



Dear Providers,

This special newsletter contains information on provider recruitment and relief funds related to the COVID-19 public health emergency.

## Provider Recruitment

### **New Health First Colorado (Colorado's Medicaid Program) Providers Needed to Treat Influx of New Members**

To combat the COVID-19 pandemic and the rise in member enrollment, Health First Colorado providers are encouraged to share the Department's need for more providers with other providers who may not be enrolled.

### **Enrollment Waivers**

The following incentives are being offered to increase provider enrollment:

- Allowing temporary enrollment for providers during the federally designated COVID-19 emergency
- Waiving the application fee and fingerprinting process for applicable providers
- Waiving site surveys for applicable providers

### **Health First Colorado Provider Benefits**

- **Fast Payment:** Health First Colorado pays **faster** than private payers, with claims paid weekly and deposited directly into a bank account.
- **Quick and Easy Enrollment:** Online enrollment with approvals in just a few weeks.
- **Quick Customer Service:** The [Provider Services Call Center](#) answers calls in less than two minutes on average and regional provider field representatives are available to assist with more complex questions.
- **Customizable Patient Experience:** Providers have full control of the number of Health First Colorado patients seen. Providers may also choose to have the practice published in the online Provider Directory.

## COVID-19 Funding

### **Additional Funding Available to Eligible Providers Through CARES Act Provider Relief Fund**

On June 9, 2020, the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) [announced additional funding](#) available through the Provider Relief Fund to eligible Medicaid and Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP) providers. HHS expects to distribute approximately \$15 billion to eligible providers that have not already received a payment from the Provider Relief Fund General Allocation.

The announcement outlines who might be eligible for the additional funding and a link for information on how to apply:

"Examples of providers serving Medicaid and/or CHIP beneficiaries who may be eligible for this funding include pediatricians, obstetrician-gynecologists, dentists, opioid treatment and behavioral health providers, assisted living facilities, and other home and community-based services providers.

To be eligible for this funding, health care providers must not have received payments from the \$50 billion Provider Relief Fund General Distribution and either have directly billed their state Medicaid/CHIP programs or Medicaid managed care plans for healthcare-related services between January 1, 2018, to May 31, 2020. Close to one million health care providers may be eligible for this funding."

More information about eligibility and the application process is available on the [HHS](#)

[website](#) on their [CARES Act Provider Relief Fund: General Information web page](#)

The [full announcement](#) also includes information about an additional \$10 billion in funding to safety net hospitals and a potential second round of funding to hospitals in COVID-19 hotspots.

## Related Provider Resources

### Provider Enrollment Web Page

Providers are encouraged to visit the [Provider Enrollment web page](#) or contact the [Provider Services Call Center](#) at 1-844-235-2387 and select option 2, then option 5 for enrollment assistance.

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### Provider Enrollment Web Page

Providers are encouraged to visit the [COVID-19 Information for Health First Colorado and CHP+ Providers and Case Managers web page](#) for more provider information on COVID-19.

*Please do not reply to this email; this address is not monitored.*