

September 17, 2020

**ILLINOIS HEALTH AND HOSPITAL ASSOCIATION
M E M O R A N D U M**

SUBJECT: First Round Distribution of CARES Act Funds Appropriated by General Assembly

The Department of Healthcare and Family Services (HFS) has posted a [Provider Notice](#) announcing the first round of state payments from the Coronavirus Urgent Remediation Emergency (CURE) Fund authorized in [Public Act 101-637](#). This initial round of payments is scheduled to be issued shortly, and IHA has learned that payments to hospitals have already been issued by the Comptroller's office. Hospitals can identify these payments on the [vendor payments](#) page of the Comptroller's website by invoices beginning with **CURE999999**. The CURE Fund was established by the General Assembly to facilitate the distribution of state and local funding received by the state as the result of the federal Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act.

IHA actively advocated that hospitals be included in the allocations to be issued by the state, and is pleased that the hospital community receive funding from the state CURE Fund, in accordance with methodologies developed and administered by HFS in collaboration with the agency's contractor for this initiative, Ernst & Young (EY). Ernst & Young was contracted by HFS to assure compliance and transparency with all CARES Act federal requirements.

The notice announces a soon-to-be launched streamlined portal, through which recipient entities may apply for future CURE Fund, CARES payments. Many provider types, such as **safety net hospitals**, long-term care facilities and Federally Qualified Health Centers, **are receiving this first-round of CARES payments automatically**. Following this initial round of distributions, all providers will utilize the portal to both apply for grant funding in future rounds as well as to supply required reporting and track future announcements. The second and any potential subsequent rounds of CARES payments will come later in the fall. HFS will continue to share information through traditional notices, and will also be posting updates on the [HFS Coronavirus \(COVID-19\) Update Page](#).

All recipient entities will be required to complete **sub-award agreements**, which they will receive from the Department either upon submission of their application or upon automatic receipt of first-round CARES payments per the newly developed funding methodology, depending on provider type. The agreement details the CARES payment program, permissible uses of the dollars, reporting requirements, and requirements for compliance. These agreements will help ensure fund recipients and HFS are accountable in reporting the use of all funds. If for any reason an organization cannot or will not execute the agreement, the CARES payment must be returned immediately to HFS.

Questions regarding this memo may be [directed to IHA](#).