



Reimbursement & Policy

County and District hospitals now eligible for PPP funding

With the President, today, signing the Paycheck Protection Program and Health Care Enhancement Act, and with a new [interim final rule](#) from the SBA, Idaho's county and district hospitals are now eligible for funding through the program.

According to the guidance, "a hospital that is otherwise eligible to receive a PPP loan as a business concern or nonprofit organization (described in section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 and exempt from taxation under section 501(a) of such Code) shall not be rendered ineligible for a PPP loan due to ownership by a state or local government if the hospital receives less than 50% of its funding from state or local government sources, exclusive of Medicaid."

As of April 16, more than \$1.8 billion was distributed in 13,627 loans to Idaho businesses through the Paycheck Protection Program. The loans can be forgiven, turning them into grants, if the funds predominately go to staff salaries.

This legislation is adding over \$480 billion in funding to support businesses and healthcare, including \$321 billion for the PPP program, \$75 billion for hospitals and healthcare providers, and \$25 billion to bolster testing efforts.

Resources & Equipment

Governor taps healthcare experts to address testing

A key part of Idaho's phased reopening will rely on expanded, targeted testing. A [new task force](#) charged by Governor Little will focus specifically on standardizing testing across the state.

"We are on the verge of seeing testing capacity significantly open up in Idaho and elsewhere," said Governor Little. "Our new Testing Task Force will set criteria for when and how frequently someone should be tested and how to move toward a common reporting platform across the state. We have a strong team of very capable local clinical and laboratory and research experts from across the state helping us navigate this crisis, and I appreciate their help."

The group is immediately focusing on improvements in the following areas:

- safe and efficient screening and testing sites for symptomatic individuals, including those with mild symptoms;
- screening and testing locations in all regions of the state, including places that serve older individuals, rural and lower income populations, and racial and ethnic minorities; and
- robust COVID-19 testing programs for at-risk healthcare workers.

The task force is co-chaired by Dr. Jim Souza, the chief medical officer for St. Luke's Health System and Dr. Christopher Ball, director of the Idaho Bureau of Laboratories. Hospital representatives from Saint Alphonsus Health System, St. Luke's Health System, the Boise VA, and Kootenai Health are also on the committee.

Virtual Meetings, Education & Updates

Replay ~ Quality and infection protection forum

This week, IHA teamed up with the Bureau of Rural Health & Primary Care and Comagine Health to provide quality and infection protection leaders from small Idaho hospitals a forum to engage each other and share challenges, ideas, and lessons learned. The event offered key updates from each organization with a focus on addressing issues related to mandatory COVID-19 data reporting. Click [here](#) to replay the meeting, entering 3q^4?*4k when prompted.

[Click to get our daily COVID-19 Updates](#)

Share this email:



[Manage](#) your preferences | [Opt out](#) using TrueRemove™

Got this as a forward? [Sign up](#) to receive our future emails.

View this email [online](#).

615 N. 7th St.
Boise, ID | 83701 US

This email was sent to .
To continue receiving our emails, add us to your address book.

