

New York City COVID Resource Center:
 Funding Opportunity Checklist for Behavioral Health Providers

Multiple funding sources are available to behavioral health providers, including mental health and substance use disorder (SUD) providers, to support their COVID-19 responses. This checklist, while not all encompassing, is designed to support these providers in navigating and managing current and future funding opportunities.

Obtaining, Managing and Tracking Federal Funding, Flexibility and Cashflow Opportunities

- Sign up for claims reimbursement** for COVID-19 testing and treatment of uninsured patients since February 4, 2020 (program will generally reimburse at Medicare rates beginning May 6, 2020; registration opens **April 27, 2020**)
- Monitor receipt of CARES Act Provider Relief Fund distributions**, noting amounts received from the general allocation proportional to 2018 net patient revenue; following receipt, **complete attestation form** and review funding terms and conditions
- Request FEMA Disaster Relief Funding to support emergency expenses**, such as medical supplies, retrofitting facilities, and supporting surge capacity
- Assess additional federal grant programs**, including the **FCC COVID-19 Telehealth Program**, to support emergency expenses for providers
- Track guidance on navigating **SAMHSA grant flexibilities** to support grant funded operations impacted by COVID-19
- Apply for the Medicare Advance Payment Program** to request six months of typical Medicare reimbursement
 - o *Plan for sufficient cash flow to ensure **repayment** of received funding through the Medicare Advance Payment Program, beginning 120 days after the date payment is issued*
- Continue to receive enhanced Medicaid reimbursement rates** through the **Certified Community Behavioral Health Clinics (CCBHC) program** through November 30, 2020 (applicable to existing CCBHCs only)
- Consider applying for funding available for small and medium-sized businesses**, including:
 - o The **Paycheck Protection Program**, for loans that are forgivable when used for payroll costs and certain other purposes during the eight week period after the loans are made; loans can be for up to 2.5 times average monthly payroll costs, but loan amounts are capped at \$10 million; loans are generally available to businesses that meet the U.S. Small Business Administration’s small business **size standards** or have 500 employees or less
 - o The **Economic Injury Disaster Loan Emergency Advance (EIDL) Program**, for up to \$10,000 in economic relief for businesses experiencing temporary difficulties (note: at the time of this checklist’s publication, the SBA was not accepting new applications due to available appropriations funding)
 - o **SBA Express Bridge Loans** for up to \$25,000 for businesses with an existing relationship with an SBA Express Lender
 - o The **Main Street Business Lending Program** which, once operational, will offer four year loans starting at \$1 million to for-profit small and medium-sized business that were in good financial standing before the crisis; principal and interest payments on the loan can be deferred for one year

- ❑ **Consider other cashflow flexibility options** including [deferring employer share of FICA contributions](#), [Federal tax credits to cover emergency paid and family leave](#), and [Federal tax credits for employee retention](#)
- ❑ **Monitor for HHS on coding for COVID-19 related services** to realize 20% increase in Medicare DRG weights (applicable to behavioral health hospitals only)
- ❑ **Diligently track and document COVID-19 related incremental expenses and operating revenue**, including:
 - New services (e.g., telehealth)
 - Overtime, agency, and locum tenens staffing
 - Closed services and reduced revenues for all sites and services
 - Use of federal funds, including Provider Relief Funding
 - Additional unexpected costs

Engaging the State and Broader Public Sector on Potential Funding Opportunities

- ❑ **Engage with the State and associations** (e.g., [New York Coalition for Behavioral Health](#), [NY State Coalition for Children’s Behavioral Health](#)) to influence distribution of current and future funding
- ❑ **Provide guidance to front line staff and providers on billing** (e.g., e-consults) to fully leverage new federal flexibilities for [Adult Behavioral Health HCBS providers and Recovery Coordination Agencies](#), [ACT programs](#), and other services
- ❑ **Sign up to receive updates** on new local, state, and federal financial assistance programs from the NYC Department of Small Businesses
- ❑ **Monitor NYC nonprofits website** for resources on business continuity, regulatory flexibility, and other COVID-19 related resources and opportunities

Engaging the Private Sector on Potential Funding Opportunities

- ❑ **Track private funding opportunities** (i.e., grants and no-interest loans) to support COVID-19 relief through philanthropies and corporations, including through:
 - [NYS Health Foundation: COVID-19 Resources for Nonprofits and Community-Based Organizations](#)
 - [National Council for Behavioral Health](#) Resources and Tools for Addressing COVID-19
- ❑ **Apply to the United Way of NYC’s COVID-19 Community Fund**
- ❑ **Reach out to local banks** with whom you have established relationships regarding potential grant funding and loan opportunities
- ❑ **Monitor New York City Community Develop Financial Institutions** for low cost loans focused on recovery

Questions or comments? Send them to the NYC COVID-19 Resource Center at COVIDProviderSupport@cityhall.nyc.gov