



**Kansas Hospital
ASSOCIATION**

TO: KHA Members

FROM: Chad Austin, Executive Vice President
Tish Hollingsworth, Vice President of Reimbursement

DATE: April 10, 2020

RE: CARES Act Provider Relief Funds

Earlier this week, KHA staff learned that the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services would be distributing payments to hospitals and other health care providers as part of the CARES Act. The legislation included \$100 billion in relief funds to health care providers on the front lines to assist with the coronavirus response. Late yesterday, HHS formally announced they would be distributing an initial \$30 billion of the CARES Act funding to health care providers today based on their share of the total Medicare fee-for-service reimbursement for 2019. For Kansas, the amount of funding equates to roughly \$325 million to 3,320 providers.

HHS has partnered with UnitedHealth Group to deliver the funds and the automatic payments will come via Optum Bank with "HHSPAYMENT" as the payment description. All relief payments are made to provider billing organizations based on their Taxpayer Identification Numbers. HHS has indicated that these payments are not loans, and will not need to be repaid.

An email was distributed to an individual at your facility, based on contact information from your facility Medicare provider enrollment. The email was from UHG on behalf of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. (Attached is an example of the letter included in the email.) According to letter, within 30 days of receiving the payment, health care providers must sign an attestation confirmation receipt of the funds using the CARES Provider Relief Payment Portal as well as agreeing to the [terms and conditions](#) of payment found on www.hhs.gov/providerrelief. The CARES Provider Relief Payment Portal, for signing the attestation, will be open the week of April 13 and linked on the HHS web page www.hhs.gov/providerrelief.

KHA is pleased that this needed funding has started to be released to assist hospitals and other health care providers with their response in combatting COVID-19. KHA will send updates on this program as more details become available and will continue our advocacy efforts for additional funding opportunities. We will cover all of these funding opportunities in more detail during next week's KHA COVID-19 Hospital Huddle on Tuesday, April 14 at 10:00 a.m.

Thank you again for all of your work on the frontlines to keep our state safe. Please don't hesitate to contact us with any additional questions.