



U.S. SENATOR  
**GARY PETERS**

# THE CORONAVIRUS AID, RELIEF, AND ECONOMIC SECURITY (CARES) ACT

## HEALTH CARE PROVIDERS AND HEALTH RESPONSE

Key resources for Health care providers:

MDHHS [https://www.michigan.gov/coronavirus/0,9753,7-406-98178\\_98156---,00.html](https://www.michigan.gov/coronavirus/0,9753,7-406-98178_98156---,00.html)

CDC <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-nCoV/hcp/index.html>

\$100 billion in direct payments to health care providers: Through grants or other mechanisms, the Secretary of U.S. Health and Human Services (HHS) will reimburse providers for health care expenses or lost revenues due to Coronavirus. Eligible providers include hospitals and other entities that provide Coronavirus diagnoses, testing, or care. HHS will make these reimbursements on a rolling basis. Examples of how the funds can be used include:

- Constructing temporary structures, leasing property, or retrofitting facilities to expand surge capacity
- Purchasing medical supplies and equipment, like personal protective equipment and testing supplies
- Expanding or providing training to the frontline workforce

HHS will establish a process to accept applications from providers

Advanced payments for hospitals: Hospitals can access additional funding through an expanded program for Medicare accelerated payments. Upon their request, hospitals may receive advanced Medicare payments on a periodic or lump sum basis to cover up to a six month period. Critical access hospitals would be able to receive an advanced payment at a 125 percent payment level to have extra funds on hand to cover costs. Hospitals are not be required to start paying down the loan for four months and would have at least 12 months to complete repayment without a requirement to pay interest. Please contact CMS for more information.

Increased reimbursement for Coronavirus patients: For patients diagnosed with Coronavirus, the payment hospitals would have otherwise received for the treatment is increased by 20 percent. This recognizes that Coronavirus cases can be resource-intensive, providing a higher payment for these complex patients. The add-on payment will be available through the duration of the emergency period. Please contact CMS for more information.

Flexible \$1.5 billion CDC grant to states: At least \$1.5 billion for states and localities to carry out public health strategies in response to Coronavirus. Examples of how the funds can be used include:

- Purchasing personal protective equipment
- Surveilling coronavirus spread and using contact tracing to identify additional cases
- Improving laboratory testing capacity to detect positive cases
- Strengthening infection control and mitigation strategies at the local level
- Other public health preparedness and response activities



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The CDC will establish a process for making awards through grants or cooperative agreement mechanisms. Funds awarded to the state of Michigan will likely be done so in coordination with the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services.

\$1.32 billion for community health centers: HHS will be awarding \$1.32 billion supplemental awards for health for preparedness and response activities. Health centers provide care to medically underserved populations.

Over \$27 billion in health preparedness and response activities, including \$250 million for hospital preparedness: This funding will strengthen our health system's preparedness and response efforts, including our ability to support research and development of vaccines, therapeutics, and diagnostics to treat the effects of the Coronavirus. This funding is vital in order to support our brave and tireless health care providers. These funds will help build out U.S.-based manufacturing capabilities for necessary medical supplies and ways to address surge capacity. The \$250 million for the Hospital Preparedness Program will focus directly on hospital and health system capacity for responding to a surge of Coronavirus patients. In addition, up to \$16 billion of these funds will invest in our Strategic National Stockpile so we build reserves of vital medical supplies to assist states and localities when they run low or out of personal protective equipment. Find contact information for your local county MDHHS office here: [https://www.michigan.gov/mdhhs/0,5885,7-339-73970\\_5461--,00.html](https://www.michigan.gov/mdhhs/0,5885,7-339-73970_5461--,00.html)

\$945.4 million for the National Institutes of Health: This additional investment will enable medical researchers to expand on prior research plans, including developing an improved understanding of the prevalence of Coronavirus, its transmission and natural history of infection, and novel approaches diagnosing the disease, and developing countermeasures for the prevention and treatment of its various stages. This funding includes \$103.4 million for the National Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute, \$706 million for the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases, and \$60 million for the National Institute of Biomedical Imaging and Bioengineering. Information on the NIH grants process can be found here: [https://grants.nih.gov/grants/grants\\_process.htm](https://grants.nih.gov/grants/grants_process.htm)

\$425 million for programs through the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA): This funding will support Certified Community Behavioral Health Centers (CCBHCs), suicide prevention programs, and general emergency response activities related to mental and behavioral health. SAMHSA grant announcements can be found here: <https://www.samhsa.gov/grants/grant-announcements-2020>

Volunteer Professional Services: If you volunteer your medical, nursing or health care services for an actual or suspected Covid-19 patient, during the current emergency declaration, you will have some liability protection as long as you are acting within the scope of your licensure, registration or certification, and comply with certain conditions.

National Health Service Corps: If you are professional NHSC staff, you may, with agreement, be reassigned to respond to places where you are needed, that is within a reasonable distance of your current and assignment and with similar hours. Coronavirus information for NHSC members can be found here: <https://nhsc.hrsa.gov/coronavirus>

**If you have any additional questions about the federal resources available**, please go to [www.peters.senate.gov/coronavirus](http://www.peters.senate.gov/coronavirus).