



# HRSA COVID-19 Coverage Assistance Fund

May 13, 2021

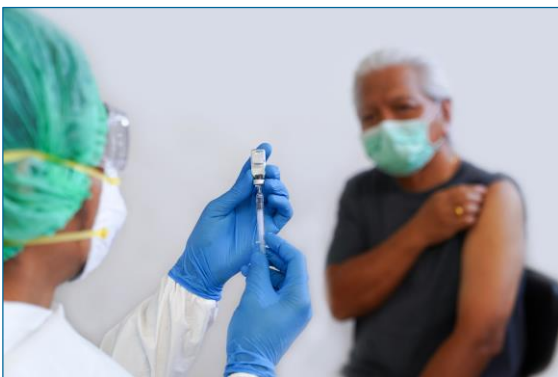
Vision: Healthy Communities, Healthy People



1



## Introduction



Reimbursement applies to eligible claims, as determined by HRSA (subject to adjustment as may be necessary), for dates of service or admittance delivered on or after December 14, 2020, subject to available funding; see details at [hrsa.gov/covid19-coverage-assistance](https://hrsa.gov/covid19-coverage-assistance). Terms and conditions will apply. Content subject to change.

2

## Expanding Access to COVID-19 Vaccines

“Fairly compensating providers,[...] for the costs of vaccine administration will be critical to expanding vaccination participation.”

*Goal 2, National Strategy for the COVID-19 Response and Pandemic Preparedness*

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3

## Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) COVID-19 Vaccination Program

All organizations and providers participating in the CDC COVID-19 Vaccination Program:

- **must** administer COVID-19 Vaccine at **no out-of-pocket cost** to the recipient
- may **not** deny anyone vaccination based on the vaccine recipient’s coverage status or network status
- may **not** charge an office visit or other fee if COVID-19 vaccination is the sole medical service provided
- may **not** require additional medical services to receive COVID-19 vaccination
- **may** seek appropriate reimbursement from a program or plan that covers COVID-19 Vaccine administration fees for the vaccine recipient, such as:
  - vaccine recipient’s private insurance company
  - Medicare or Medicaid reimbursement
  - HRSA COVID-19 Uninsured Program for non-insured vaccine recipients
  - HRSA COVID-19 Coverage Assistance Fund
- may **not** seek any reimbursement, including through balance billing, from the vaccine recipient

Source: <https://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/covid-19/vaccination-provider-support.html>

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4

# HRSA's Provider Relief Programs

## General and Targeted Distributions

### General Distributions

- Phase 1: Medicare providers
- Phase 2: Included participants in state/territory Medicaid/CHIP programs, Medicaid managed care plans, commercial dentists, and assisted living facilities.
- Phase 3: Expanded eligibility to certain provider types who do not typically participate in Medicare/Medicaid.

### Targeted Distributions

- Allocated to facilities and geographic areas that have been particularly susceptible to lost revenue or increased health care expenses as a result of the pandemic.

## COVID-19 Uninsured Program

- The HRSA COVID-19 Uninsured Program reimburses providers for vaccine administration fees associated with uninsured individuals, as well as COVID-19 related testing and treatment for uninsured individuals, regardless of their immigration status.
- Dates of service or admittance must be on or after February 4, 2020.
- Claims subject to the same timely filing requirements required by Medicare and available funding
- As of April 28, 2021
  - Testing claims = \$3.38 Billion
  - Treatment claims = \$2.42 Billion
  - Vaccine Administration = \$47.4 Million
  - Total = \$5.84 Billion

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5

# HRSA COVID-19 Coverage Assistance Fund (CAF)

The U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, through the Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA), is administering the COVID-19 Coverage Assistance Fund which is providing reimbursements on a rolling basis directly to eligible health care providers for claims for COVID-19 vaccine administration fees provided to beneficiaries whose health insurance does not cover vaccine administration fees, or does but typically has patient cost-sharing.

## Who is eligible for reimbursement under CAF?

- ✓ Health care providers that have administered Food and Drug Administration (FDA) authorized COVID-19 vaccines under an Emergency Use Authorization (EUA) or FDA-licensed COVID-19 vaccines under a Biologics License Application (BLA) to underinsured individuals can request claims reimbursement through the program.
- ✓ Reimbursement may be requested electronically and, subject to available funding, will be reimbursed at the national Medicare rate for the vaccine administration fee or for patient cost-sharing related to COVID-19 vaccination, including co-payments for vaccine administration, deductibles for vaccine administration, and co-insurance.

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6

## Overview: Submitting a Claim

### At the time of enrollment, providers must attest to the following:

- They have submitted a claim to the patient's primary health insurance plan and there is a remaining balance from that health insurance plan that either does not include COVID-19 vaccination as a covered benefit or covers COVID-19 vaccine administration, but with cost-sharing.
- They have verified that no other third party payer will reimburse them for COVID-19 vaccine administration fees for that patient encounter, or other patient charges related to that COVID-19 vaccination, including co-pays for vaccine administration, deductibles for vaccine administration, and co-insurance.
- They will accept defined program reimbursement as payment in full.
- They agree not to balance bill the patient.
- They agree to program terms and conditions and may be subject to post-reimbursement audit review.

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7

## The Role of The SSI Group

- Program administrator only. All program funding, coverage, and reimbursement policies are set forth by HRSA.
- The SSI Group technology and expertise quickly enabled claims processing and reimbursement for COVID-19 vaccine administration, as directed by HRSA.
- The process will not involve credentialing or contracting with The SSI Group, and the information you submit will be used to administer the HRSA COVID-19 Coverage Assistance Fund. All terms and conditions are set forth by HRSA.

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8

# Overview of CAF

9

## Program Participation Acknowledgement



### Checked for health care coverage

Confirm health insurance plan does not include COVID-19 vaccination as a covered benefit or covers COVID-19 vaccine administration but with cost-sharing.



### Accept reimbursement

Accept defined program payment as payment in full.



### Agree to not balance bill

If the patient was billed and paid, refund the patient.



### Accept terms and conditions

May be subject to post-reimbursement audit review.

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10

## Reimbursement Rates and Effective Dates

Providers who administered FDA authorized COVID-19 vaccines **on or after December 14, 2020**, are eligible for claims reimbursement through the program as long as the service(s) provided meet the coverage and billing requirements.

For dates of service through March 14, 2021:

- Administration of a single-dose COVID-19 vaccine - \$28.39
- Administration of the first dose of a COVID-19 vaccine requiring a series of two or more doses - \$16.94
- Administration of the final dose of a COVID-19 vaccine requiring a series of two or more doses - \$28.39

For dates of service on or after March 15, 2021:

- Administration (per dose) of a COVID-19 vaccine - \$40.00

Publication of new codes and updates to existing codes will be made in accordance with published CMS guidance.

For any new codes where a CMS published rate does not exist, claims will be held until CMS publishes corresponding reimbursement information.

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11

## What's Covered – Vaccine Administration



Administration fees related to FDA-licensed or authorized vaccines are covered under the program.

Claims submitted for the administration of an FDA-licensed or authorized vaccine must be submitted as single line-item claims, and must include one of the following codes to be eligible for reimbursement:

- Pfizer: **0001A, 0002A**
- Moderna: **0011A, 0012A**
- Janssen: **0031A**

**In addition to the fee for COVID-19 vaccine administration, patient cost-sharing requirements, such as a copayment for vaccine administration, co-insurance, or deductible for vaccine administration, are eligible for reimbursement.**

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12

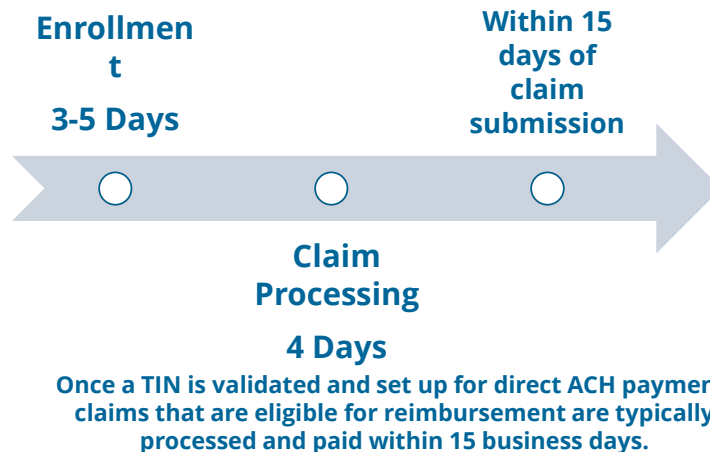
## Verifying Patient Eligibility

- Providers may submit claims for individuals in the U.S. whose health insurance doesn't cover vaccine administration fees, or does but typically has patient cost-sharing.
- Providers must verify:
  - There is a remaining balance from patient's health insurance plan that either does not include COVID-19 vaccination as a covered benefit or covers COVID-19 vaccine administration but with cost-sharing.
  - And no other payer will provide reimbursement for COVID-19 vaccine administration.

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13

## Receive Timely Reimbursement



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14

## Resources

- **HRSA COVID-19 Coverage Assistance Fund website:** [hrsa.gov/covid19-coverage-assistance](https://hrsa.gov/covid19-coverage-assistance)
- **Coverage Assistance Fund Portal:** [covid19coverageassistance.ssigroup.com](https://covid19coverageassistance.ssigroup.com)
- **FAQs:** [hrsa.gov/covid19-coverage-assistance/frequently-asked-questions](https://hrsa.gov/covid19-coverage-assistance/frequently-asked-questions)
- **Program fact sheet:** [hrsa.gov/sites/default/files/hrsa/coronavirus/caf-program-fact-sheet.pdf](https://hrsa.gov/sites/default/files/hrsa/coronavirus/caf-program-fact-sheet.pdf)
- **CAF portal guide:** [hrsa.gov/sites/default/files/hrsa/coronavirus/caf-provider-portal-guide.pdf](https://hrsa.gov/sites/default/files/hrsa/coronavirus/caf-provider-portal-guide.pdf)
- **Provider Call Center Support:**
  - ✓ 833-967-0770
  - ✓ TTY Number: 888-970-2920
  - ✓ Email: [CAFSupport@ssigroup.com](mailto:CAFSupport@ssigroup.com)

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15

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16

# Thank You.

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