



HHS Attestation Update

HHS recently announced that [providers need to take action by June 3, 2020](#) regarding the CARES Act Provider Relief Fund distribution of the first \$50 billion, referred to as the General Distribution. Specifically, HHS indicated that by June 3, those who had received funds need to accept the HHS Terms and Conditions and submit revenue information to be considered for an additional General Allocation payment.

Subsequently, HHS announced that it had extended the attestation deadline for an additional 45 days, but the June 3 deadline has remained on the [Provider Relief Fund website](#). The AMA asked HHS why the website still has a deadline of June 3 when the attestation deadline has been further extended. The department's response is below. Physicians should also be aware that this site is frequently revised and that new FAQs were added as recently as May 29.

HHS response:

Folks will have a total of 90 days to attest. However, they will only have until June 3 to access the application portal to submit their revenue / loss information.

Folks must accept or reject funds in order to enter the application portal.

So, if on June 3 folks are still deciding whether to accept funds they have already received, but haven't yet submitted their tax information to the application portal, they should (1) reject the funds; (2) submit info to the application portal for consideration.

They will be reallocated all General Distribution funds they are owed based on their submitted application, and will then have 90 days to attest or reject.

We have implemented this so that we can have all applications by June 3, and can start rolling out other distributions.

*The attestation portal (as opposed to the application portal) will remain open for 90 days.
Only the application portal will close on June 3.*

2020 Legislative Update



Over the past few months, “unprecedented” has become an oft-used term. Though the outbreak of infectious disease has been seen throughout history, the COVID-19 pandemic halted nearly all aspects of normal life, sparing not even the 2020 Regular Session of the Alabama Legislature.

When it was all said and done, only a handful of bills were passed by each Chamber, with most left hanging in the balance. However, that’s not to say the 2020 Session was without action on important health-related items; in fact; negotiations persisted well through the shutdown.

Had the Medical Association not been “on call” during these times, the health and welfare of physicians, patients and practices could have been in jeopardy.

[**See the Full Update on NewsCenter**](#)

Honoring Dr. Jefferson Underwood



Long-time Montgomery physician and Past President of the Medical Association, Jefferson Underwood III, M.D., was recently honored with two distinct awards.

The Alabama Chapter American College of Physicians recognized Jefferson Underwood III, MD, FACP, as the 2020 Laureate Award recipient and the Medical Association of the State of Alabama presented Dr. Underwood with the 2020 Samuel Buford Word Award. These presentations are typically made in person at the annual meetings, but due to the cancellation of this year's events because of COVID-19, Dr. Underwood was honored in his home with a small group of family and colleagues present.

[See the Full Story on NewsCenter](#)

COVID-19 QUESTIONS? GET ANSWERS & EARN CME.



As providers, physicians and members of the health care team want to do whatever they can to ensure the health and well-being of their patients. During the COVID-19 pandemic, the practice of medicine is facing challenges in delivering the best care amid government mandates and ever-changing public perceptions of the situation. At the Medical Association of the State of Alabama, we want to help by offering online COVID-19 CME courses (free for members).

Courses include:

- **PRIMARY CARE PHYSICIANS IN THE COVID-19 ERA**
- **PPE FOR PHYSICIANS: NEW, USED AND REFRESHED**
- **AN INFECTIOUS DISEASE DOCTOR'S SYMPTOMS OF COVID AND THOUGHTS ABOUT THE PANDEMIC**

Credits

The Medical Foundation of Alabama designates this enduring material for a maximum of .25 AMA PRA Category 1 CreditsSM. Physicians should claim only the credit commensurate with the extent of their participation in the activity.

This activity has been planned and implemented in accordance with the accreditation requirements and policies of the Medical Association of the State of Alabama through the joint providership of the Medical Foundation of Alabama and the Medical Association of the State of Alabama. The Medical Foundation of Alabama is accredited by the Medical Association of the State of Alabama to provide continuing medical education for physicians.

[HTTPS://WWW.ALAMEDICAL.ORG/COVID19](https://www.alamedical.org/covid19)



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