



HRSA COVID-19

COVERAGE ASSISTANCE FUND

**Information for Stakeholders and
Associations**

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This toolkit contains content that can easily be shared to promote the HRSA COVID-19 Coverage Assistance Fund.

For more information and resources visit,
hrsa.gov/covid19-coverage-assistance

Sample Email Content

Subject: Reimbursement for COVID-19 Vaccine Administration Fees

The Biden-Harris Administration is providing free access to COVID-19 vaccines for every adult living in the United States. Accordingly, the Health Resources and Services Administration's (HRSA) COVID-19 Coverage Assistance Fund (CAF) will cover the costs of administering COVID-19 vaccines to patients whose health insurance doesn't cover vaccine administration fees, or does but typically has patient cost-sharing. While patients cannot be billed directly for COVID-19 vaccine fees, costs to health care providers on the front lines for administering COVID-19 vaccines to underinsured patients will now be fully covered through CAF, subject to available funds. As vaccination efforts accelerate, patients will increasingly gain access to COVID-19 vaccines at locations near where they live with providers they trust.

Visit [hrsa.gov/covid19-coverage-assistance](https://www.hrsa.gov/covid19-coverage-assistance) to learn more and get started.

What you should know

- There is no cost to patients for the administration of COVID-19 vaccines and providers are expected to first submit a claim for vaccine administration to the individual's health plan carrier for payment.
- Only claims that are denied or not fully paid by a patient's health plan and/or other patient charges related to COVID-19 vaccine administration, including co-pays, deductibles, and co-insurance, are eligible for reimbursement.
- Claims will be subject to Medicare timely filing requirements.
- Providers are not required to ascertain a patient's immigration status in order to receive reimbursement from the fund.

Additional information including Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs), HRSA COVID-19 Coverage Assistance Fund Portal registration, and claims submission information can be found at [hrsa.gov/covid19-coverage-assistance](https://www.hrsa.gov/covid19-coverage-assistance).

Vaccine administration fees for uninsured individuals may be eligible for reimbursement through the HRSA COVID-19 Uninsured Program. For more information visit: <https://www.hrsa.gov/coviduninsuredclaim>.

Sample Newsletter Content

Reimbursement for COVID-19 vaccine administration is now available to eligible health care providers.

We recognize the critical role you play in the fight against COVID-19 and in improving health care through vaccine administration.

Providers who have administered Food and Drug Administration (FDA) authorized COVID-19 vaccines under an Emergency Use Authorization (EUA) or FDA-licensed COVID-19 vaccines under a Biologics License Application (BLA) to individuals whose health plan does not cover or only partially covers the cost of vaccine administration, on or after December 14, 2020 (the first date of vaccine distribution in the United States), can begin the process to file claims for reimbursement for vaccine administration.

How it works

Health care providers can request claims reimbursement, through the HRSA COVID-19 Coverage Assistance Fund electronically and will be reimbursed at Medicare rates for vaccine administration, and for patient charges related to COVID-19 vaccination, including co-payments for vaccine administration, deductibles for vaccine administration, and co-insurance, subject to available funding.

To be eligible for reimbursement, the provider must have first submitted the claim to the individual's health plan for payment and had the claim denied or only partially paid. Visit [hrsa.gov/covid19-coverage-assistance](https://www.hrsa.gov/covid19-coverage-assistance) for more information.

Vaccine administration fees for uninsured individuals may be eligible for reimbursement through the HRSA COVID-19 Uninsured Program. For more information visit:

<https://www.hrsa.gov/coviduninsuredclaim>.

Program Fact Sheet

May 2021

HRSA COVID-19 Coverage Assistance Fund

The Biden-Harris Administration is providing free access to COVID-19 vaccines for every adult living in the United States. Accordingly, the Health Resources and Services Administration's (HRSA) COVID-19 Coverage Assistance Fund (CAF) will cover the costs of administering COVID-19 vaccines to patients whose health insurance doesn't cover vaccine administration fees, or does but typically has patient cost-sharing. While patients cannot be billed directly for COVID-19 vaccine fees, costs to health care providers on the front lines for administering COVID-19 vaccines to underinsured patients will now be fully covered through CAF, subject to available funding. As vaccination efforts accelerate, patients will increasingly gain access to COVID-19 vaccines at locations near where they live with providers they trust.



WHO IS ELIGIBLE?

Providers are eligible for claims reimbursement if they have administered Food and Drug Administration (FDA) authorized COVID-19 vaccines under an Emergency Use Authorization (EUA) or FDA-licensed COVID-19 vaccines under a Biologics License Application (BLA) to individuals whose health plan does not cover vaccine administration fees, or does but typically has patient cost-sharing.

PAYMENT

Eligible providers will be reimbursed at national Medicare rates for vaccine administration fees, and for any patient cost sharing related to vaccination, including:

- co-pays
- deductibles, and
- co-insurance

*Vaccine administration fees for **uninsured** individuals may be eligible for reimbursement through the HRSA COVID-19 Uninsured Program. For more information visit: <https://www.hrsa.gov/coviduninsuredclaim>.*

TAKE ACTION

1. Providers must enroll in the program through the HRSA COVID-19 Coverage Assistance Fund (CAF) Portal <https://bit.ly/3aSyjiU> and agree to the Terms and Conditions, including accepting defined program reimbursement as payment in full and agreeing not to balance bill the patient.
2. After submitting a claim(s) for COVID-19 vaccine administration fees to patients' health plan carrier for payment, if the claim is either denied by that insurer or only partially paid, providers may then submit a claim(s) to the CAF Portal for payment consideration. Providers must also verify no other third party payer will reimburse them for vaccine administration fees for that patient encounter.
3. Claims are accepted via clearinghouses or through electronic or manual submissions via the CAF Portal.

For additional information, visit <https://covid19coverageassistance.ssiigroup.com/>



Use the following link to download the program fact sheet.

<https://www.hrsa.gov/sites/default/files/hrsa/coronavirus/caf-program-fact-sheet.pdf>

Clearinghouse Fact Sheet

May 2021

HRSA COVID-19 Coverage Assistance Fund

Clearinghouse Fact Sheet

The Biden-Harris Administration is providing free access to COVID-19 vaccines for every adult living in the United States. Accordingly, the Health Resources and Services Administration's (HRSA) COVID-19 Coverage Assistance Fund (CAF) will cover the costs of administering COVID-19 vaccines to patients whose health insurance doesn't cover vaccine administration fees, or does but typically has patient cost-sharing. While patients cannot be billed directly for COVID-19 vaccine fees, costs to health care providers on the front lines for administering COVID-19 vaccines to underinsured patients will now be fully covered through CAF, subject to available funding. As vaccination efforts accelerate, patients will increasingly gain access to COVID-19 vaccines at locations near where they live with providers they trust.

Definition of Individual

Providers are eligible for claims reimbursement if they have administered Food and Drug Administration (FDA) authorized COVID-19 vaccines under an Emergency Use Authorization (EUA) or FDA-licensed COVID-19 vaccines under a Biologics License Application (BLA) to individuals whose health plan does not cover vaccine administration fees, or does but typically has patient cost-sharing.

Electronic Claims Submission

For EDI claim submissions to CAF, claims need to be submitted with the individual identified as Subscriber to include primary payer information, including prior payments.

Individual as Subscriber— when the individual has received the COVID-19 vaccine, the claim is submitted with the individual represented as the Subscriber.

This guidance is specific to the X12 claim submission processes impacted by the Fund. This is not intended to encompass all the X12 TR3 transactional guide elements. This Fact Sheet also does not provide guidance on claim billing and coding procedures. All X12 standards and requirements will apply to the Fund's claim submission process unless otherwise noted below.

Clearinghouse Payer Setup

For setup of the program new payer, please use "COVID-19 Coverage Assistance Fund" as the payer name and EDI Payer ID **99999-0AQS**. **NO PAPER CLAIMS WILL BE ACCEPTED.**

For a complete Clearinghouse EDI setup guide and a complete listing of connectivity with clearinghouses/vendors visit: [CAF Claim Submission Companion Guide](#).

Collection of Race and Ethnicity Data

As a part of the effort to understand the vaccination rates among various communities, HRSA is requesting that patient race and ethnicity data be included, when available, with claims submitted for payment to the CAF. Accordingly, HRSA has defined guidelines for the submission as follows:

Race/ethnicity data should be placed in a loop 2300 K3 segment with the following structure used for data element K301. An example of properly coded K3 segment with race/ethnicity data using code R9 (OTHER RACE):

K3*B1R9

For more details in the K301 character position visit: [CAF Claim Submission Companion Guide](#).



Use the following link to download the clearinghouse fact sheet

<https://www.hrsa.gov/sites/default/files/hrsa/coronavirus/caf-clearinghouse-fact-sheet.pdf>

Sample Social Media Posts

Please see sample content below for social media posts.

General Post



@HRSAgov is administering the #CoverageAssistanceFund, #CAF. Health care providers can submit claims now to be reimbursed for #COVID19 vaccine administration fees. For more information about the program visit [CAF Guide](#).

Sharing the Provider Fact Sheet



Health care providers delivering #COVID19 vaccine administration to patients with limited health care plans may be eligible for reimbursement through @HRSAgov #CoverageAssistanceFund. [CAF Guide](#)

Social Media Posts

On-Demand Video (Navigating CAF Portal)



Eligible providers can register now and submit claims for reimbursement of vaccine administration fees via the #CAF Portal. Take a tour of the website and get started — [CAF Guide](#).

Frequently Asked Questions



Questions about @HRSAgov's new Coverage Assistance Fund? Find answers to the most common provider questions about #CAF here: [CAF Guide](#)

Social Media Posts

How to Get Reimbursed



Eligible providers participating in @HRSAGov's Coverage Assistance Fund will be reimbursed at the #Medicare rate for the #COVID19 vaccine administration fees, and for patient charges related to vaccination. For more on #CAF, visit [CAF Guide](#)

Clearinghouse Fact Sheet



Pharmacists delivering #COVID19 vaccines to patients with health plans whose insurance doesn't cover vaccine administration fees, or does but typically has patient cost-sharing, may be eligible for reimbursement through #CAF — [CAF Guide](#)

Frequently Asked Questions

Answers to frequently asked questions about the program including eligibility, payment, and reimbursement rates are available at:

www.hrsa.gov/covid19-coverage-assistance/frequently-asked-questions
