



Reimbursement & Policy

[Blue Cross extends telehealth services and reimbursement](#)

Today, Blue Cross of Idaho announced the extension of COVID-19 telehealth services through the end of the year, allowing members to continue receiving services via phone or video call from all Idaho in-network providers.

Additionally, the company will continue to pay telehealth claims at in-network rates.

As a result of COVID, Blue Cross processed more than 90,500 telehealth claims, an 11,504% increase over the same period last year.

IHA thanks Blue Cross for expanding the availability of telehealth throughout Idaho. Access to this resource is critical now and will continue to be vital beyond this pandemic to meet the accessibility and cost needs for the communities we serve.

[Revised revenue data due today](#)

Today is the deadline to [submit revised revenue data](#) to HHS which may qualify your hospital for an additional provider relief payment. In April, HHS distributed \$50 billion from the CARES Act to providers based on their 2018 total net patient revenue as reported on Medicare cost reports. Organizations with inaccurate or missing information are permitted to reject the payment and submit corrected information to receive a revised distribution.

The CARES Act included \$175 billion to reimburse providers for expenses or lost revenues attributable to COVID-19. For more on what HHS considers lost revenue, see the agency's [updated FAQs](#).

[CMS announces payment model flexibilities](#)

Some IHA members may be impacted by changes CMS has or is making to certain CMS Innovation Center Models to address the current pandemic. The [summary](#), released today, focuses on the adjustments related to financial methodologies, quality reporting, and model timelines. Additional details are available in this [post from CMS Administrator, Seema Verma](#).

Virtual Meetings, Education & Updates

[Replay ~ Alternative care site funding webinar](#)

The Office of the Assistant Secretary for Preparedness and Response (ASPR) released a [recording](#), [post-event Q&A](#), [resource document](#), and the accompanying [slides](#) from the May 22 webinar *Funding Sources for the Establishment and Operationalization of Alternate Care Sites*. The webinar covered various funding sources hospitals may access to recoup costs associated with setting up an alternative care site, which may include testing/screening sites hospitals provided to their communities.

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