

Special Bulletin

September 29, 2021

HRSA Opens Application Process for Additional Distributions of COVID-19 Relief Funds

\$25.5 billion in relief funds to be distributed; applications due by Oct. 26

The Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) <u>announced</u> the portal is now open for providers to apply for \$25.5 billion in COVID-19 relief funds. Providers will submit a single application for both \$17 billion in a "Phase 4" distribution from the Provider Relief Fund (PRF) and \$8.5 billion in American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funds designated for rural providers. The application portal will close Oct. 26 at 11:59 p.m. ET. The AHA strongly encourages members to apply for this funding as soon as possible.

In addition, HRSA announced that it will be holding webinars for Phase 4 and ARPA applicants, featuring guidance on how to navigate the application portal. The first of these webinars is Sept. 30 at 3 p.m. ET. Interested hospitals should register via HRSA's <u>website</u>.

HRSA Sept. 10 announced details regarding the distributions above. See AHA's <u>Special</u> <u>Bulletin</u> for more details. The agency has stated that it hopes to begin distributing ARPA funds in mid- to late November, and PRF funds in early to mid-December.

The Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act and subsequent laws included \$178 billion in the Public Health and Social Services Emergency Fund to reimburse health care providers for health care-related expenses or lost revenues not otherwise reimbursed that are attributable to COVID-19. The ARPA provided \$8.5 billion to reimburse rural health care providers for health care-related expenses and lost revenues attributable to COVID-19.

FURTHER QUESTIONS

If you have questions, please contact AHA at 800-424-4301.