds be used for? Are there any restrictions?



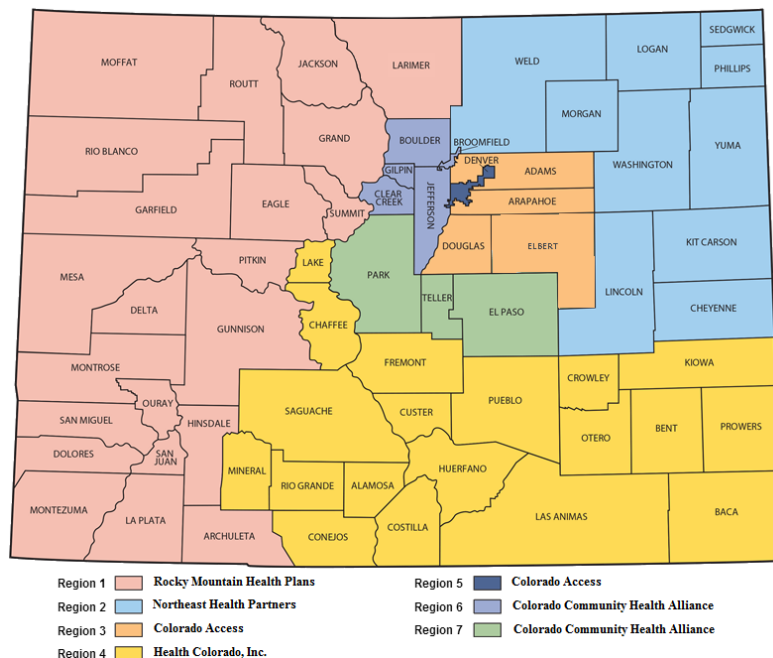
A: The intention of these funds is help preserve access to care to Health First Colorado members. These funds can be used for general operations of the PCP so the practice can continue to see Health First Colorado members and prevent staff layoffs during the public health emergency. Once the federal funds have been returned any surplus can be used at the providers' discretion.

2. Will there be technical assistance for this application and reconciliation process? How can I tell if my practice will be eligible?

A: Yes. The Regional Accountable Entities (RAE) will be providing direct outreach to potentially eligible sites and can provide technical assistance for completing applications and later to understand the reconciliation process. Providers should reach out to their Provider Relations contact below for more information. To find the RAE for your region please visit the website at:

<https://www.colorado.gov/hcpf/accphase2>

- Rocky Mountain Health Plans (Dale Renzi): 970-248-5132
- Northeast Health Partners (Alma Mejorado): 719-529-1468
- Colorado Access (Aaron Brotherson): 303-810-8784
- Health Colorado (Brian Hill or Julia Duffer): 1-888-502-4187
- Colorado Community Health Alliance (Josie Dostie or Andrea Skubal): 303-256-1717



3. Where can I apply?

A. Submit an application at <https://forms.gle/JPzs395boCHoZ1d58>

