



## **Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act (CARES Act) Funding for Office of Long-Term Living (OLTL) Home and Community-Based Service (HCBS) Providers**

Governor Wolf signed Act 24 of 2020, which allocates funding from the federal Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act – also known as the CARES Act. Act 24 established funding from the CARES Act to be used to cover necessary COVID-19 related costs for identified persons and entities incurred between March 1, 2020 and November 30, 2020. Act 24 includes \$457,000,000 of COVID-19 relief funds for providers of Long-Term Living Programs. To qualify for the one-time payment, the person or entity must be in operation as of March 31, 2020. This funding will be used to provide the following payments to providers of HCBS services:

- **COVID-19 Adult Day Care Services (ADS) Provider Payment**

The total funds available for a one-time payment to ADS Providers pursuant to Act 24 (ADS COVID-19 Payment) is \$13,000,000.

The ADS COVID-19 Payment for each ADS Provider is calculated by dividing the ADS Provider's Medical Assistance (MA) fee-for-service (FFS) and Community HealthChoices (CHC) payments in the third quarter of calendar year 2019 by the sum of the MA FFS and CHC payments of all ADS Providers in the third quarter of calendar year 2019 to obtain a specific quotient for each ADS Provider. The ADS Provider's quotient is then multiplied by \$13,000,000 to determine its ADS COVID-19 Payment.

- **COVID-19 Home Health Care Provider or Home Care Agency Personal Assistance Payment**

The total funds available for a one-time payment to Home Health Care Providers and Home Care Agencies of Personal Assistance Services (PAS) to MA beneficiaries pursuant to Act 24 (Agency PAS COVID-19 Payment) is \$112,000,000.

The Agency PAS COVID-19 Payment for each Home Health Care Provider and Home Care Agency is calculated by dividing the number of MA PAS 15-minute units, excluding overtime, invoiced in the third quarter of calendar year 2019 by the Home Health Care Provider or Home Care Agency by the sum of MA PAS 15-minute units, excluding overtime, invoiced in the third quarter of calendar year 2019 by all Home Health Care Providers to obtain a specific quotient for each Home Health Care Provider and Home Care Agency. Each entity's quotient is then multiplied by \$112,000,000 to determine its Agency PAS COVID-19 Payment.

- **COVID-19 Residential Habilitation (Res Hab) Services Provider**

The total funds available for a one-time payment Res Hab Providers pursuant to Act 24 (Res Hab COVID-19 Payment) is \$1,000,000.

The Res Hab COVID-19 Payment for each Res Hab Provider is calculated by dividing the Res Hab Provider's MA FFS and CHC payments in the third quarter of calendar year 2019 by the sum of the MA FFS and CHC payments of all RES HAB Providers in the third quarter of calendar year 2019 to obtain a specific quotient for each Res Hab Provider. The Res Hab Provider's quotient is then multiplied by \$1,000,000 to determine its Res Hab COVID-19 Payment.

OLTL is preparing for the distribution of the funds as one-time gross adjustments for ADS, PAS, and Res Hab services. Providers should expect to see the payment appear as a gross adjustment transaction/lump sum payment on a PROMISe remittance advice with payment issuance occurring nine days after the transaction appears on their remittance. OLTL's intention is to distribute the payments in July. Payment information will be posted to the Department of Human Services' website at:

<https://www.dhs.pa.gov/providers/Providers/Pages/Long-Term-Care-Providers.aspx>.

Providers do *not* need to submit requests for the funding. All currently enrolled providers that provided the above listed services and have a provider agreement for Waiver services and were in operation as of March 31, 2020 will receive the funding as described above.

**Act 24 of 2020 requires these funds to be expended by November 30, 2020 or returned to the commonwealth. Additionally, these funds must be used for COVID-19 related expenses incurred between March 1, 2020 and November 30, 2020. Providers must keep documentation to prove that these funds were used for their response to the COVID-19 pandemic in case of an audit. Any person or entity accepting a COVID-19 payment agrees to provide documentation to the Department, upon request, for purposes of determining compliance with Act 24 requirements. Instructions on expenditure reporting will be provided in the future.**

Providers are advised to review guidance for eligible expenses on the U.S. Department of Treasury website:

Guidance: <https://home.treasury.gov/system/files/136/Coronavirus-Relief-Fund-Guidance-for-State-Territorial-Local-and-Tribal-Governments.pdf>

Frequently Asked Questions: <https://home.treasury.gov/system/files/136/Coronavirus-Relief-Fund-Frequently-Asked-Questions.pdf>