

COVID-19 Updates

Colorado Department of Health Care Policy & Financing

April 3, 2020

Overview

Executive Director Update

- Kim Bimestefer

Colorado Department of Public Health & Environment (CDPHE) Update

- Greg Schlosser, Branch Chief

Update on COVID-19 status in Colorado

- Dr. Lisa Latts, Chief Medical Officer

Update of Department Guidance Issued

- Bonnie Silva, Office of Community Living Director

Questions/Feedback

- Responses to top question of last week and opportunity for new questions and answers

Care Access, Health, Safety, Coverage

- Pandemic that drives economic downturn - impact to Medicaid/CHIP
- Staying in Lock Step with CDPHE Care Guidance
- Special communications, op memos protecting most vulnerable members
- Telemedicine & Reducing Face-to-Face Requirements Where Appropriate
- Emergency Rulemaking (Rx and Telemedicine)
- Requesting Flexibility from Federal Government
- MOE - Individuals eligible for Medicaid as of March 18th will stay enrolled
- FMAP 6.2 pt increase in Families First Coronavirus Response Act to States
- CARES Act/Stimulus funding goes to Providers

Executive Director Update

Federal Negotiations

- Appendix K Amendment Approved!
- 1135 Waiver- Partially Approved!
- 1115 Waiver- In Process
- Emergency State Plan- In Process

[Emergency Waiver Overview](#)

Guidance/Communications

- Issued 27 Communications- *giving information and guidance on COVID-19*
- Hosted 20 Webinars & Engagements

Current Milestones

- Continue negotiations with CMS
- Review CMS approvals against budget and system requirements
- Tough choices. Temporary Rules. Operationalize. Implement.
- Build Capacity to Serve More
- Active stakeholder communications

[Colorado.gov/hcpf/covid](https://colorado.gov/hcpf/covid) and on
www.colorado.gov/hcpf/covid-19-provider-information

for members, providers & case managers, county & eligibility partners

Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) in Colorado: State & National Resources

COVID-19

Please check this page frequently for updates on COVID-19. This is a new and changing situation. We have organized the information by audience below to help you find what you need quickly. We will update our information as the situation changes and we learn more.

For Health First Colorado
(Colorado's Medicaid Program)
and Child Health Plan *Plus*
(CHP+) Members

For Providers and Case
Managers

For County and Eligibility
Partners

- General Resources
- Operational, Policy & Info Memos
- Billing Information
- Provider & Case Manager Resource

Priority: Provider/Member Service

- ACA provided ramp-up time; COVID19 Pandemic doesn't provide that time
- 90% Call Staff transitioned to Work from Home
- Provider: ASA <1 minute. Abandon Rate <3%
- Member: ASA <4 minutes. Abandon Rate <1%
- We are adding staff now
- Claims are still paying promptly
- No systemic challenges
- Continue system changes programming



CARES Act Top Economic Stimulators for CO



Individuals

Expanded UI

- +\$600/week doubles avg benefit
- *Includes Gig & Contract Workers*

Payments to Individuals

- 90% of Coloradans will get \$1,200+



Businesses

Small biz relief vital to Colorado

- Loan forgiveness
- Grants
- Payment-free loans until July
- Payroll tax credit

Need to get out the door quickly



Airports

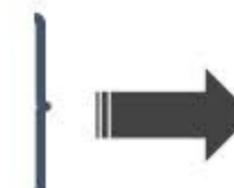
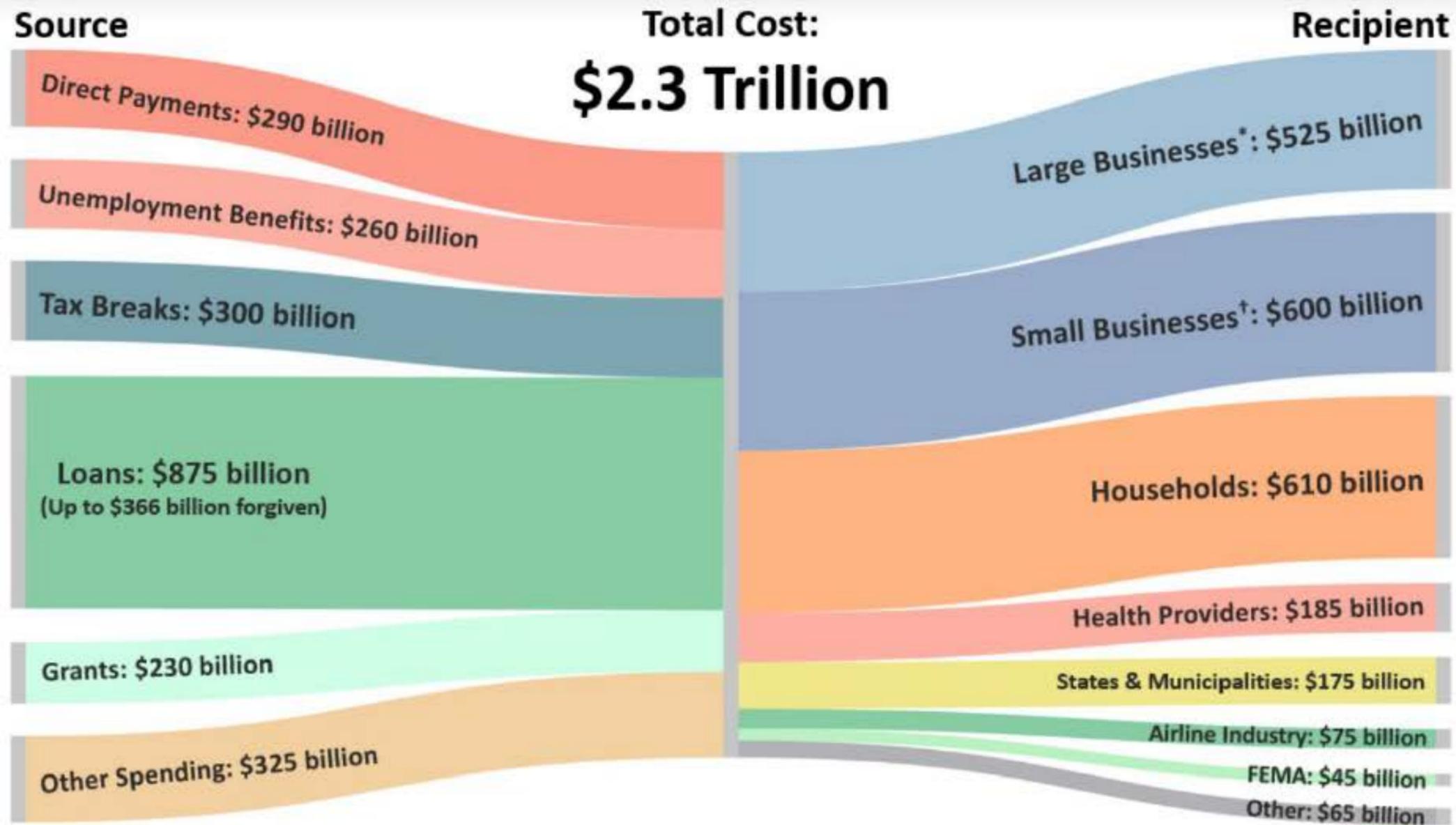
More than 5% of our State's economy is tied to DIA, Colorado airports, and airlines based in the State.

- *This excludes related tourism spending*

Unemployment summary: <https://waysandmeans.house.gov/sites/democrats.waysandmeans.house.gov/files/documents/UC%20FAQ%20CARES%20Act.pdf>

Small business summary: <https://appropriations.house.gov/sites/democrats.appropriations.house.gov/files/Supp%20-%20local%20govts%20%20nonprofits.pdf>

A Visualization of the CARES Act



Source: Legislative Offices, JCT, bill text, CRFB estimates.

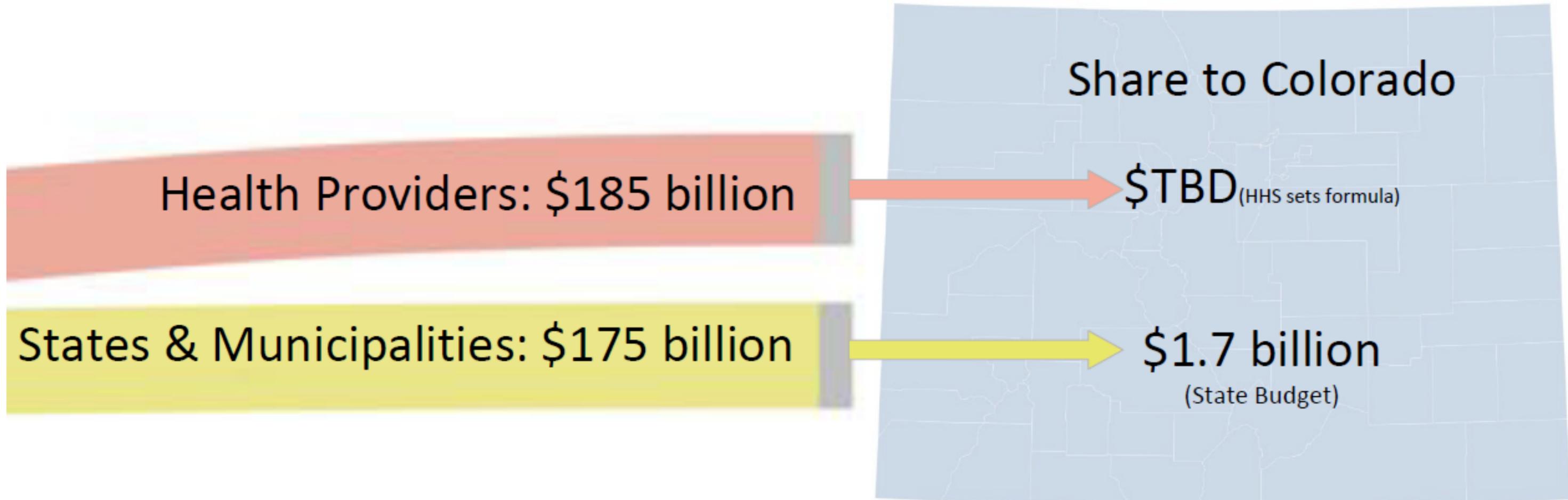
† This includes \$170 billion of tax cuts for businesses other than corporations, some of which are large companies.

* This includes \$454 billion to set up a \$4.5 trillion Fed facility which could support state and local governments as well as companies.

CRFB.org



Health Providers getting direct support



Support Resources for Colorado Businesses During COVID-19

<https://home.treasury.gov/system/files/136/PPP--Fact-Sheet.pdf>

COVID-19's impact on Colorado has been widespread and its effects on our business community have been particularly profound.

A key portion of the CARES act is the Paycheck Protection Program which allocates \$349 billion in forgivable loans to help small businesses, independent contractors and nonprofits meet payroll and rent needs. This is a very important economic resource and Governor Polis and I strongly encourage you to review this federal program to see how it can help your business.

The first step in accessing these forgivable loans is to prepare the materials necessary to apply. That includes confirming your eligibility, gathering the necessary records (payroll, rent, utilities, tax and bank records), estimating the eligible amount of your forgivable loan, and contacting your lender to make sure they will participate. You will not be able to apply for these loans until federal guidance is issued in the next few days, but it is important that you prepare now.

For additional details on the Paycheck Protection Program's forgivable loans and a comprehensive list of state and federal resources available for Colorado's businesses, visit COLORADOSBDC.Org. Small Business Development Center (SBDC) representatives are available to answer your questions through the COVID Economic Hotline at (303) 860-5881.

We are committed to keeping you informed and connected as we face this shared challenge. Please stay safe.

Sincerely,

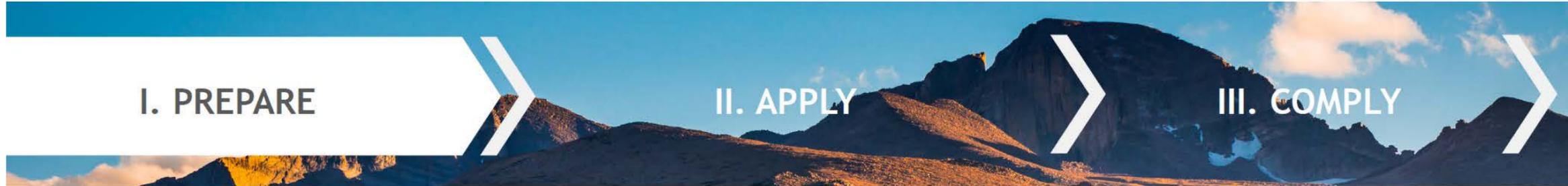
Betsy Markey

Executive Director

Department of Economic Development & International Trade



Payroll Protection Program



1 Confirm Eligibility

Small Business
 Sole Proprietor
 Independent Contractor
 Self-Employed
 Tribal Business Concern
 501(c)(3), (19)



2 Gather Materials

Monthly payroll
 Tax records
 Monthly rent
 Monthly utilities
 Health care benefits costs

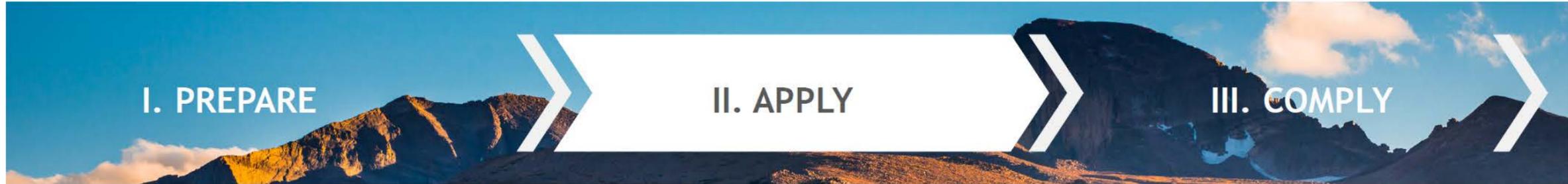


3 Calculate Loan Need

$$\left(\frac{\text{ANNUAL ELIGIBLE PAYROLL COSTS}}{12} \right) \times 2.5$$



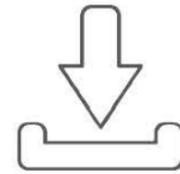
Payroll Protection Program



1 Application Starting Date

April 3rd: Small Business and sole proprietors loans open

April 10th: Independent contractors and self-employed individuals loans open



2 Complete Application

Combine with gathered materials

Find the application on choosecolorado.com/covid19



3 Submit Application

To your local approved SBA Bank

Visit sba.gov for a full list of lenders

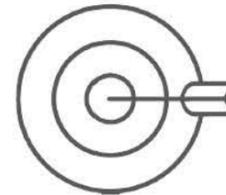


Payroll Protection Program



1 Pay/Document Eligible Payments

Payroll payments
 Rent/mortgage payments
 Utilities payments



2 Follow Guidelines

75% of total loan for payroll
8 week period for payments
June 30th payment deadline



3 Submit for Loan Forgiveness

Payroll receipts
 Rent/mortgage receipts
 Utilities receipts

Update



COLORADO
**Department of Public
Health & Environment**

Personal Protective Equipment

If you or your organization are experiencing a shortage or outage of personal protective equipment (masks, gloves, gowns, etc.) to conduct essential or life saving functions during this crisis, please reach out to your **local emergency manager** or **local public health department**.

[Find Your Local Community Emergency Manager](#)

[Find Your Local Public Health Department](#)

To report issues in obtaining PPE please notify:

Sadie Martinez
Access and Functional Needs
Coordinator
Office of Emergency Management
720.610.1691
sadie.martinez@state.co.us

State Sourced Supplies

2,500,000

N95 Masks

1,000,000

Surgical Masks

250,000

Gowns

25,000

Face Shields

1,500,000

Gloves

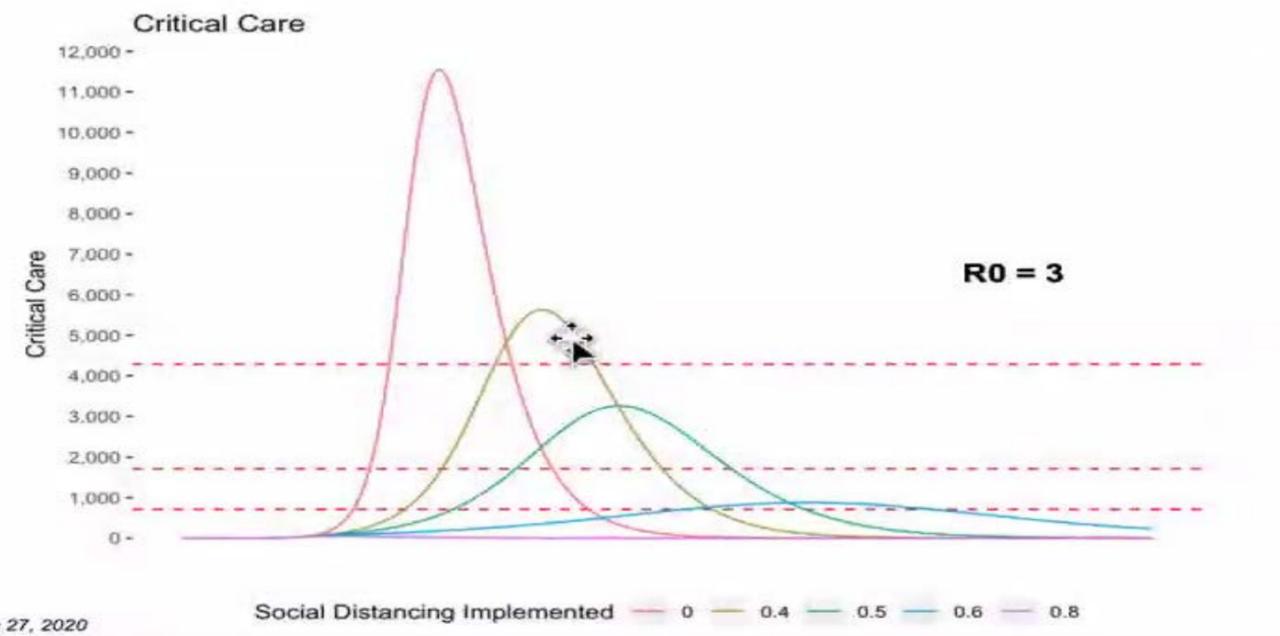
750

Ventilators

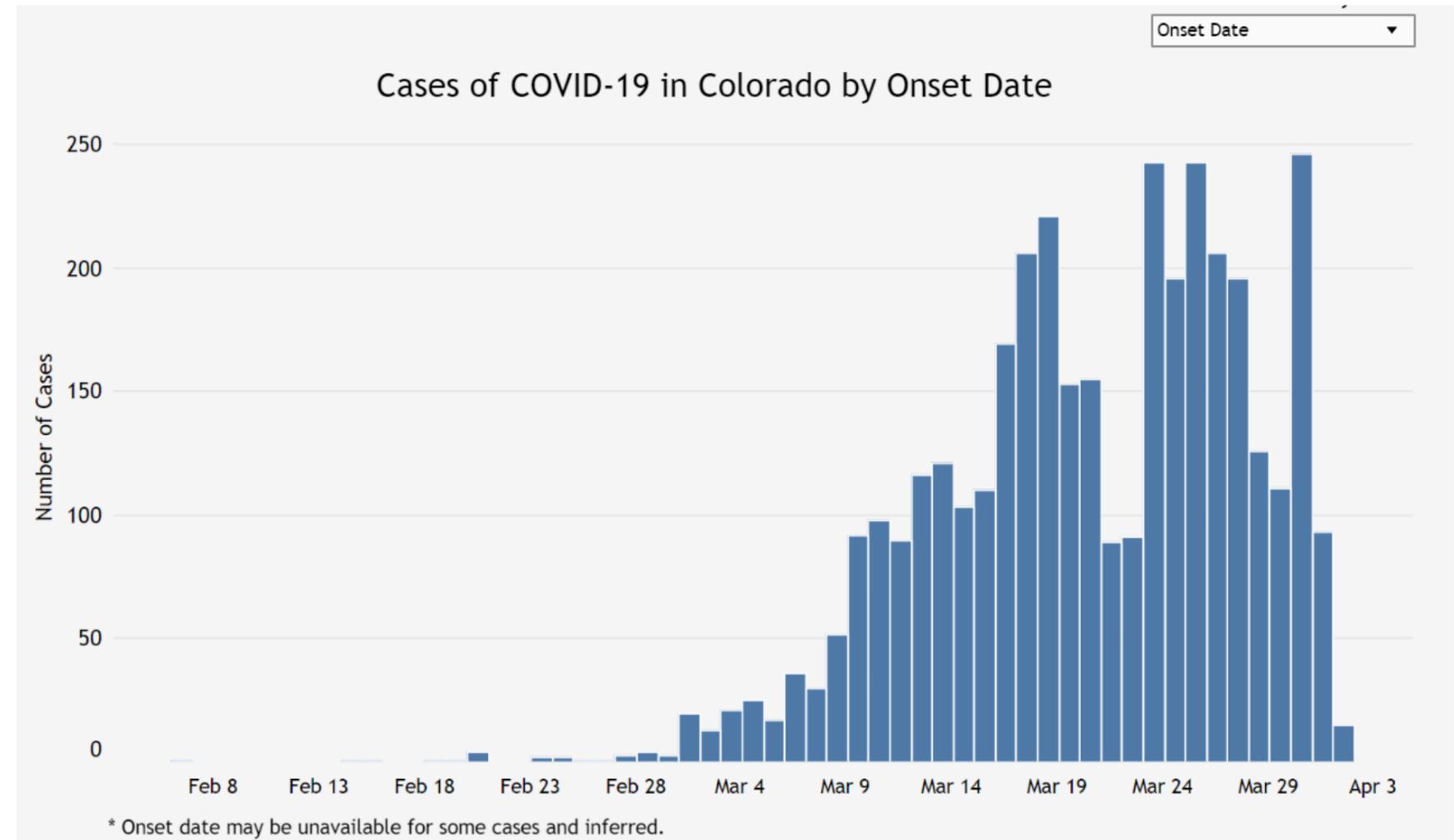
COVID-19 in Colorado

- 3,728 cases
- 710 hospitalized
- Peak resource use estimated to be April 17

COVID-19 Projections for Colorado



<https://covid19.healthdata.org/projections>



Ongoing/Upcoming Clinical Trials

Denver Health

- NIAID: Adaptive COVID-19 Treatment Trial (ACTT)

UCH

- Regeneron: An Adaptive Phase 2/3, Randomized, Double-Blind, Placebo-Controlled Study Assessing Efficacy and Safety of Sarilumab for Hospitalized Patients with COVID-19
- Gilead: A Phase 3 Randomized Study to Evaluate the Safety and Antiviral Activity of Remdesivir (GS-5734TM) in Participants with Severe COVID-19
- Gilead: A Phase 3 Randomized Study to Evaluate the Safety and Antiviral Activity of Remdesivir (GS-5734TM) in Participants with Mild COVID-19
- NHLBI (PETAL): Hydroxychloroquine for the Early Treatment of COVID-19 in Hospitalized Adults: A Multicenter Randomized Clinical Trial
- NIAID (ACTG): A Randomized, Controlled, Open-Label, Trial to Evaluate the Efficacy of Hydroxychloroquine (HCQ) and Azithromycin versus Vitamin C to Prevent Hospitalization and Death in Persons with COVID-19

Previous Guidance

Case Management Agencies

Operational Changes

- [OM 20-018](#)
- [OM 20-019](#)

PASRR Changes

- [IM 20-015](#)

Critical Incident Reporting for COVID-19

- [OM 20-022](#)

Facilities and PACE

Infection Control And Prevention of COVID-19 in Nursing Homes (CMS)

- [CMS QSO-20-14-NH](#)

HCBS Providers

Long-term Care and Congregate Settings

- [OM 20-017](#)

Day Program Service Providers

- [IM 20-017](#)

HCBS Therapy Services

- [OM 20-020](#)

Guidance for Program Closures Due to COVID-19

- [OM 20-021](#)

Guidance for Class B Providers

- [OM 20-023](#)

Changes to Benefits & Services (Table)

- [OM 20-024](#)

Telemedicine

- [Temporary Policy](#)

All COVID-19 related memos can be found here:

www.colorado.gov/hcpf/covid-19-provider-information

New Guidance Issued



[OM 20-027](#)

[OM 20-030](#)

[OM 20-031](#)

[OM 20-032](#)

All COVID-19 related Memos can be found here: www.colorado.gov/hcpf/covid-19-provider-information

OM 20-027

TITLE: CHANGES TO SIGNATURE REQUIREMENTS FOR MEMBER PAPERWORK IN RESPONSE TO COVID19 FOR CASE MANAGEMENT AGENCIES

- Case managers shall use an **electronic signature** for the following forms **requiring a member or legal guardian signature**
 - Home and Community Based Service Statement of Agreement
 - ULTC-100.2 Functional Eligibility Intake Form
 - State Supported Living Services Support Plan
 - Children's Extensive Supports (CES) Application Signature Page
 - Authorized Representative Screening Questionnaire (CDASS)
 - Authorized Representative Designation (CDASS)
 - Client or Authorized Representative Responsibilities (CDASS)

Forms Available Here:

- www.colorado.gov/hcpf/long-term-services-and-supports-case-management-tools
- consumerdirectco.com/client-cdass-forms/

[Link: OM 20-027](#)

OM 20-030

TITLE: PASRR COVID-19 UPDATE 2

- Level Is and Level IIs suspended for 30 days for new admissions.
- After 30 days, new admissions for individuals with SMI or IDD shall receive a Resident Review
- New Level Is and Level IIs not required for transfers between nursing facilities
- During transfer, if the receiving facility is not certain whether a Level I had been conducted at the resident's previous facility, a Level I may be conducted by the admitting facility as part of the admission. A Resident Review should follow a positive Level I screen.
- For current residents, Level II evaluations, Resident Reviews and Status Changes, should be completed remotely, using telehealth or other technological means.
- SEPs will not need a PASRR authorization in order to issue a certification for nursing facility placement.

[Link: OM 20-030](#)

OM 20-031

TITLE: OPERATIONAL CHANGES TO THE HCBS NONMEDICAL TRANSPORTATION BENEFIT FOR COVID-19

- Members shall only utilize NMT to access essential services and needs, such as the grocery store, pharmacy, or bank. Members should continue to utilize the [Non-Emergent Medical Transportation \(NEMT\)](#) benefit to attend essential medical appointments.
- Rides shall only be used by individuals who do not have a temperature greater than 100.0 and are not coughing or exhibiting other respiratory symptoms.
- NMT rides shall be limited to one member per vehicle.
- Providers shall use disinfectant wipes and other basic hygiene steps to mitigate risk to themselves and other members.

[Link: OM 20-031](#)

OM 20-032

TITLE: TELEMEDICINE IN NURSING FACILITIES, ALTERNATIVE CARE FACILITIES, AND INTERMEDIATE CARE FACILITIES FOR COVID-19

- Any of the following Health First Colorado covered services that are within the scope of a provider's practice and training may be provided via telemedicine, when appropriate:
 - Physician Services
 - Physical Therapy
 - Occupational Therapy
 - Hospice

require an interactive audiovisual connection to the member; they cannot be provided using telephone only or live chat.

[Link: OM 20-032](#)

Top Topics

Retainer
Payments

Eligibility
and Billing

Case
Management

Implementation
Timelines

Retainer Payments

Any updates on retainer payments?

No. The Department is continuing to determine the feasibility of allowing retainer payments for additional services. We will issue any updates through the Memo Series and post on the HCPF COVID-19 Provider page:

www.colorado.gov/hcpf/covid-19-provider-information

Eligibility and Billing

The federal government has said no one can lose eligibility during the pandemic but redeterminations are not happening and are holding up PARs and in turn services and payment. What can we do?

The Department will be implementing continuous enrollment on Sunday, April 5 to lock in members existing Medicaid eligibility and waiver program coding from March 18 through the resolution of the pandemic. Case managers will be able to approve the PARs and providers will be able to bill without the redetermination.

Case Management

A member's Medicaid eligibility for HCBS has not been processed for the continued stay review. How can I ensure the member is Medicaid eligible for their waiver program to complete a prior authorization for services?

On Sunday April 5, an adjustment will be made to CBMS to continue a member's existing Medicaid eligibility and waiver program coding from March 18 through the resolution of the pandemic. If the case manager is waiting to hear from the county on the members continued eligibility, the case manager can view the member's Medicaid eligibility coding using the Bridge.

Case Management

Has the department considered removing the requirement for a completed professional medical information page (PMIP)?

The Department is working with CMS regarding additional temporary changes to PMIP.

Implementation Timelines

Will Electronic Visit Verification (EVV) be delayed?

Not at this time. CMS indicated that the federal statutory deadline for EVV cannot be delayed past January 1, 2021. As a result, the timeline for EVV in Colorado will not change due to COVID-19. However, the Department will operationalize the mandate differently to account for the projected increased administrative workload and staff shortages resulting from COVID-19. Guidance is being developed and will be posted on the COVID-19 Provider webpage: www.colorado.gov/hcpf/covid-19-provider-information

Implementation Timelines

Will the deadlines for HBCS Settings Final Rule compliance be delayed?

No. The Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) has not extended the March 2022 statewide compliance deadline.

- To ensure that people have adequate time to transition to new settings or funding sources (if needed) before that deadline, we must continue making progress and meeting the overall milestones schedule.*
- Adult residential providers should submit their Provider Transition Plan (PTP) updates showing that they have made all required changes as soon as is feasible; if they need more time because of their efforts to address the pandemic, they should reach out to discuss the situation with their CDPHE staff lead. Nonresidential and children's residential providers will be notified when they have access to the PTP platform.*



New Questions?

Stay Engaged

**NEW* FAQ*

www.colorado.gov/hcpf/covid-19-provider-information

Email us

HCPF_HCBS_Questions@state.co.us

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[Click here to subscribe](#)

More Information



www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/



www.cms.gov/About-CMS/Agency-Information/Emergency/EPRO/Current-Emergencies/Current-Emergencies-page



covid19.colorado.gov



Local Public Health Agencies

www.colorado.gov/cdphe/find-your-local-public-health-agency



www.colorado.gov/hcpf/COVID

Next Steps

Thank You!