

Reimbursement for Uninsured COVID-19 Claims Ends March 22

March 15, 2022

Today the White House outlined the ramifications of Congress' failure to pass the \$15.6 billion in emergency supplemental COVID-19 relief funds. Click <u>here</u> for the Fact Sheet.

Beginning on March 22, providers will no longer be able to submit claims for testing and treating uninsured patients for COVID-19. Funding for the Uninsured Program is part of the Provider Relief Fund and based on today's announcement the testing and treatment will be scaled back this month and end completely in early April. On April 5, the Uninsured Program will also stop accepting vaccinations claims.

The Administration had sought an additional \$3 billion to "top up" the funding for the uninsured in the Provider Relief Fund. There remains roughly 5.5 - 6 billion in the Provider Relief Fund; we do not know how much of that is allocated for the uninsured program.

If you have any outstanding claims for testing, treating, or vaccinating uninsured patients, submit your claims to the Provider Relief Fund ASAP.

Additionally, the Administration announced that it has no funding for new purchases of monoclonal antibody treatments and will be scaling back on the state allotments by 30% beginning next week.

The Administration also said that it does not have the resources to purchase additional vaccine boosters or variant specific vaccines and that it will scale back on planned purchases of preventative treatments for the immunocompromised.

The House has prepared a new bill to provide the \$15.6 billion (down from the Administration's request of \$22 billion) for COVID-19 relief, but it remains unclear when it will be brought to the House floor for a vote. Additionally, it does not appear at this time that any new funding for COVID-19 would have the 60 votes needed to pass the Senate.

Bottom line - don't wait to submit your claims for the uninsured.

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