

Expansion of the accelerated and advance program for providers and suppliers during the COVID-19 emergency

CMS has expanded the Accelerated and Advance Payment Program to a broader group of Medicare Part A providers and Part B suppliers. Xtend Healthcare wants to ensure your organization is aware of the changes, so we have outlined some highlights here.



Accelerated/advance payments

An accelerated/advance payment is a payment intended to provide necessary funds when there is a disruption in claims submission and/or claims processing.



Eligibility and process

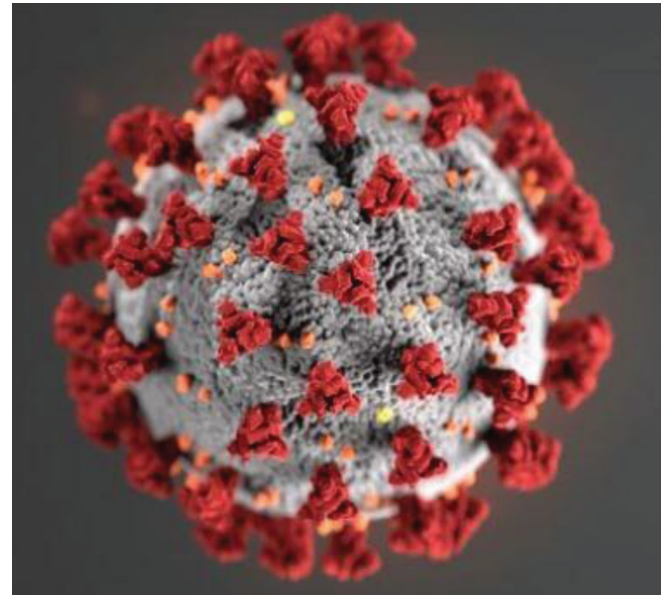
To qualify for advance/accelerated payments, the provider/supplier must:

1. Have billed Medicare for claims within 180 days immediately prior to the date of signature on the provider's/supplier's request form,
2. Not be in bankruptcy,
3. Not be under active medical review or program integrity investigation, and
4. Not have any outstanding delinquent Medicare overpayments.



Amount of payment

- Qualified providers/suppliers will be asked to request a specific amount using an Accelerated or Advance Payment Request form provided on each Medicare Administrative Contractor (MAC)'s website.
- Most providers and suppliers will be able to request up to 100% of the Medicare payment amount for a three-month period.
- Inpatient acute care hospitals, children's hospitals, and certain cancer hospitals can request up to 100% of the Medicare payment amount for a six-month period.
- Critical access hospitals (CAH) can request up to 125% of their payment amount for a six-month period.



Processing time

Each MAC will work to review and issue payments within seven calendar days of receiving the request.



Repayment

CMS has extended the repayment of these accelerated/advance payments to begin 120 days after the date of payment issuance. The repayment timeline is broken out by provider type here:

- **Inpatient acute care hospitals, children's hospitals, certain cancer hospitals, and CAHs** have up to one year from the date the accelerated payment was made to repay the balance.
- **All other Part A providers and Part B suppliers** will have 210 days from the date the accelerated or advance payment was made to repay the balance.

A step-by-step application guide can be found here: www.cms.gov/files/document/Accelerated-and-Advanced-Payments-Fact-Sheet.pdf

Questions? Please contact us today.

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