

**PENNSYLVANIA TRAUMA SYSTEMS STABILIZATION ACT**  
**Annual Report**  
**Fiscal Year 2022-2023**

**PURPOSE AND DESCRIPTION**

Act 15 of 2004, “The Pennsylvania Trauma Systems Stabilization Act” (Act 15), established an annual Disproportionate Share Hospital (DSH) payment to Pennsylvania hospitals accredited by the Pennsylvania Trauma Systems Foundation (PTSF) as Level I, Level II, or Level III Trauma Centers (Trauma Payment). Act 15 also established qualification criteria for Level III Trauma Centers and provided a funding distribution methodology for the Trauma Payment.

Act 84 of 2010 (Act 84) reestablished the Pennsylvania Trauma Systems Stabilization Act under the Human Services Code (formerly the Public Welfare Code). Act 84 revised the definition of “Trauma Center” to include certain out-of-state hospitals with Trauma Centers that provide services to Pennsylvania Medical Assistance (MA) beneficiaries, and to provide up to four (4) years of funding to hospitals pursuing Level III accreditation. Prior to disbursement, Act 84 requires a commitment from qualified Trauma Centers to use the Trauma Payment funds on the development and provision of trauma services. Act 84 requires each Trauma Center receiving Trauma Payment funds to provide the Department of Human Services (DHS) with a report accounting for Trauma Payment funds expenditures and detailing how the Trauma Payment funds have improved access to trauma care for Pennsylvania citizens. Act 84 did not change the distribution methodology set forth in Act 15.

Act 54 of 2019 (Act 54) established new qualification criteria for Level IV Trauma Centers located in rural counties as defined by the Center for Rural Pennsylvania and revised the maximum payment for Level II Trauma Centers as no greater than 50% of the average Statewide annual payment to a Level I or Level II trauma center.

**BENEFIT TO THE COMMONWEALTH**

The Trauma Payment benefits Pennsylvania citizens by improving access to readily available and coordinated trauma care. The direct beneficiaries are Pennsylvania hospitals that have received, or are seeking, accreditation as Level I, Level II, Level III, or Level IV Trauma Centers.

Hospitals report that the Trauma Payment funding enables them to provide the specialized care required for traumatically injured patients. Trauma surgeons, neurosurgeons, orthopedic surgeons, oral/maxillofacial and plastic surgeons, and other physician specialists and emergency room personnel are essential to providing patient optimal outcomes.

In Fiscal Year (FY) 2022-2023 hospitals identified the following areas where funding has improved access to, or enhanced the quality of, trauma care for injured patients:

- Community education and outreach initiatives to provide resources and awareness, reduce traumatic injuries, and educate on ways to assist if a disaster occurs, including: Stop the Bleed classes to educate the public on emergency bleeding control; Safety Store car seat educational program with car seat distribution; Matter of Balance program (a national, evidence-based injury prevention program aimed at reducing falls and the fear of falling in older adults); and school-age based safety programs and education including Every 15 minutes, Teen Driving, and SADD; collaboration with County Commissioners and Kid Zone resulting in the organization of a county-wide children's safety day; Gun Violence Prevention Initiatives, distribution of gun locks, and creation of a "Credible Messenger" role for individuals working together in and with the community to reduce gun-related incidents.
- Expansion of availability of services through newly accredited Trauma Centers. Expenses for newly accredited Trauma centers include: attending conferences for networking and gaining insight/knowledge on improving outcomes in critical care, educational training opportunities for hospital employees, equipment needed to train hospital personnel and educate the community through Injury Prevention initiatives, and support for construction of new spaces for the trauma team and supplies such as furniture, signage, and medical equipment. Funding additionally supported payment of fees for trauma facilities to participate in accreditation programs such as TQIP, NTDB, and PTSF.
- Ongoing educational opportunities for physicians, nurses, ancillary staff, surgeons, physicians residents, and EMS, including: Advanced Trauma Life Support classes, Advanced Cardiac Life Support courses, Advanced Trauma Life Support (ATLS) courses, Trauma Nurse courses, PTSF committees, American College of Surgeons Rural Trauma Team Development Course, Rural Trauma Team Development Course (RTTDC), simulation centers, and other internal and external conferences and lectures; as well as partnerships with EMS boards to provide educational seminars and forums, EMS all day conference, monthly trauma education, seminars, forums, bi-annual trauma symposiums; and annual trauma education to comply with level IV accreditation requirements.
- Hiring of staff to be able to provide quality of care and to have in house surgical/specialties coverage 24/7/365.

- Improvements to equipment to increase the quality of patient treatment, expedite treatment, decrease length of stays, and achieve optimal outcomes through:
  - data collection to identify quality improvement opportunities and to provide evidence-based care to patients;
  - purchase of specialized and advanced equipment such as portable x-ray machines to provide immediate diagnosis, and a rapid infusion blood warmer to facilitate rapid resuscitation of critically injured patients;
  - expansion of operative services and increases to bed and medication availability;
  - LifeLion and LifeFlight patient transport
- Provision of modernized clinical software for patient care including digital radiology systems, electronic medical record systems, and other advanced tools.
- Assisting hospitals to continue to provide services while sustaining revenue losses due to the impacts of COVID-19 on hospital business and services through hybrid and remote trauma seminars and courses to educate staff and COVID-19 treatment equipment including ventilators and PPE for patients and staff.

The Trauma Payment helps promote greater financial stability of qualified Trauma Centers. Pennsylvania citizens benefit from access to quality trauma care.

## **TRAUMA CENTER PAYMENTS**

In FY 2022-2023, the Pennsylvania state budget appropriated \$8.656 million for Trauma Center funding. As required by Act 84, DHS submitted a State Plan Amendment (SPA) to the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS). On January 23, 2023, Pennsylvania received notification that CMS approved SPA 4.19A p. 21c, effective December 11, 2022, which provided federal matching funds for Trauma Payments. The federal financial participation (FFP) increased the total available funding to approximately \$18.033 million.

In FY 2022-2023, DHS distributed \$18,033,333.33 in Trauma Payments to forty-eight (48) hospitals – \$8,656,000.00 in state funds and \$9,377,333.33 in federal funds. In FY 2022-2023, nineteen (19) Level I Trauma Centers, seventeen (17) Level II Trauma Centers, one (1) Level III and eleven (11) Level IV Trauma Centers qualified for payment.

As required by Act 54, DHS initially distributed ninety- percent (90%) of funding (\$16,230,000) to Level I and Level II Trauma Centers. DHS initially distributed the remaining ten percent (10%) of funding (\$1,803,333.33) to Level III Trauma Centers.

As required by Act 54, DHS distributed fifty percent (50%) of the total funding for Level I and Level II Trauma Centers (\$8,115.000) equally among Level I and Level II Trauma Centers. DHS distributed the remaining fifty percent (50%) of the total funding based on each Level I and Level II Trauma Center’s percentage of MA and uninsured

trauma cases and patient days compared to the statewide total number of MA and uninsured trauma cases and patient days for all Level I and Level II Trauma Centers.

As required by Act 54, DHS distributed fifty percent (50%) of the total funding for Level III Trauma Centers (\$901,666.66) equally among all Level III Trauma Centers. As required by Act 54, DHS distributed the remaining fifty percent (50%) of the total funding based on each Level III Trauma Center's percentage of MA and uninsured trauma cases and patient days compared to the statewide total number of MA and uninsured trauma cases and patient days for all Level III Trauma Centers.

As required by Act 54, DHS distributed the remaining funding after paying Level III Trauma Centers, \$1,577,916.66 to Level IV Trauma Centers. Per the State Plan, DHS distributed fifty percent (50%) of the total funding for Level IV Trauma Centers (\$788,958.33) equally among all Level IV Trauma Centers. DHS distributed the remaining fifty percent (50%) of the total funding based on each Level IV Trauma Center's percentage of MA and uninsured trauma cases and patient days for all Level IV Trauma Centers.

### **Level I and Level II Centers Data Sourcing<sup>1</sup>**

DHS utilized Calendar Year (CY) 2021 PTSF data to calculate each Level I and Level II Trauma Center payment, except for Grand View Hospital, Lehigh Valley Muhlenberg, St. Luke's Hospital Anderson Campus and UPMC Williamsport. DHS utilized FY 2021 Pennsylvania Health Care Cost Containment Council (PHC4) data to calculate these payments.

### **Level III and Level IV Centers Data Sourcing<sup>2</sup>**

DHS utilized Calendar Year CY 2021 PTSF data to calculate each Level III and Level IV Trauma Center payment, except for Geisinger Jersey Shore, Geisinger Lewistown, St. Luke's Lehigh and Geisinger St. Luke's. DHS utilized FY 2021 Pennsylvania Health Care Cost Containment Council (PHC4) data to calculate these payments.

### **Cap on Level III Payments**

Act 54 requires that payment to each Level III Trauma Center may not be greater than fifty percent (50%) of the average statewide annual payment to Level I & Level II Trauma Centers. In FY 2022-2023, DHS capped payments for Level III Trauma Centers at \$225,416.67.

### **Cap on Level IV Payments**

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<sup>1</sup> PTSF data is unavailable for a newly accredited hospitals' first year of accreditation. Therefore, DHS uses PHC4 data for those hospitals due to new accreditation at the time of calculation.

<sup>2</sup> PTSF data is unavailable for a newly accredited hospitals' first year of accreditation. Therefore, DHS uses PHC4 data for those hospitals due to new accreditation at the time of calculation.

Per the approved State Plan, DHS capped payments to Level IV Trauma Centers, using the same cap formula as Level III, at \$225,416.67, and distributed the remaining \$83,038.18 in funding to Level I & II Trauma Centers using the same distribution formula as was used in the initial payment calculation for Level I & II Trauma Centers.

## **RECOMMENDATION**

DHS requests continued funding for the Trauma Program at the current level. Continued funding provides stability for the program and offers continuity for services that Pennsylvania citizens rely upon.

## **ATTACHMENT**

FY 2022-2023 Trauma Annual Report Spreadsheet

**PENNSYLVANIA TRAUMA SYSTEMS STABILIZATION ACT  
ANNUAL REPORT  
FISCAL YEAR 2022-2023**

Hospital	Level	Total Trauma Visits**	Total Medical Assistance & Self Pay Trauma		State Share Payment	Federal Share Payment	Total Payment
			Visits** (Included in Total Trauma Visits)				
ABINGTON MEMORIAL HOSPITAL	II	1,510	262		\$158,787.26	\$172,019.54	\$330,806.80
ALBERT EINSTEIN MEDICAL CENTER	I	1,135	733		\$255,166.44	\$276,430.30	\$531,596.74
ARIA HEALTH HOSPITAL FRANKFORD	II	1,590	691		\$274,910.14	\$297,819.32	\$572,729.46
CHILDRENS HOSPITAL OF PHILADELPHIA	I	709	338		\$152,407.56	\$165,108.18	\$317,515.74
CONEMAUGH MEMORIAL MEDICAL CENTER	I	972	252		\$151,819.49	\$164,471.11	\$316,290.60
CONEMAUGH MINERS MEDICAL CENTER	IV	71	20		\$46,404.01	\$50,271.01	\$96,675.02
CROZER-CHESTER MEDICAL CENTER PROSPECT CCMS	II	1,277	561		\$238,321.25	\$258,181.35	\$496,502.60
FULTON COUNTY MEDICAL CENTER	IV	97	21		\$47,927.64	\$51,921.62	\$99,849.26
GEISINGER COMMUNITY MEDICAL CENTER	II	1,145	347		\$187,263.80	\$202,869.12	\$390,132.92
GEISINGER MEDICAL CENTER	I	2,268	713		\$247,644.51	\$268,281.55	\$515,926.06
GEISINGER ST LUKES HOSPITAL	IV	96	3		\$40,642.49	\$44,029.37	\$84,671.86
GEISINGER WYOMING VALLEY MEDICAL CENTER	II	1,092	340		\$174,197.31	\$188,713.75	\$362,911.06
GEISINGER-LEWISTOWN HOSPITAL	IV	140	7		\$48,481.64	\$52,521.78	\$101,003.42
GRAND VIEW HOSPITAL	II	414	8		\$110,631.81	\$119,851.12	\$230,482.93
GROVE CITY MEDICAL CENTER HOSPITAL	IV	313	76		\$99,007.86	\$107,258.51	\$206,266.37
JERSEY SHORE HOSPITAL	IV	9	4		\$41,566.00	\$45,029.83	\$86,595.83
LANCASTER GENERAL HOSPITAL	I	2,168	562		\$225,538.57	\$244,333.46	\$469,872.03
LEHIGH VALLEY HOSPITAL	I	3,395	1,098		\$392,494.27	\$425,202.12	\$817,696.39
LEHIGH VALLEY MUHLENBERG	II	245	7		\$110,087.32	\$119,261.27	\$229,348.59
MAIN LINE HOSPITAL LANKENAU	II	799	200		\$137,373.22	\$148,820.99	\$286,194.21
PAOLI MEMORIAL HOSPITAL	II	1,228	252		\$150,754.47	\$163,317.34	\$314,071.81
PENN PRESBYTERIAN MEDICAL CENTER	I	1,829	1,017		\$338,141.33	\$366,319.78	\$704,461.11
PENN STATE HEALTH HOLY SPIRIT MEDICAL CENTER	II	1,360	339		\$183,953.57	\$199,283.04	\$383,236.61
POCONO MEDICAL CENTER	III	725	214		\$108,200.00	\$117,216.67	\$225,416.67
READING HOSPITAL	I	2,091	595		\$221,430.94	\$239,883.51	\$461,314.45
ROBERT PACKER HOSPITAL	II	799	190		\$142,184.66	\$154,033.39	\$296,218.05
ST CHRISTOPHERS HOSPITAL FOR CHILDREN	I	375	296		\$149,306.78	\$161,749.01	\$311,055.79
ST LUKES HOSP OF BETHLEHEM	I	1,975	544		\$210,632.97	\$228,185.71	\$438,818.68
ST LUKES HOSPITAL ANDERSON CAMPUS	II	318	18		\$111,772.68	\$121,087.06	\$232,859.74
ST LUKES HOSPITAL MONROE CAMPUS	IV	329	85		\$108,200.00	\$117,216.67	\$225,416.67
ST LUKES HOSPITAL-LEHIGHTON CAMPUS	IV	129	12		\$79,076.05	\$85,665.72	\$164,741.77
ST LUKES MINERS MEMORIAL HOSPITAL	IV	207	50		\$94,106.84	\$101,949.08	\$196,055.92
ST MARY MEDICAL CENTER	II	1,069	177		\$140,706.25	\$152,431.77	\$293,138.02
TEMPLE UNIVERSITY HOSPITAL INC	I	2,146	1,610		\$510,731.72	\$553,292.69	\$1,064,024.41
THE MILTON S HERSHEY MEDICAL CENTER	I	1,664	527		\$224,561.46	\$243,274.91	\$467,836.37
THOMAS JEFFERSON UNIVERSITY HOSPITAL	I	1,542	633		\$284,302.88	\$307,994.78	\$592,297.66
TROY COMMUNITY HOSPITAL	IV	111	14		\$42,292.35	\$45,816.72	\$88,109.07
UPMC ALTOONA	II	1,177	300		\$160,458.48	\$173,830.02	\$334,288.50
UPMC CHILDRENS HOSPITAL OF PITTSBURGH	I	909	554		\$161,840.12	\$175,326.79	\$337,166.91
UPMC HAMOT	II	1,588	523		\$214,474.47	\$232,347.34	\$446,821.81
UPMC MERCY	I	2,512	750		\$296,435.38	\$321,138.33	\$617,573.71
UPMC PRESBYTERIAN SHADYSIDE	I	3,254	1,242		\$474,462.18	\$514,000.70	\$988,462.88
UPMC WILLIAMSPORT	II	768	43		\$119,662.11	\$129,633.96	\$249,296.07
WAYNE MEMORIAL HOSPITAL	IV	218	38		\$69,836.78	\$75,656.51	\$145,493.29
WEST PENN-ALLEGHENY GENERAL HOSPITAL	I	3,002	668		\$244,316.23	\$264,675.92	\$508,992.15
WEST VIRGINIA UNIVERSITY HOSPITALS INC	I	4,314	1,225		\$313,069.43	\$339,158.55	\$652,227.98
WESTERN PENN HOSP-FORBES REGIONAL CAMPUS	II	999	283		\$164,326.62	\$178,020.51	\$342,347.13
YORK HOSPITAL	I	1,713	455		\$196,090.66	\$212,431.55	\$408,522.21
	48	57,796	18,897		\$8,656,000.00	\$9,377,333.33	\$18,033,333.33

\*\* Source of Data:  
2021 Data from Pennsylvania Trauma Systems Foundation  
2021 Data from Pennsylvania Health Care Cost Containment Council