

# ***IHCP COVID-19 Response: Reimbursement temporarily increased for COVID-19 Ready nursing facilities***

In response to the recent coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19) surge in case counts and to ease the stress on hospitals by ensuring placement options for stable *COVID-19* patients who are ready for transfer, the Indiana Health Coverage Programs (IHCP) is implementing a temporary 6% increase in Medicaid reimbursement rates for Indiana nursing facilities that attest to being *COVID-19 Ready* based on the requirements outlined in this bulletin.

## **COVID-19 Ready 6% increase**

To qualify for the temporary 6% rate increase, nursing facilities will need to follow, and attest to the Indiana Department of Health (IDOH) *COVID-19 Ready* requirements:

- Follow IDOH *COVID-19* Long-Term Care (LTC) Standard Operating Procedures and IDOH *COVID-19* Infection Prevention (IP) Toolkit, located on the [Professional Resources](#) page at coronavirus.in.gov.
- Follow IDOH LTC hospital transfer guidance or have developed a mutually agreed upon plan with local hospitals for admission and readmission of *COVID-19* patients.
- Follow IDOH, Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS), and Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) communication guidelines.
- Accept *COVID-19* new admissions, readmissions and transfers.
- Share complete *COVID-19* status information with transportation providers serving residents.
- Follow IDOH, CMS and CDC reporting requirements for new *COVID-19* cases and deaths involving residents and staff.
- Provide daily updates of *COVID-19* bed capacity and changes in admission status (for example, admissions hold) in the [EMResource](#) system at emresource.juvarre.com.

This temporary 6% rate increase will be calculated based on each facility's standard rates.

## **Effective dates**

The temporary 6% increase is available for qualifying providers for dates of service beginning November 22, 2021, through December 31, 2021.

Facilities that were not *COVID-19 Ready* in September and October but are now *COVID-19 Ready* will receive the add-on effective the day the attestation statement is received.

## **Attestation process**

### **Facilities that were COVID-19 Ready in September and October and are still COVID-19 Ready**

- Providers that previously attested to being COVID-19 Ready for the timeframe of 9/20/2021 – 10/31/2021 will not be required to submit a new written attestation statement to qualify for the increase.
- Providers that have previously submitted written attestation statements will still need to confirm or update their COVID Ready status and provide daily updates of COVID-19 bed capacity in the [EMResource](#) system at [emresource.juware.com](http://emresource.juware.com).

### **Facilities that were COVID-19 Ready in September and October and ARE NOT COVID-19 Ready now**

- Providers are that no longer COVID-19 Ready please contact Derris Harrison. [Derris.Harrison@fssa.in.gov](mailto:Derris.Harrison@fssa.in.gov)

### **Facilities that were not COVID-19 Ready in September and October but are COVID-19 Ready now**

- *Only providers that had not previously submitted an attestation statement for the add-on for the 9/20/2021 – 10/31/2021 timeframe that are now COVID-19 Ready will need to submit an attestation statement.*

Nursing facility providers that are COVID-19 Ready must:

- Complete and sign the *Attestation Statement – COVID-19 Ready Providers* located on the Myers and Stauffer website and email it to [Derris.Harrison@fssa.in.gov](mailto:Derris.Harrison@fssa.in.gov).
- Update their COVID-19 Ready status in [EMResource](#). Providers must be enrolled in the EMResource system and attest to being COVID-19 Ready by entering “yes” in the LTC COVID Ready Facility Status column.